

2024 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Wisconsin Counties Association



8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

**Strengthening Community Health: Strategies in
State and Local Health Department
Collaborations**



Strengthening Community Health: Strategies in State and Local Health Department Collaboration

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Program Supervisor

Barbara Duerst, WI Association of Local Health Departments

Jen Rombalski, WI Department of Health Services



- Review PH acronyms
- Provide background on DHS & WALHDAB Organizations
 - Learn about the value of joining WALHDAB
- Gain knowledge about Wisconsin's Public Health System
- Become familiar with the Foundational Public Health Services framework
- Learn about some of the current collaborative efforts between WALHDAB and Wisconsin DHS

Acronyms

- CCA = Costing and Capacity Assessment
- DHS = Wisconsin Department of Health Services
- FPHS = Foundational Public Health Services Framework
- LHD = local health department
- SHA = State health assessment
- SHIP = State health improvement plan
- WALHDAB = Wisconsin Association of Local Health Departments and Boards



Our Organizations.....

Wisconsin Association of Local Health Departments and Boards (WALHDAB)



- Represents all 84 Local Health Departments and 4 Tribal Health Departments
- Supports Boards of Health and Health Department Staff
- Shares Policy and Advocacy Committee with WI Public Health Association (14 members)
- Contracts with Hoven Consulting (Lobbyist)

Opportunities for County Board Members

- Monthly Newsletter
- Board Positions
- Regional Meetings
- Board of Health Forums
- Annual Operations Conference



WALHDAB's Current Legislative Priorities

Build and retain public health infrastructure through increased and more flexible public health funding

Preserve public health statutory responsibility for communicable disease control and other essential public health functions





WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
of **HEALTH SERVICES**

Division of Public Health

September 23, 2024

Jen Rombalski

Director, Office of Policy and Practice Alignment

Matthew M. Collie

Southeastern Region Director
and DHS 140 Program Supervisor

Office of Policy and Practice Alignment Overview



We work to strengthen the public health system in Wisconsin.

Local Health Department Support

- **Regional directors**

Liaisons, strategists, and supports for health departments and health officers in particular

- **Public health nurse consultants**

Consultants providing technical assistance for public health nursing statewide

- **Public health strategists**

Liaisons to promote best practices for Public Health 3.0 model

Local Health Department Support

Issue consultation and support on:

- Community health assessment and improvement planning.
- Data support.
- Grant management.
- Health equity.
- Health officer qualifications review.
- Quality improvement.
- Qualitative data.
- Strategic planning.
- Workforce development.

Wisconsin Administrative Code

Chapter DHS 140

The requirements of local health departments

Local Health Department Levels (Wisconsin Stat. § 251.05)



At each level, a health department must meet level requirements along with the requirements of all preceding levels.

Wisconsin Admin. Code

ch. DHS 140

- Receives authority from Wisconsin Stat. § 251.20
- Sets three levels of local health departments (LHD)
 - Lists required services of LHDs
 - Sets level I required of all LHDs
 - Provides level II and III additional requirements
- Further describes health officer qualifications in Wisconsin Stat. § 251.06

