



San Joaquin County
Public Health Services
----- health grows here

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

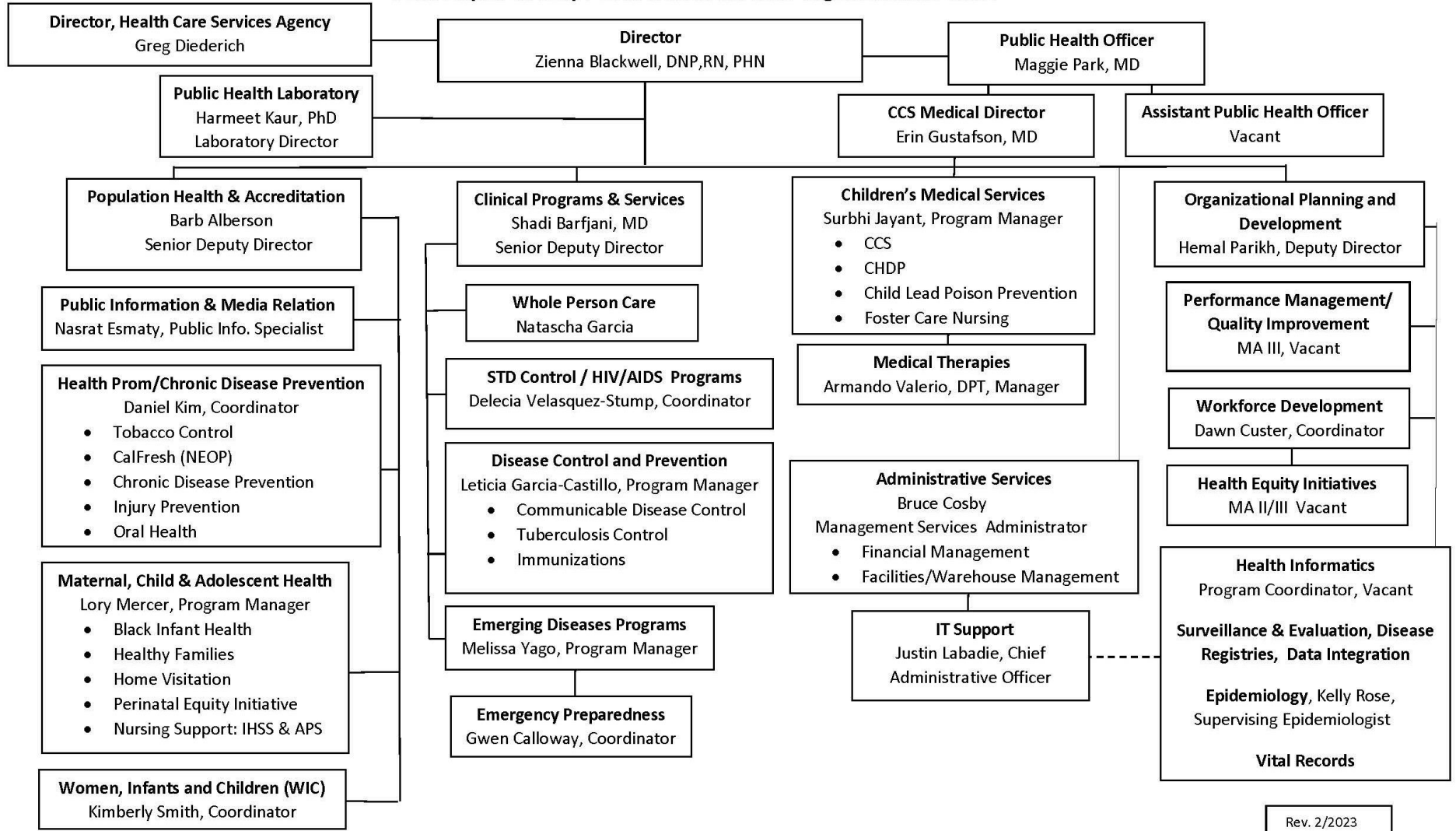




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San Joaquin County Public Health Services Organizational Chart



Introduction

San Joaquin County Public Health Services (PHS) provides a broad array of programs and services to protect and promote the health and well-being of residents across the county. This includes a renowned state-of-the-art Public Health Laboratory and an Immunization Registry that also serves other counties. Its 250+ member staff is multidisciplinary — including epidemiologists, microbiologists, physicians and public health nurses, health educators, nutritionists, social workers, communicable disease investigators, community health outreach workers, and staff who oversee administrative support functions.

Because health equity, diversity and inclusion are important drivers for department-wide efforts, PHS is proud of the fact our employees reflect the broad diversity of the county's population. Many PHS employees are bilingual and all together, speak 18 different languages.

PHS PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

- **Clinical Services or Links with Care** – California Children's Services, Medical Therapies for Children, Child Health and Disability Prevention, Foster Care Nursing Services, Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention, and Whole Person Care Program
- **Disease Control and Prevention** – Acute communicable diseases, sexually transmitted diseases, and tuberculosis
- **Emerging Diseases Program** - Collaborations with community partners and county agencies, to prepare and respond to emerging/re-emerging disease outbreaks and public health emergencies
- **Health Promotion, Chronic Disease, and Injury Prevention** – Tobacco control, child passenger safety, pedestrian and bike safety, heart disease and diabetes prevention, nutrition education and promotion of physical activity, senior wellness, oral health, and prevention of opioid abuse
- **Maternal, Child, Adolescent and Family Health** – Black Infant Health, Perinatal Equity Initiative, home visiting, and WIC
- **Support Services** – Laboratory, epidemiology, public information/communications, emergency preparedness, Information Technology (IT), issuing birth and death certificates



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS – PRIORITIES

PHS strongly supported many of the priorities set forth by the Board of Supervisors for 2022-2025:

