

# Investment in Public Health Saves Lives and Money

#### SB21-243: Extension and Importance of Public Health Funding

- Current state funding is approximately \$9.7M, with SB21-243 adding \$10M.
- SB21-243 funding, expiring June 30, 2024, is critical for implementing Colorado's Core Public Health Services.
- The Governor's budget includes a continuation of SB21-243 funding at a lower level of \$7.5M.





#### SB21-243: Extension and Importance of Public Health Funding

- Without an additional \$12M, LPHAs may reduce services, programs, and staff.
- Local Planning and Support funding ensures a minimum of one FTE at each LPHA for Core Public Health Services.
- This funding supports CHIPs, a statutory requirement, and is essential for equitable public health services across Colorado.





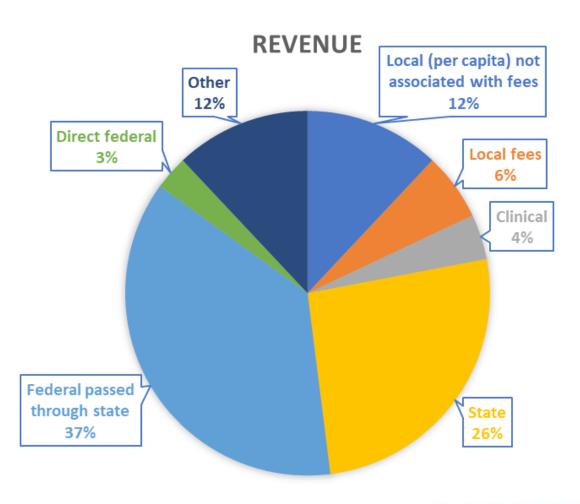
#### Categorized vs. Uncategorized Funding

#### **Categorized Funding**

 Involves allocating funds for specific and predetermined purposes or programs.

#### **Uncategorized Funding**

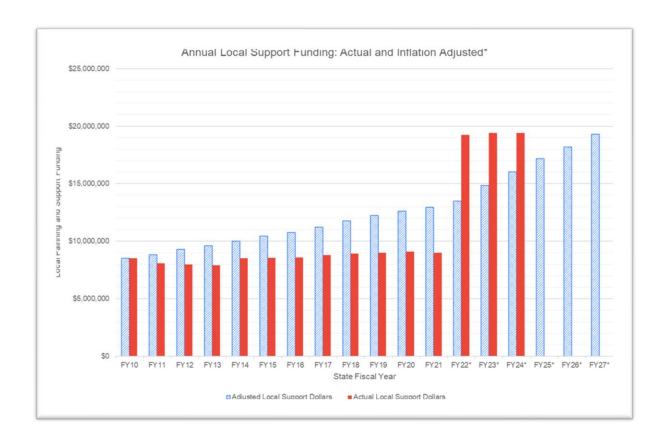
Also known as general funding, involves
 providing public health agencies or
 organizations with a lump sum of money
 without specific designations for how the
 funds should be utilized, outside of being spent
 on core public health services.





### Public Health Act of 2008 and Funding Challenges

- The Public Health Act of 2008 aimed for consistent, high-quality core public health services across Colorado.
- State support for LPHAs has not kept pace with inflation and population growth.
- SB21-243's addition of \$10M annually in FY22 was a temporary remedy, set to expire in FY24.





## **Examples from the Field**

- Communicable Disease Prevention, Investigation, and Control
- Environmental Public Health
- Maternal, Child, Adolescent, and Family Health
- Chronic Disease, Injury Prevention, and Behavioral Health Promotion
- Assess to and Linkage with Health Care



#### Impact of SB21-243 Funding on Broomfield City & County PH

#### Advancing Public Health Analytics with SB21-243

- Enhanced Data Capabilities: SB21-243 funding enabled expanded data collection and analysis in critical health areas like behavioral health, substance use, and social determinants of health.
- Community Coordination Platform: Implementation of a care-coordination system
  to seamlessly connect community members with health services and local
  nonprofits.
- Informed Decision-Making: Data insights are now shaping strategic public health activities and community collaborations.



#### Impact of SB21-243 Funding on Jefferson County Public Health

#### Jefferson County Public Health's Response and Vision

- Health Equity Focus: Established a dedicated five-person team for health equity and community engagement, enhancing trust and program integration.
- Building Community Relations: Notable gains in community trust and engagement, particularly in vaccination outreach and health assessments.
- Future Goals: Commitment to expanding services to include environmental justice, aligning with the evolving needs of the community.



#### Impact of SB21-243 Funding on Larimer County Public Health

#### **Strengthening Youth and Community Communication**

- Youth Engagement: Hired a Youth Engagement Coordinator to align efforts across school districts.
- **Mental Health Taskforce**: Established a countywide Youth Mental Health Taskforce with compensated youth participation.
- Language Access: Onboarded a Bilingual Communication Specialist to improve translation and interpretation services.



#### Impact of SB21-243 Funding on Elbert County Public Health

#### Revitalizing Rural Health Services with SB21-243

- Staff Expansion: ECPH leveraged SB21-243 funds to expand their team, adding a full-time Finance & Grants Specialist and two part-time Nurse Practitioners.
- Clinical Services Resumption: The funding enabled the opening of a primary care clinic, restoring clinical services absent since 2016.
- Technological Advancement: Implementation of an Electronic Health Records
  (EHR) system to enhance patient care and streamline billing, aiding financial
  sustainability.



#### Impact of SB21-243 Funding on Kit Carson County Public Health

#### **Enhancing Community Health in Kit Carson County**

- **Expansion in Health Services**: Utilization of SB21-243 funding for health navigation and chronic disease prevention.
- Nutrition Program Initiation: Recruitment of a registered dietitian to develop a community nutrition program and support regional food-access efforts.
- Staff Training Investment: Emphasis on health navigation training, focusing on social determinants of health and resource navigation skills.



#### Impact of SB21-243 Funding on Dolores County Public Health

#### Innovative Health Solutions in Rural Dolores County

- Challenges: Addressing the health care needs of a low-income, senior population in a rural area.
- **Prescription Pickup Initiative:** Launched a vital program for medication and oxygen tank refills, catalyzed by a local senior's critical incident.
- **Impact:** The program is a lifeline in the community, contributing to chronic disease management and mental health service improvement.



#### SB21-243: Extension and Importance of Public Health Funding

- SB21-243's flexible funds have significantly improved Colorado's public health system.
- This funding has begun to address chronic underfunding and inflexible funding sources.
- The success stories from LPHAs highlight the unique impact of this funding.