Required Services

All Local Health Departments

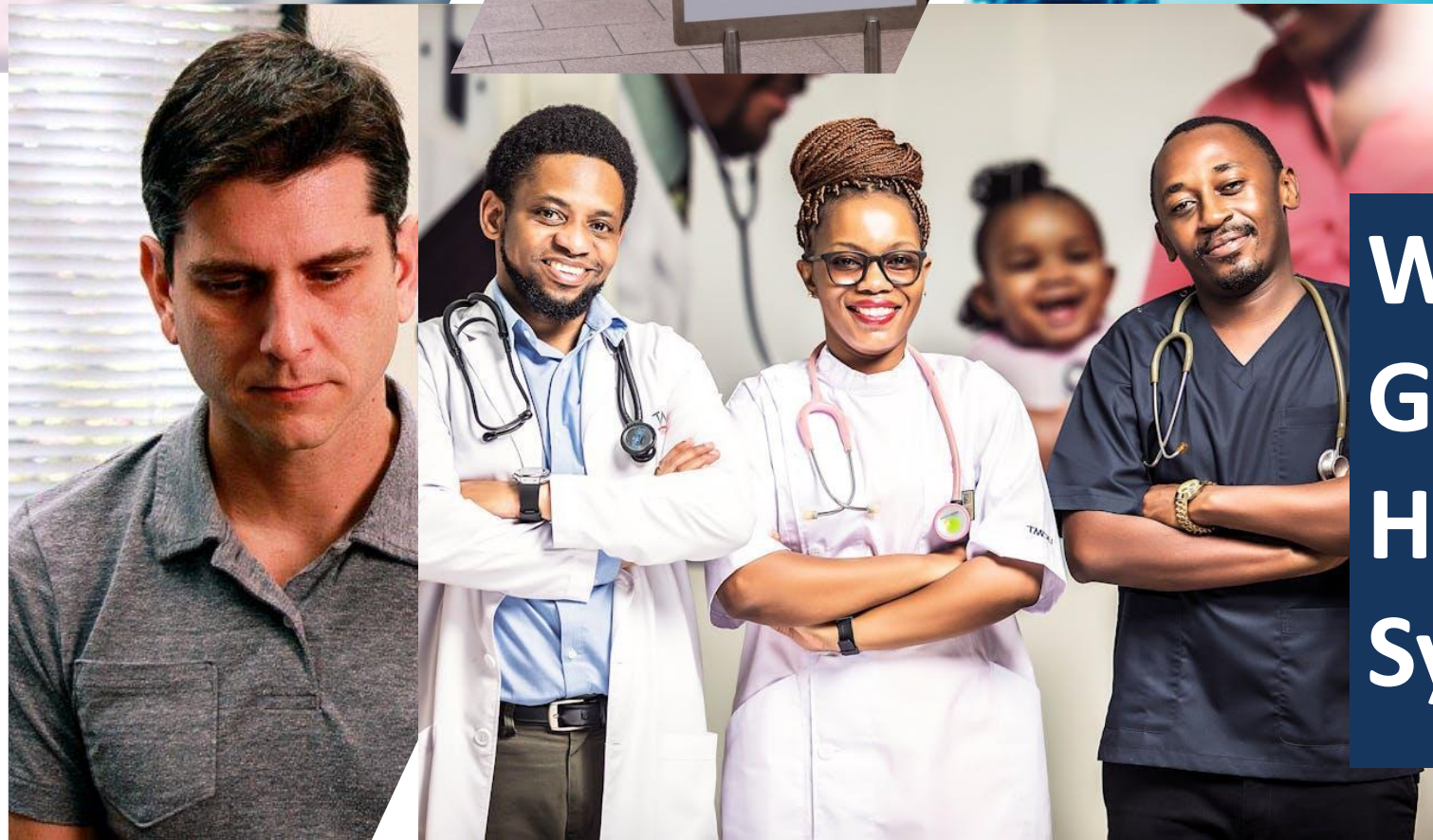
- Surveillance and investigation
- Communicable disease control
- Other disease prevention
- Emergency preparedness and response
- Health promotion
- Human health hazard control
- Policy and planning
- Leadership and organizational competencies
- Generalized public health nursing services
- Annual reporting

Additional Required Services Level II Health Departments

- Workforce development
- Quality improvement
- Performance management
- Embedded public health nursing services

Additional Required Services Level III Health Departments

- Community health strategist
- Population health expertise
- Social determinants of health
- Additional performance management and quality improvement
- Public health nursing services embedded



Wisconsin's Governmental Public Health System Health System

Wisconsin Public Health Authorities

- **Local health departments** are responsible for public health services in their jurisdictions.
- **Local boards of health** are the policymaking bodies for local health departments.
- The **Department of Health Services** maintains the public health system.
- **Tribal health centers** are responsible for public health services to tribal members.