- **Increasing Organizational Capabilities (a.) Improve Recruitment and Retention Rates.** PHS contracted with Public Health Foundation (PHF), the nationally renowned public health workforce development experts. PHF will conduct a multi-level assessment of PHS organizational structure and recommend how the department can enhance its overall structure (e.g., appropriate number of full-time employees, appropriate classifications with associated salaries, adequacy of management structure, span of control.) This assessment and realignment will work to improve the department’s ability to recruit/retain employees, especially in hard-to-fill classifications. Assessment will commence in January 2023.
- **Organizational Capacity (c.) Demonstrate Leadership Development.** Throughout 2022, PHS managers AND supervisors participated in a unique year-long Leadership Development Academy conducted by Max Potentials consultants. Monthly large-group training sessions focused on individual mentoring/coaching and cooperative learning. The entire management team enjoyed practical skill-building, creating stronger connections among team members and fostering new intersections between programs and services.
- **Organizational Capacity (d.) Augment Digitization and Automation.** To broaden public access to more timely information, PHS invested in innovative technology to design a real-time, user-friendly and interactive COVID-19 electronic dashboard for the community. Refreshed data uploads automatically.
- **Improve Public Safety/Quality of Life (e.)** PHS continued to collaborate with community partners on the promotion of safe and healthy communities. This included strategies to address opioid misuse and abuse — to prevent both unintentional and violent injuries and reduce the impact of acute and chronic diseases.
- **Homelessness.** PHS also became home for the county’s Whole Person Care Program, which provides a whole-person approach to care to coordinate the physical health, behavioral health, and social service needs of those experiencing homelessness in San Joaquin County.

Vision and Mission

From PHS Strategic Plan 2023-27

Vision - All San Joaquin County communities are healthy, safe, equitable and thriving.

Mission – To protect, promote and improve health and the conditions that impact well-being for all in San Joaquin County.

Health Equity Approach

PHS is strongly committed to health equity and to finding ways to reduce the burden of disease and injury in our disadvantaged communities. We have developed a comprehensive new five-year Health Equity Action Plan to guide our efforts.

PHS will work closely with community partners and residents to reduce health disparities and the underlying social, economic and physical conditions that negatively impact health and quality of life.

OVERVIEW OF 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

The following pages spotlight...

- ... PHS move to our new facility,
- ... recent efforts to address opioid/fentanyl misuse and abuse,
- ... our Perinatal Equity Projects, and
- ... a brief look at our new state-of-the-art Public Health Laboratory.

This report also shares data on...

- ... selected highlights and metrics from PHS programs and services,
- ... trends for a number of reportable diseases that affected our county this last year, and
- ... a look forward to major activities the agency will undertake in 2023.

The final pages provide a list of PHS programs with contact information for quick reference.



Spotlight

New PHS Facilities

Public Health staff were involved in multiple facility moves in 2022 — the most significant being the December move to the long-awaited replacement for the 55-year-old Hazelton Avenue building and public health lab expansion.

Among the building's new features... a modernized 7,000+ square foot lab, increased safety features with separate entrances for staff and public visitors, and the latest communications technology for improved connections with staff and stakeholders.

In addition, we procured two new office suites in the Lathrop Business Park in July. California Children's Services (CCS) relocated there from their Grand Canal office, with additional space to co-locate with the new Whole Person Care team.

We are also working towards a replacement for the Wilson Way building with \$3 million in federal funding to plan and design a building on the corner of Hazelton and Wilson Way. We expect to have the design and engineering plans ready by the end of 2024, to share more information on completion date as the project progresses.

Goodbye Old HQ



Welcome New HQ



PHS Response to Opioid Epidemic Focus on Fentanyl

In spring 2022, PHS launched the ***Fentanyl is Forever Public Awareness*** campaign using interior and exterior bus ads, radio spots, and digital and email messaging.

During the three-month campaign — 212,300 listeners heard the radio spots an average of 3.3 times, digital media garnered 166,670 impressions, and email outreach generated 7,600 views to web page.

In late fall 2022, PHS began planning for another campaign with the memorable tagline ***One Pill Can Kill.***

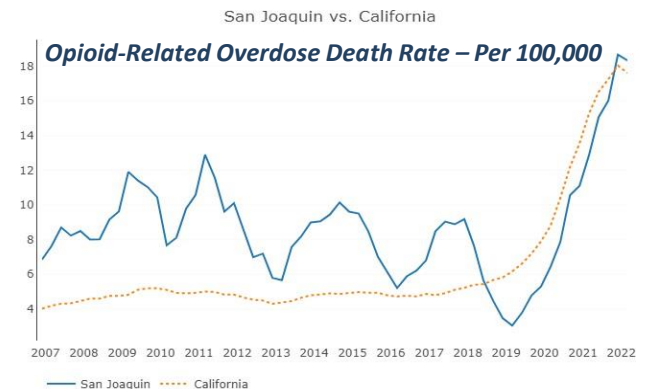
Established in 2017, the San Joaquin County Opioid Safety Coalition (OSC) saw opioid-related overdose deaths in the county appear to trend downward. Gains were made in preventing prescription opioid misuse and increasing access to medication-assisted treatment for people with opioid use disorder. However, by the end of 2018, the statewide rate began to rise again and the county's rates soon followed that trend.

By 2021, opioid-related overdose death rates spiked to new heights with the proliferation of illicit fentanyl to blame.

Through the four-year Overdose Data to Action state grant received in 2020, PHS and the OSC shifted attention to the dangers of fentanyl now appearing in illicit drugs.

In January 2022, PHS began distributing naloxone — the lifesaving opioid overdose reversal drug — to the public at no cost. Availability of easy-to-use naloxone to friends and family for those at risk increases survival rates and opportunities to refer survivors to treatment. To date, 364 doses of naloxone have been dispensed.

