



A Safe & Healthy County

Public Health - Communicable Disease and Immunizations (CDIZ)

- Completed the Mass Flu vaccine drive-up event in December
- Outreached to schools for the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program

Public Health - COVID-19 Response

After three grueling years, March of 2023 saw the official end of the public health emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The contact tracing & case investigation unit was disbanded, and monitoring of COVID-19 was transferred to the Communicable Disease Unit. The unit performed amazingly under very stressful conditions to keep our community safe by slowing the spread of COVID-19, in hopes of taking a burden off our overwhelmed medical personnel. All of us who were part of this amazing team thank our management for their support and for the community, who all came together during the pandemic.

Public Health - Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care (HCPCFC)

HCPCFC continues to serve approximately 190 foster children and youth and about five in Probation.

Public Health - California Children's Services (CCS)

CCS has a caseload of 405, down from 508 in December 2022. This is a reduction of 103 cases which did not have current Annual Reviews. Annual reviews are now up to date.

Public Health - Women, Infant, Children (WIC)

New WIC staff members are completing their required orientation lactation/breast-feeding modules. The WIC program had either phone or in-person contact with approximately 900 participants.



A Safe & Healthy County

Public Health - Mendocino County Adolescent Health (MCAH)

- MCAH program hosted a Car Seat Installation Event at the Ukiah Public Health Office on 12/20/23. Our Child Passenger Safety Technicians installed fourteen car seats for families and provided education on car seat safety and proper installation.
- The Home Visiting Team presented the evaluation report for year three of the California Home Visiting Program (CHVP) Innovations Project. The Mendocino County Innovations Project is the Promotores de Salud program, in which bilingual, bicultural home visitors explore best practices for providing culturally responsive home visiting services for rural Latino families.
- Healthy Families Mendocino County (HFMC) Home Visiting program received 26 referrals to our program in Q2 of fiscal year 23-24, with several in outlying regions including Covelo, Fort Bragg, and Gualala.
- HFMC enrolled six new families in Q2 of fiscal year 23-24, including families in Covelo and Fort Bragg.
- HFMC performed community outreach at fourteen locations in December, including Covelo, Ukiah, Willits, and Potter Valley. Outreach was led by Gabriela Burleson, who is an incredibly experienced Public Health professional and has been with Mendocino County Public Health for over twenty years.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP)

- Decon equipment arrived and the trailer is set to deploy to Fort Bragg on January 10. Adventist Health and PHEP will plan for a news release after the training takes place.
- Plans for a 1120 South Dora Evacuation Training is in the works.
- Annual Hospital Surge drill was completed.
- We cleaned out and prepared the Veterans building garage to make room for Air Quality.
- We decontaminated, emptied, recycled, and discarded all expired contents that were stored in two large trailers.



A Safe & Healthy County

Public Health - Fiscal

- Fiscal has worked on standardizing reports, such as our grant “playbooks,” to help with ensuring those viewing the reports for multiple budget units are familiar with the format and able to understand the reports fully.
- Fiscal has begun working on an education campaign to bridge the gap between program and fiscal – this was kickstarted with training session from fiscal staff to program staff.
- Fiscal has worked closely with the Auditor’s office to close out FY21.22 accurately, which includes fielding questions from the outside audit firm who assists with the ACFR. Fiscal plans to continue to work with the Auditor’s office as they work towards closing out FY22.23.
- Fiscal has begun to work with their counterparts in Behavioral Health & Recovery Services to help with streamlining and efficiency practices.
- Fiscal continues to support Environmental Health’s push to take some of their fiscal functions in house, such as creating manuals and trainings for Deposits and Accounts Payable.

Public Health - Grant, RFPs, Agreements, Contracts, & Evaluation (GRACE)

- Supported the department in securing millions of dollars in revenue funding via State and Federal sources to support our community programs and county-wide initiatives to improve public health.
- Implemented a single point of contact within the department to process formal agreements, ensuring that County and Federal policies are adhered to and that gaps in workflow are identified and rectified at the source to encourage accuracy and efficacy in our day-to-day work.
- Increased communications internally with staff and externally with vendors via phone, email, and video conferencing to enhance collaboration, efficiency, and overall work performance, building long-lasting and trusted partnerships with local vendors benefiting the department and our community.
- Worked closely with staff to reduce silos by increasing information sharing, goal setting, and collaboration, thereby increasing accountability, quality, and compliance.
- Prioritized training opportunities, both formal and informal, ensuring that staff is adequately informed of County Policies and Procedures, the resources available to them to perform their jobs well, and that institutional knowledge is not lost.



A Safe & Healthy County

Public Health - Communications

In April of 2023, Public Health Communication transitioned from focusing COVID-19 to focusing on education and general public health communication. We improved our outreach to the Spanish speaking community. Almost all of our messaging is in Spanish as well as English.

- We have built an active presence on Facebook and Instagram and post 4-5 times a week. There are 10,037 followers with post reach of 15,934.
- We have increased our radio outreach. There 9 radio stations that carry monthly English and Spanish public services announcements.
- We advertise monthly in 2 local papers.
- We continue to send out press releases on important public health issues.
- Dr. Coren and other members of the public health staff have presented on public radio programs including Spanish language programs.

Public Health - 2-1-1 Mendocino

In 2023, 2-1-1 Mendocino provided information and referrals to 618 individuals, a slight increase from 594 people in 2022. 232 of 2023's contacts were first-time callers or texters to the service, 47 represented families with a child, and 10 were pregnant. While more than half of the calls came from Ukiah (227), Willits (102) and Fort Bragg (74), 2-1-1 Mendocino received calls from every corner of the county, from Pt. Arena to Leggett to Covelo to Hopland, and points between. The attached report details additional caller demographics and top areas of need.

Public Health - Accreditation & Quality Improvement

- Building on relationships with healthcare, services, and community-based organizations strengthened during the pandemic, we refocused on preparedness, prevention & education.
- The Data Team analyzed and shared population health data reports with community partners, increasing population health improvement decisions based on health data.
- We completed our Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) collaboratively, engaging with community through round tables and focus groups.
- We completed large department operational plans required for accreditation and foundational for public health services – including Emergency Operations & Risk Communications.
- We completed submitting all documentation to the Public Health Accreditation Board in August and are preparing for a site visit from the Board.



A Safe & Healthy County

Public Health - Equity

In 2023, the Public Health Equity team worked to assess the diversity, equity, and inclusion in our organization and created guidelines for staff and programs to understand the topics and incorporate these DEI lenses into their programming.

- We created and administered the Annual Organizational Assessment for Equity Infrastructure to staff and management.
- We drafted the Health Equity Checklist and Resource Guide and terminology glossary for programs and created efforts especially in communication materials in different languages, posting and promoting awareness events honoring tribal connections and uplifting marginalized communities.
- Our staff enrolled in the Government Alliance on Race and Equity network and attended its online trainings and conference.
- We experienced a staff change for the Equity Lead and the position remained to be filled.