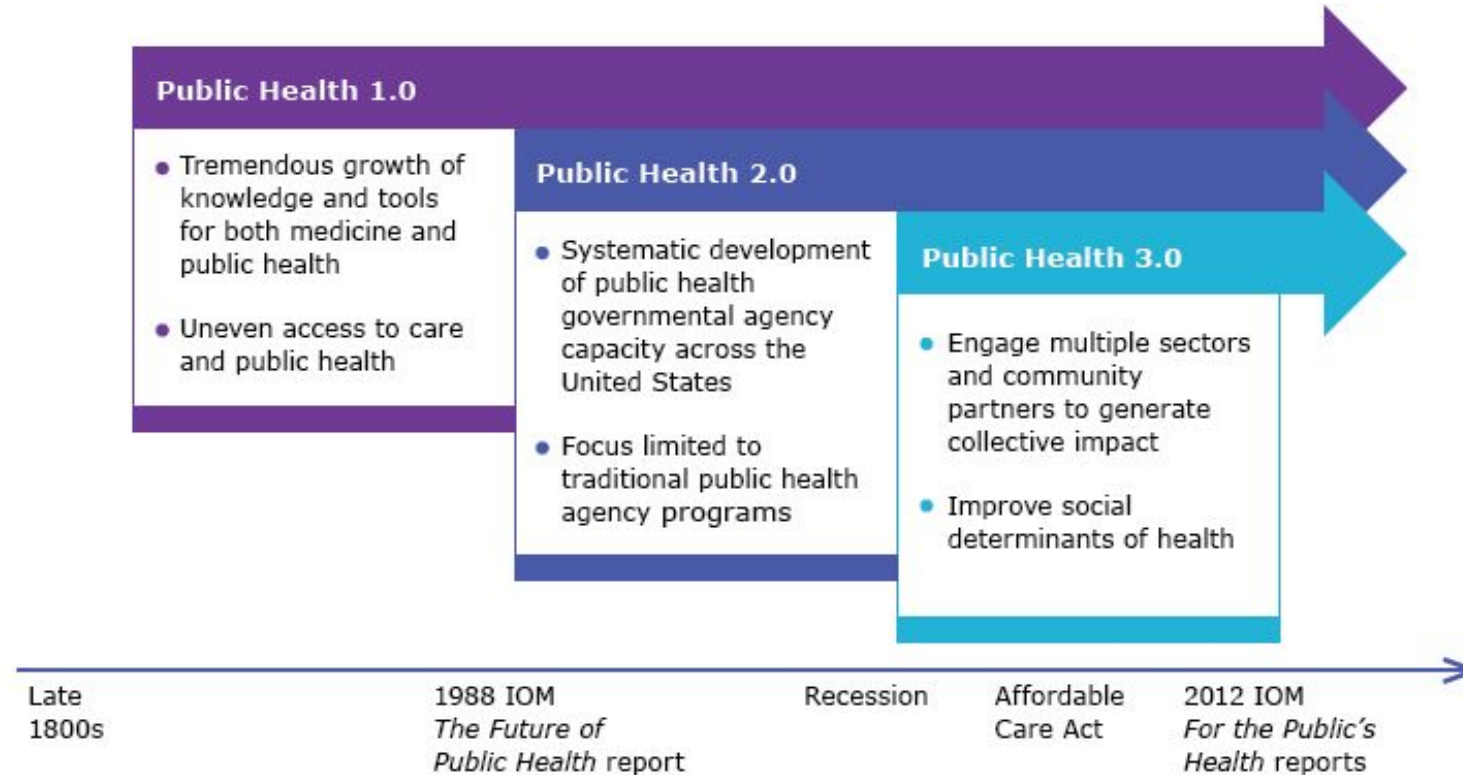
Local Health Departments



84 local health departments:

- Are responsible for public health services in their jurisdiction.
- Include several structures: city, city-city, multiple municipality, city-county, county, multi-county, and Tribal.