On October 3, 2022, PHS, the Coalition, and San Joaquin County Office of Education held a Town Hall about the dangers of illicit fentanyl to help young people, parents, educators and community at large. Elected officials and agency staff shared overdose prevention information with an in-person audience of 125 attendees and an online audience of more than 200. Keynoters Laura and Chris Didier, parents of Zach Didier who died from an accidental overdose of a substance laced with fentanyl, shared their heartbreaking story while celebrating the life of their son and advocating for overdose prevention. PHS and OSC continue media campaigns and harm reduction strategies to reach youth and communities of color most impacted by illicit fentanyl, to bring opioid-related overdose deaths under control.



Maternal, Child & Adolescent/Family Health Perinatal Equity Initiative

Passport to Fatherhood

This program for African American fathers and male father figures teaches the importance of fatherhood and aims to strengthen the parent/co-parent relationship to enrich the lives of children. Workshops and group activities offer support throughout the perinatal period.

The program quickly reached its goal of 100 participants.



The Sistacoaches

This program provides a culturally safe environment, pairing each pregnant and parenting Black/African American woman enrolled in the program with a helpful advocate.

This person offers education, resources and ongoing assistance during and after delivery, up until the baby turns one year of age.

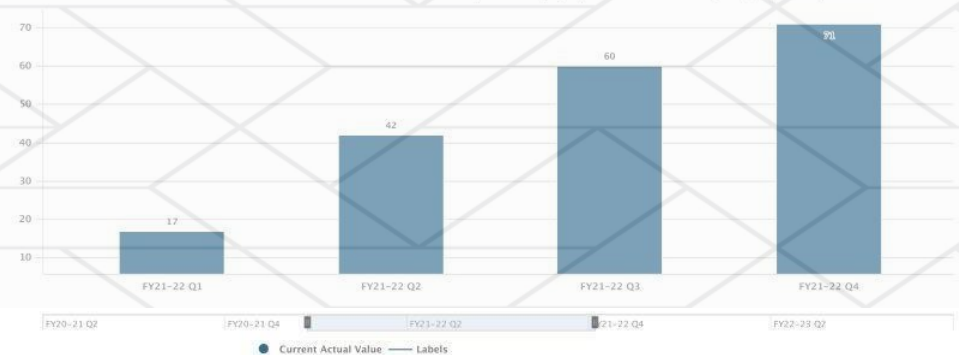
This program also reached its goal to serve 120 young participants.



How well: 3. % of fathers/partners surveyed who report that they are satisfied with the sessions attended - Average YTD



How well: 2. # of women enrolled who received at least one essential service (i.e.: accompany to prenatal or other visits, birth plan, referral) - YTD Cumulative



State-of-the-Art Public Health Laboratory

Diverse Testing Options

In 2022, the PHS Lab performed approximately 30,000 tests.

Some of many tests performed include:

- special bacteriology
- mycology
- HIV viral load testing
- TB identification
- testing for parasites
- testing for rabies
- testing for contaminants in water
- testing for COVID-19, including genomic sequencing

New facility with room to grow

In November 2022, the laboratory transitioned to a new advanced facility on the same campus at 1601 E. Hazelton Avenue. One of the new lab features is a larger, dedicated Biosafety Level 3 (BSL-3) suite equipped with specialized equipment and highly trained staff to rule-out suspected bioterrorism agents such as anthrax, plague, Mpox, tularemia, Brucella, Burkholderia, and ricin. The BSL-3 lab provides high-level containment and enhanced safety features.

Building partnerships and sharing our expertise

Last year, the lab continued to:

- Work closely with physicians, nurses and Environmental Health specialists to help diagnose and control infectious disease. We offered technical consultation for specimen collection, microbiological techniques and procedures, shipping and packaging, laboratory safety, quality assurance and epidemiology.
- Provide packaging and shipping training for both Category A, Infectious Substances and Category B, Biological Substances to the sentinel laboratories in our catchment area.
- Host the Public Health Microbiologist Training Program, the LabAspire Assistant Director Fellowship, and a Public Health rotation for future Clinical Laboratory Scientists trainees from our local hospitals.



Select



Program Highlights

and Metrics

Clinical Services and Links with Care

California Children's Services (CCS) — Connected 2,214 newly diagnosed critically or chronically ill children to higher-level care, who otherwise would not have access.

Overall, CCS coordinated and paid for medical care and therapies for more than 4,200 children across the county.

Foster Care Nursing — Public Health nurses consulted on over 1,100 cases assisting social workers on making informative decisions about the overall well-being of children. As a result, children were connected with medical and dental services more quickly.

Medical Therapies Unit (MTU) — In July 2022, the UC Davis Telemedicine Pilot Project use of four sites for our Medical Therapy Conferences ended. UC Davis let PHS continue using its telemedicine TV carts free of charge along with free maintenance.

Our Medical Therapy Conferences now offer two hybrid methods of connecting:

1. Physician not on site, connected remotely; children, parents and therapists on site
2. Therapists and physician on site; children and parents off site

At least 40 children have been seen in hybrid Medical Therapy Conferences.

Community Health Workers (CHWs) Program — In mid-2021, PHS was awarded a three-year grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for a Community Health Workers for COVID Response and Resilient Communities project. The goal? Work with community partners to build strong, lasting partnerships to recruit, train and place CHWs with authentic racial and cultural competencies in our 14 designated Priority Neighborhoods. Residents of these neighborhoods are the most impacted by historic health disparities and risks and impacts of COVID-19.

PHS funded six community-based organizations (CBOs) to serve these neighborhoods. PHS also hired two CHWs, and each of the CBOs have two, for a total of 14 CHWs. The CHWs will use Unite Us, an online bi-directional referral system, to make vital connections for clients. The CHW project includes a robust evaluation component to evaluate referral types and to collectively address gaps in services and social support systems.

A STORY TO SHARE

McKinley School MTU in Tracy welcomed a new client whose family immigrated from Afghanistan last year. He never had any therapy intervention, did not attend school, and had no needed equipment.

Our MTU staff made sure the youngster received a stroller, bath equipment, and braces to help prevent contractures.

