

PUBLIC HEALTH MODERNIZATION

BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Public Health Modernization means everyone in Oregon can expect basic public protections critical to their health and the health of future generations—these include clean air, safe food and water, health promotion and prevention of diseases, and responding to new health threats

THE NEED FOR A MODERNIZED PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM

The work of public health is essential to Oregon's health transformation journey which is focused on improving both individual and community health.

Despite our best efforts, public health is often challenged to proactively address preventable diseases, like diabetes and asthma, instead, focuses on present and emerging threats like tuberculosis, whooping cough and other communicable diseases. We need to be able to engage in work helping to prevent diseases and death AND respond to emerging community threats and outbreaks at the same time.

It is time for a change. The public health system requires new funds to activate innovative strategies that effectively meet the needs of our communities while preserving and expanding the current public health protections and prevention that benefit everyone in Oregon.

Public health works tirelessly to keep communities safe and healthy, often in coordination with many community partners.

WORKING TOGETHER TO IMPROVE HEALTH

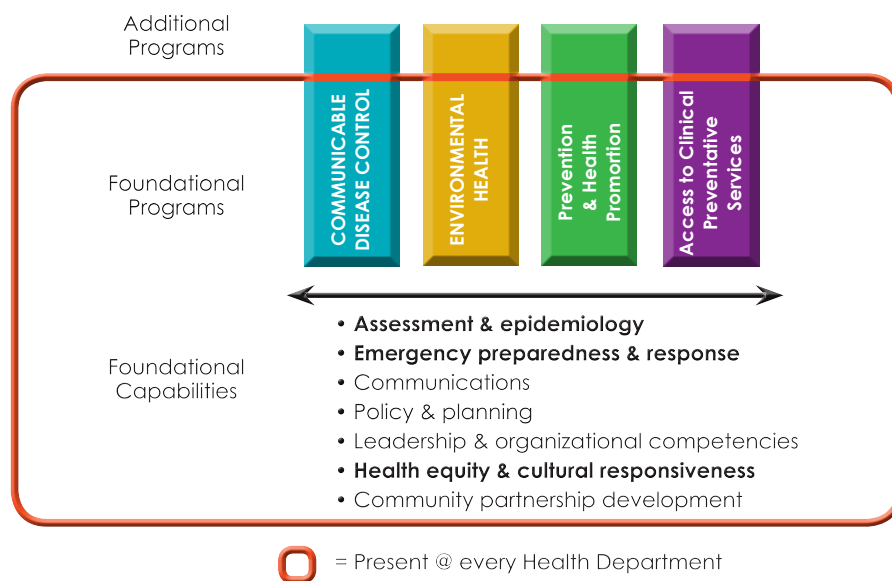


Public Health Modernization depends on strong statewide and community partnerships to effectively address the health needs of all our communities, now and into the future.

Over the last two years our public health system and partners have been working to develop a new model for public health in Oregon. This new model, Public Health Modernization, allows local public health to be a strong, flexible, and more efficient partner in order to protect people from diseases, prepare for emergencies, and supports the healthiest possible future for everyone in Oregon, regardless of where they live.

This new model will give every community the same basic skills and programs that focus on improving population health while saving money in the long run.

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Source: Oregon Public Health. Public Health Modernization Manual. 2015

OREGON'S NEW PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM MODEL

House Bill 3100 (2015) established Public Health Modernization as the new model for public health. This new model includes basic services and programs that no community should be without. A system-wide assessment determined that the following public health programs are limited or minimal in over a third of Oregon communities:

- Capacity to investigate and respond to disease outbreaks.
- Ability to identify and prevent environmental health hazards, including air toxics and lead.
- Promote health equity through partnerships and engagement with communities that experience an excess burden of disease and death.
- Access to local, timely and accurate population health data that helps drive community-based decision-making and resource allocation.

The Public Health Advisory Board is recommending investment in these areas as a first step in implementing the Public Health Modernization model.

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

- To begin achieving the vision of Modernization, basic public health protections for all in Oregon, it requires a critical first step investment of \$15M of the \$105M per year identified need.
- This funding will be highly effective in preparing for and responding to emerging communicable diseases and environmental health threats.



Coalition of Local Health Officials

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Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.