The family said they feel so grateful. He used to be super shy and cry around other people. But now?

Mom reports he smiles more and makes eye contact with other people.

PHS felt privileged to help this family with their son's therapy needs.

Disease Control and Prevention

COMMUNITY OUTREACH FOR LTBI

Close to 800 calls have been made to those testing positive for TB, and 532 clients have answered the call.

Of those 532 clients, 313 (or 59%) had not started **LTBI treatment**. Surprisingly, most of them said the ordering provider had not informed them of the positive results – even though many had tested several months prior.

PHS provided these clients with education on TB. Most clients were interested in LTBI treatment and would follow up as requested.

Tuberculosis (TB)

Traditionally, PHS TB Control focuses on case management of active TB patients, contact investigations, and outbreak management. **In May 2022, the program initiated a new project focused on Latent Tuberculosis Infection (LTBI).**

Public health nurses and communicable disease investigators began making phone calls to county residents with a positive blood TB test in the past 12 months. There were 1,900 positive lab reports received in 2021. The goal? Determine treatment status of these individuals and offer education to those who may have not started treatment.

PHS has also been working closely with the California Department of Public Health TB Control Branch to conduct more outreach and education to our community providers.

STDs/HIV/AIDS Program

This program provided counseling, education and prevention services that includes street-based outreach and activities at schools and correctional facilities.

Provided counseling, education, and prevention services to over 750 individuals newly diagnosed with syphilis and HIV/AIDS.

Received and reviewed 2,310 reports of syphilis. Investigated 1,098 of these reports and identified 764 new cases. 287 of the new cases were early-stage syphilis, indicating recent infection.

Also investigated 104 reports of individuals newly diagnosed with HIV/AIDS and referred them to case management and partner services. Within our county, 89% of those diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in 2022 were linked to care within 6 months of diagnosis; 54% already achieved viral load suppression.

Provided case management for 158 people living with HIV/AIDS and safe housing for 83 HIV/AIDS clients to prevent homelessness.

Emerging Diseases COVID-19

Novel Way to Reduce COVID-19 Comorbidities



Using a multi-pronged approach to reduce community exposure to COVID-19, PHS added improved building ventilation to the list of mitigation strategies to offer to the youngest in our community. Public school districts received opportunities to address failing ventilation systems in schools. However, childcare centers, preschools and private schools did not qualify for similar funding.

PHS Health Officer, Dr. Park, researched and identified a low-maintenance, low-energy use portable air purifier with a five-year, medical-grade HEPA filter to effectively remove viruses, bacteria and allergens in child-centered environments.

With the help of partners, Family Resource and Referral Center and Human Services Agency, PHS distributed 1,500 units to childcare centers and 90 units to preschools and private elementary schools throughout San Joaquin County in 2022.

COVID-19 Home Tests Distributed Far and Wide

Last year, PHS distributed 482,916 tests far and wide. (Not test kits as some are packaged with multiple tests per kit i.e., some have 1 to 5, some have 40.)

Community distribution included places such as: skilled nursing and assisted living facilities, community-based and faith-based organizations, local businesses, agriculture workers, day care centers, preschools, colleges (UOP, Delta Community College, CSU Stanislaus), recovery centers, homeless shelters, and other congregate living settings. Specific testing program partners include: STAND, El Concilio, Mary Magdalene, Little Manila Rising, and Amelia Ann Adams Whole Life Center.

Additionally, general public distribution coordination included partnering with city governments, Snap Nurse Program, WIC, SJC Community Centers and others.



Students Look Forward to Life After COVID

The #SJVaxForTheWin Arts Contest, held in late fall 2021, asked students to enter art or a video to answer, “*What are you most looking forward to doing after COVID?*” We received over 190 visual art entries (ages 5-11) and 46 videos (ages 12-18). PHS awarded two co-grand prize winners for videos, plus a grand prize winner and first runner-up for visual art.

Additional prizes were given to 12 runners-up and 16 honorable mentions. Prizes included Nintendo Switch Gaming Consoles, MacBook Air with Final Cut Pro, iPads, and Amazon gift cards from \$50 to \$250. A Kaiser COVID-19 Equity Grant made all this possible — with funding to create this contest and provide such appreciated prizes. The San Joaquin Community Foundation administered the contest for PHS.

These photos offer a glimpse of excitement at the award ceremony, held Feb. 17, 2022, at the Community Foundation.



Health Promotion, Chronic Disease, and Injury Prevention

Health Equity

In 2021, PHS was awarded a California Equitable Recovery Initiative (CERI) grant, given to local health departments to build infrastructure and organizational capacity to strengthen health equity efforts.

A top priority was developing a Health Equity Action Plan (HEAP).

In 2022, the PHS Health Equity team, working closely with the department's Race and Health Equity Subcommittee, began to craft the HEAP. Development relied on a comprehensive process that included a baseline organization assessment, staff survey, focus groups, key stakeholder interviews, in-person strategy planning meetings, and virtual engagement meetings.

The Plan will be finalized in March 2023 and used to guide meaningful and far-reaching health equity efforts over the next five years.

Education and Outreach

CalFresh Healthy Living (CFHL) Program

CFHL, in partnership with Catholic Charities of Stockton and University of California Cooperative Extension, conducted a local needs assessment in the Garden Acres community to understand health and resource concerns.

Over 130 residents responded and shared the high prices of healthy foods, lack of food choices, and poor-quality produce in stores as top challenges. To start, the *Refresh San Joaquin* Healthy Retailer project will work with area small markets and corner stores to improve the availability of healthy foods.



STORE INCENTIVES

Some of the Refresh San Joaquin benefits based include:

Store Environment

Opportunity to speak with expert consultants that can work with you to identify improvements such as new shelving, changes to the store layout, additional lighting, or perhaps strengthening your deli/take-out food business.



Healthy Retail Service

Refresh San Joaquin will help with introducing other healthy food items to your community through health education, food demonstrations, healthy checkout lanes, and more. Advice on decreasing access to youth of unhealthy products including tobacco and alcohol.

Business Development

Connections to technical assistance like small business loans, retail marketing expertise and signage improvement will assist your business and your community.

Local Oral Health Program (LOHP)

LOHP provided preventive dental screening services to preschool and elementary-age students during the year.

PHS contracted with dental hygienists and created agreements with three school districts — to provide 72 dental screening sessions at 23 elementary schools.

A total of 1,024 children were screened, 123 referred for urgent oral health services, and 77 students under age 6 received fluoride varnish to protect their teeth.



Smoking and Tobacco Outreach/Prevention Program (STOPP)

STOPP provided oversight and technical assistance to establish the first youth tobacco subcommittee of the STOPP Coalition — Youth Advocating Against Tobacco (YAAT). This youth-led group of high school students was formed in response to the national youth vaping epidemic of 2018 and to advocate for stronger tobacco control laws throughout San Joaquin County.

For example, YAAT recruited over 30 youth to assist in a STOPP-led park cleanup in April 2022, collecting 1.5 pounds of tobacco waste — over 4,000 cigarette butts and filters.



THE SMOKING & TOBACCO OUTREACH/PREVENTION PROGRAM (STOPP) IS

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!

TO PARTICIPATE IN YOUNG ADULT TOBACCO PURCHASE SURVEYS

Help change how retailers sell tobacco products to young adults like you.

REQUIREMENTS

- Interest in tobacco-free advocacy
- Must be 18-20 years old
- Join us for training on 10/2/21, 10:30AM-3PM
- Work with supervisor to complete surveys

AS A THANK YOU

- Lunch provided on day of training
- Free gift cards after completing surveys

TRAINING DAY
OCT. 2

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT ALICIA RAMOS
ARAMOS1@SJCPSHS.ORG
209-438-6211

STOPP REGISTER HERE Public Health Services



STOPP THE SMOKING & TOBACCO OUTREACH/PREVENTION PROGRAM (STOPP) IS

REGISTER HERE

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT ALICIA RAMOS
ARAMOS1@SJCPSHS.ORG
209-438-6211

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Maternal, Child & Adolescent/Family Health MCAH



Home Visiting Programs

MCAH received nearly 1,000 referrals from local hospitals and community agencies.

- Nurses and other home-visiting staff conducted over 1,100 home visits to high-risk pregnant and parenting families.
- More than 300 families were screened for insurance coverage.
- MCAH programs distributed 13,372 educational materials community wide.

Cal-InSPIRE

California Innovations in Services and Partnerships for Inclusion, Resilience and Empowerment, or Cal-InSPIRE, is a new program launched in San Joaquin County.

PHS was selected as one of five counties in California to receive this innovative funding. The program serves Children and Youth with Special Healthcare Needs (CYSHCN) and their families.

The focus? Empowering families to successfully navigate systems of care, improving their ability to access both health and community services, and addressing their social emotional well-being.

Cal-InSPIRE includes home visitations and piloting a peer support group for families.

Women, Infants and Children Supplemental Nutrition Program (WIC)

WIC launched several new modes of electronic communication with clients in an effort to decrease barriers to program participation. The addition of CDPH-supported telehealth platforms Teletask and doxy.me enabled participants to communicate via text, email, and video when scheduling and receiving nutrition education and breastfeeding support.

Participants completed appointments in the comfort of their own homes, decreasing need to travel to and from WIC locations.

In 2022, WIC served 10,423 individuals.

WIC as Vaccination Site

WIC offices in Stockton and Manteca offered vaccinations to community members 6 months old and up on two Saturdays per month. Vaccines included the COVID-19 primary vaccination and boosters, as well as the flu vaccine.

CBOs joined the events — which together drew a combined average of 50 to 100 children and adults each weekend. Incentives included a \$50 gift card to purchase groceries, free COVID-19 test kits, PHS /CBO Program materials, and diapers for infants receiving a vaccination.

Join Boost the Raccoon

Vaccinations for the whole family!
COVID-19 and Flu vaccinations for anyone 6 months or older.
Updated COVID-19 boosters for anyone 5 years or older.

October 9AM-3PM	8th WIC Manteca 22nd WIC Stockton
November 9AM-1PM	5th WIC Manteca 19th WIC Stockton
December 9AM-1PM	3rd WIC Manteca 17th WIC Stockton

WIC Manteca - 287 Spreckles Ave.
WIC Stockton - 620 N. Aurora St.

FREE Giveaways with pediatric vaccination

- \$50 Grocery Gift Cards
- Diapers & Wipes (under 5 only)
- Lunch at the food truck

Logos: San Joaquin County Public Health Services, FIRST San Joaquin, CALIFORNIA WIC WOMEN, INFANTS & CHILDREN, Health Plan of San Joaquin, SJ HEALTH San Joaquin Health Centers.

Support Services

Epidemiology

Most of the Epidemiology staff were directed to COVID-19 pandemic response. One distinct success was working with a data scientist to produce an interactive COVID-19 Dashboard, activated in May 2022. The dashboard displays a summary page showcasing the current status of COVID-19 on one screen, removing the need to navigate multiple sites for current information.

The COVID-19 dashboard also allows users to dive deeper into impacted demographics. For example, if someone wants to know the number of cases for female, Asian, and less than 18 years old — they can easily get that information.

For the year, the COVID-19 dashboard accounted for 22.9% of the PHS site traffic.

Vital Records

This department provided certified birth and death certificates, as well as burial permits. **In 2022, there were 22,221 documents issued.**

Public Information and Communications

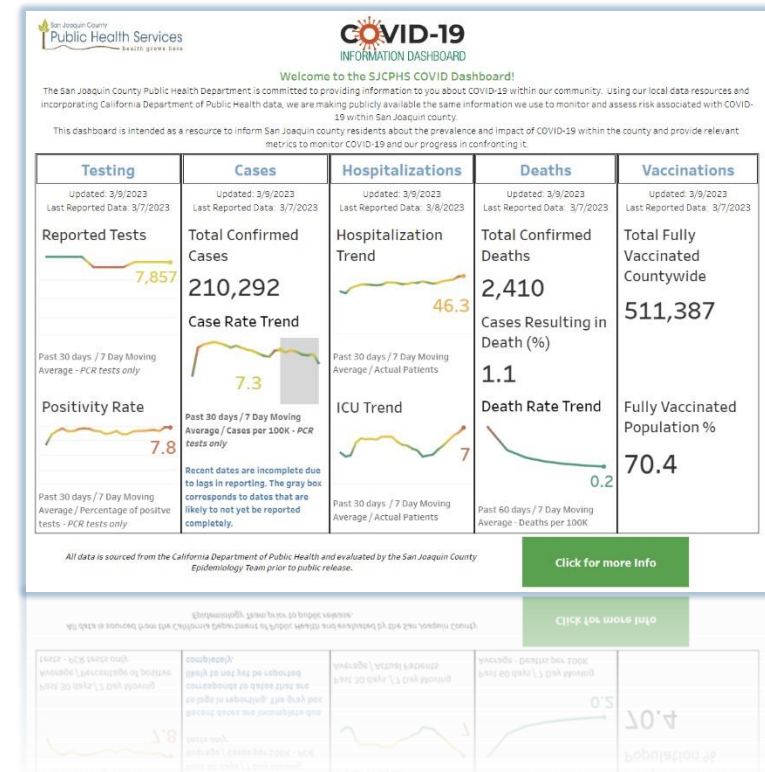
In 2022, more than 79,552 unique visitors viewed the PHS website 268,194 times.

PHS social media reach included 959,962 Facebook, 93,699 Instagram impressions and 2,107,322 Twitter impressions. PHS also issued 17 media releases — 16 of our own, 1 from the CDC — and 7 healthcare provider advisories.

Emergency Preparedness

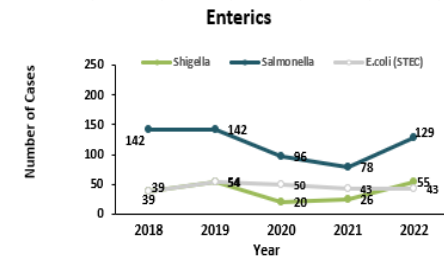
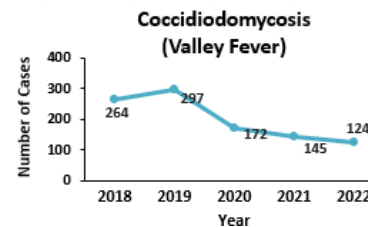
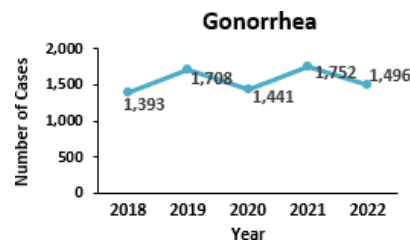
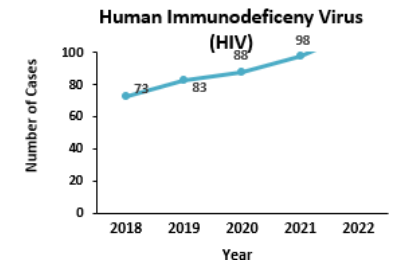
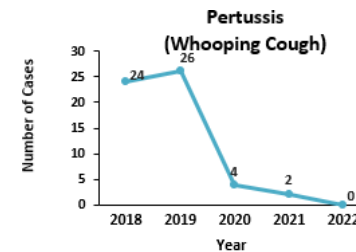
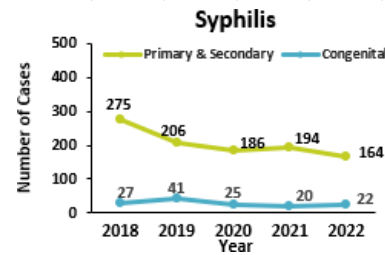
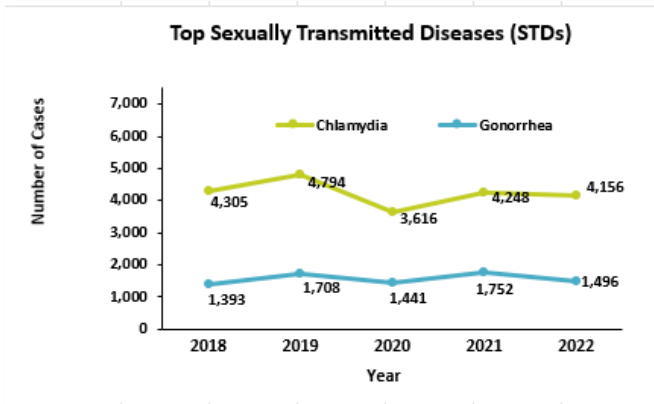
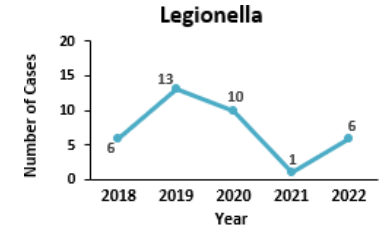
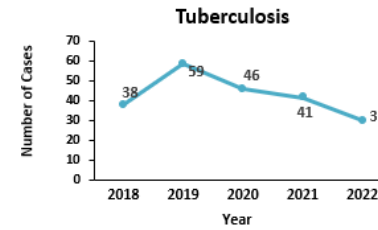
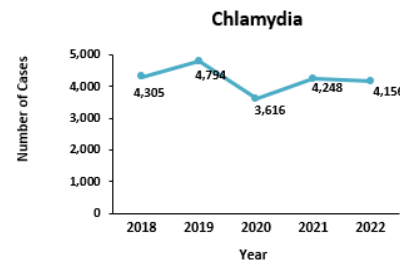
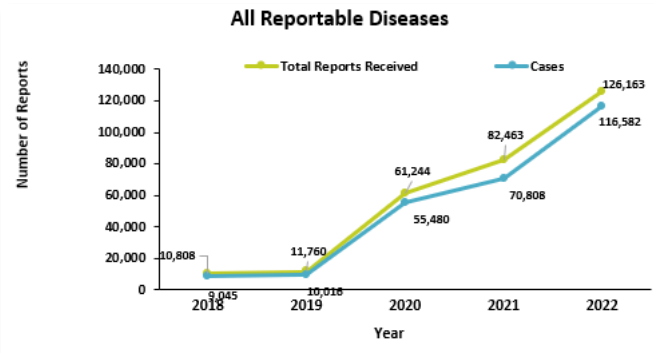
Coordinated after-action review of the county's COVID-19 response with the Office of Emergency Services and Emergency Medical Services. This included 57 interviews with key stakeholders, 25 focus groups, and 1 workshop for community partners. The After Action Report included an Improvement Plan, to implement lessons learned at all county levels.

Additionally, the EP program hosted state CHEMPACK training attended by over 10 agencies representing hospitals, law enforcement, public health, emergency management and fire.



Selected Reportable Diseases

There are over 80 diseases and conditions reportable to PHS. The total number of reports significantly increased in past five years from 10,808 in 2018 to 126,163 in 2022 due to COVID-19. While not all reports are cases, a lot of diseases have decreased since COVID-19 with the exception of HIV.



Note: Data are provisional and may change as additional information received.

Data Sources: All (except HIV): San Joaquin County Public Health Services, California Reportable Disease Information Exchange (CalREDIE), March 15, 2023

HIV: San Joaquin County Public Health Services, 2022Q4 HIV/AIDS DUA file, 12/31/2022

Moving Forward

Building a Network of Community Health Workers (CHWs)

In January 2023, a group of 30 CHWs across San Joaquin County health and community organizations (including CHWs funded by PHS) completed a 48-hour, 6-session training given by nationally renowned *Visión y Compromiso* group.

This interactive training was designed to hone competencies and strengthen connections among participants. The CHWs were highly engaged and look forward to even more opportunities to connect and network on behalf of our residents.

PHS will be working closely with the organizations that sent their CHWs to training and with those who will be onboarding CHWs in the near future. This includes the Community Pathways HUB Initiative administered by the SJ Community Foundation, the Health Plan of San Joaquin, and Health Net.

The goal? That CHWs will become a foundational part of community outreach, education and referral services. Outcome data will also be collected to identify gaps in services and be a catalyst for change.



Expanding the Whole Person Care (WPC) Program

WPC was awarded a \$2M Capacity and Infrastructure Transition, Expansion, and Development (CITED) grant from the California Department of Health Care Services. This timely grant can be used to hire more social workers, a nurse and CHWs.

It will also allow the program to expand services into the county jail... to begin discharge planning when an individual is booked, dedicate a social worker to the Justice Involved population including those on probation, and place two CHWs in St. Joseph's Emergency Room to support hospital staff working with those experiencing homelessness.

The WPC Program has joined the CA Street Medicine Collaborative, working with SJ Health on providing street medicine. This collaboration brings health care to people experiencing unsheltered homelessness through outreach and engagement, medical care on the streets, and links individuals to brick-and-mortar primary care sites and housing.

WPC will continue to strengthen ties with community partners, develop protocols and procedures, and work with our Medicaid managed care plans on enhanced case management.

Creating a Legacy: Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) Enhancing Detection

Building upon the strides made in the last three years, 2023 will be an exciting year of ELC-funded collaboration and partnership! **PHS is creating the COVID-19 Community Health Development Network.** Local not-for-profit organizations who serve vulnerable communities, rural areas, and migrating populations will partner with PHS to improve health communications and mitigation efforts in communicable disease surges, outbreaks and emergencies.

Awards will be given to those who sign an evergreen agreement and identify volunteers for future efforts. **Additional plans include building the capacity of local not-for-profits with the heart to improve the community's health but need administrative help to work with PHS.**

Throughout the funding years, ELC has purchased goods and services that have allowed PHS to respond to COVID and will help in future public health crises. But, truly, the legacy of ELC will be the interagency and community partnerships its funds have supported. By building the capacity of not only PHS but also its partners, it continues to build the resilience of all those who live, work and play in San Joaquin County.

Becoming an Academic Health Department

PHS and University of the Pacific (UOP) are pursuing an academic health department (AHD) partnership. An AHD is the formal affiliation of a health department and an academic institution to train future health professionals.

This partnership is designed to strengthen links between the academic preparation of students and public health practice in the field.

Although there are many AHDs across the country, this is the first in California.

Joint activities will include:

- Student involvement in public health research, study and service learning
- Exchange of faculty and staff to share subject matter expertise in training and curriculum development
- Exchange of public health research, educational materials, and publications
- Joint public health research activities e.g., long COVID-19 in underserved populations in San Joaquin County
- Assisting in organization and participation in seminars conducted by either or both entities

5-Year Accreditation

PHS was officially awarded 5-year Accreditation status by the national Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) in May 2021.

The department is now required to submit an annual progress report to demonstrate continuous quality improve-ments. This next year, staff across the department will be working to find new ways to excel on each of the PHAB's national





Appendix 1: List of PHS Programs and Services

<p>Administration Supports major functions of the Department such as department management, health statistics and reporting, personnel, accounts payable, purchasing, payroll processing, expense reimbursement claims.</p>	(209) 468-3411
<p>Black Infant Health Program (BIH) Provides social support, education, and referrals for African American women who are pregnant or have given birth in last 6 months; empowerment-focused group sessions and individual case management.</p>	(209) 953-7074
<p>Birth Certificates and Other Vital Records Registers births, deaths and fetal deaths occurring in the county. Provides certified paper copies of birth certificates and other vital records (e.g., burial permits and death certificates).</p>	(209) 468-8600
<p>California Children's Services (CCS) Statewide program that coordinates and pays for medical care and therapy services for eligible clients under 21 years of age.</p>	(209) 468-3900
<p>Child Health and Disability Prevention Program (CHDP) Provides oversight to CHDP medical providers and community clinics as well as connects low-income children and children in foster care to community resources in relation to preventative health care, treatment services and diagnostic referrals for ages 0 - 21.</p>	(209) 468-8335
<p>Child Passenger Safety Program Provides car seat installation assistance on Wednesdays by appointment, conducts car seat education presentations at community locations including pre-schools and parent cafes, holds large-scale car seat check-up events around the county, and trains Child Passenger Safety Technicians.</p>	(209) 468-8914
<p>Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP) Provides education and resources to the community and medical providers in order to raise awareness of the dangers of lead poisoning. Home visitation and inspections are also available for children found to be severely lead-poisoned.</p>	(209) 468-2593
<p>Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention Programs Works with community partners across the county on strategies to reduce the risks associated with diabetes, hypertension, and other chronic conditions (e.g., healthier diets, more physical activity, monitoring blood pressure, appropriate medications). Also, works with traditional and non-traditional partners on the prevention of injuries (e.g., as a result of traffic, pedestrian, and bike crashes, senior falls, drowning, suffocation, and poisoning such as opioid abuse, etc.).</p>	(209) 953-7309

<p>Communicable Disease Control Program Conducts case investigation of reportable communicable diseases, outbreak management, contact identification, patient and community education, and consultation to physicians, infectious disease practitioners, nursing facilities, schools, and day care programs.</p>	(209) 468-3822
<p>Emergency Preparedness Program (EP) Provides education and training to improve public health emergency readiness for individuals, families and the community-at-large.</p>	(209) 468-9361
<p>Emerging Diseases Program Collaborations with community partners and county agencies, to prepare and respond to emerging/re-emerging disease outbreaks and public health emergencies.</p>	(209) 468-9874
<p>Epidemiology Provides surveillance and monitoring of health data as well as supporting programs' needs for health-related data (e.g., social determinants of health); shares health information with the community through data reports and requests.</p>	(209) 468-9841
<p>Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SIDS) Program Provides education about SIDS and what can be done to prevent it. Public Health Nurses also provide grief counseling and support for families experiencing an unexpected infant death.</p>	(209) 468-3004
<p>In Home Supportive Services (for Elderly, Blind and Disabled) Nurses assess clients to determine the need for in-homes care, and provide referrals and recommendations to families.</p>	(209) 468-2202
<p>Laboratory California State and Federally certified facility that provides high-complexity testing services for San Joaquin as well as a number of neighboring Counties.</p>	(209) 468-3460
<p>Local Oral Health Program Provides activities that support State oral health plan and works with community partners to build capacity for children's oral health education, prevention, linkage to treatment, surveillance, and case management services in the community. The LOHP works in partnership with the San Joaquin Treatment + Education for Everyone on Teeth + Health (SJ TEETH) Collaborative.</p>	(209) 468-0354
<p>Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health Program (MCAH) Set of integrated programs designed to improve the health of California's women of reproductive age, infants, children, and adolescents, and their families.</p>	(209) 468-3004
<p>Medical Therapy Program Provides Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy for children with physical disabilities up to age 21 years with a qualifying medically eligible condition.</p>	(209) 943-6361
<p>Nurse Home Visiting Program Conducts home visits for anyone who is pregnant or has a baby up to 1 year old. Nurses provide parent education, case management, weight checks, developmental screening, and more. Some children with complex medical issues can be referred up to age 5.</p>	(209) 468-3004

<p>CalFresh (formerly NEOP) Conducts education, outreach, as well as policy, systems, and environmental changes to promote increased access to and consumption of healthy foods and beverages, physical activity, and food security with the goal of preventing obesity and related chronic diseases.</p>	(209) 953-7309
<p>Opioid Safety Program Facilitates the San Joaquin County Opioid Safety Coalition, serving as a community venue to discuss strategies and interventions to address the opioid overdose epidemic, increasing access and awareness to treatment options, educating prescribers, and reducing stigma associated with opioid use in the public.</p>	(209) 953-7309
<p>Public Information and Communication Develops and coordinates communication and outreach strategies from PHS to the community (e.g., programs' educational materials, social media activities) as well as maintains media relations.</p>	(209) 468-3571
<p>STDs/HIV/AIDS Programs Coordinates STD and HIV/AIDS related services. Provides counseling as well as education and prevention services that include street-based outreach and activities at schools and correctional facilities.</p>	(209) 468-3820
<p>STOPP Smoking Prevention Program Works in partnership with the Smoking & Tobacco Outreach and Prevention Coalition to promote a tobacco-free county.</p>	(209) 468-8637
<p>STOPP Helpline* (local number) Makes referrals to community programs to help stop smoking.</p>	(209) 468-2415
<p>Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Program (SIDS) Provides supportive services, referrals, and education for families experiencing the death of an infant due to SIDS. A MCAH program.</p>	(209) 468-3004
<p>Tuberculosis (TB) Control Program Provides support and treatment for clients with active TB, as well as seeking out others in contact with that person to assess if they, too, have been infected and need treatment, referral, and monitoring.</p>	(209) 468-3828
<p>Whole Person Care Program (WPC) Provides a whole-person approach to care to coordinate the physical health, behavioral health, and social service needs of those experiencing homelessness in San Joaquin County.</p>	(209) 953-0223
<p>WIC Program (Supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children) Helps families by providing nutrition education and breastfeeding support, issuing benefits for healthy supplemental foods, and making referrals to healthcare and other community services.</p>	(209) 468-3280

Special thanks to the PHS staff for all their work and achievements in 2022.

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