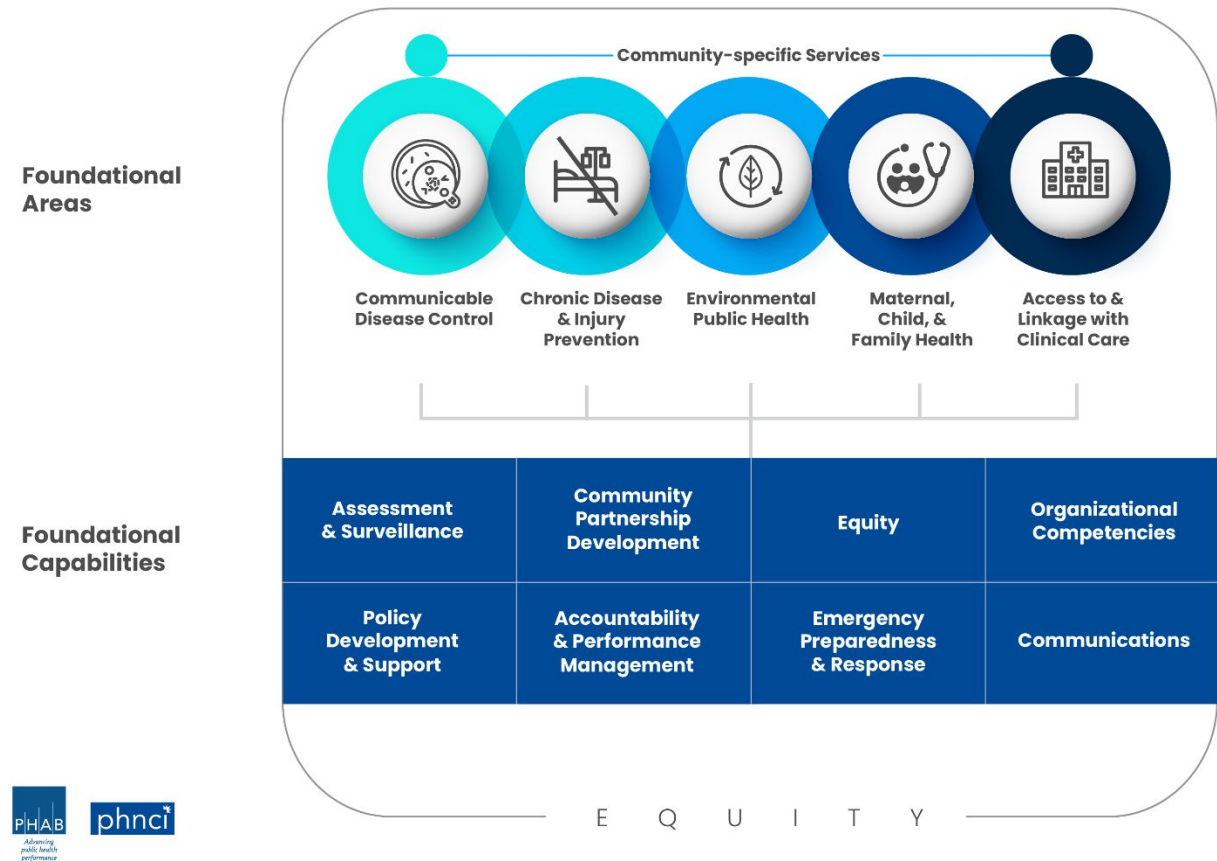
Evolution of Public Health Practices



Foundational Public Health Services Model

Foundational Public Health Services

A minimum package of public health services that governmental public health should deliver to all communities

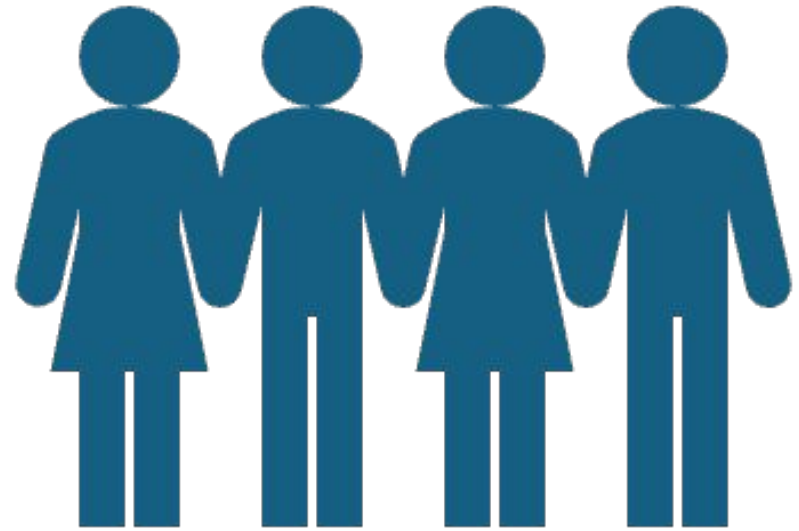


February 2022

Strengthening & Transforming the Public Health System

Healthy populations are more productive, leading to economic stability and growth:

- The governmental Public Health System's Workforce is our greatest asset:
 - Recruit and retain a diverse and qualified public health workforce.
- Create robust organizational capacity, economies of scale, and efficiencies by modernizing our LHDs data systems to address complex community challenges.
- Orient and support board of health members for stronger local health departments.



FPHS Investments Across the Country

Indiana: 2023 Senate Bill 4 (“Health First Indiana”), allocated \$75 million for local public health departments in 2024 followed by \$150 million in 2025. Original ask from the Governor’s Public Health Commission requested \$250M annually.



Kentucky: 2020 House Bill 129 set a baseline number of FTEs per 15,000 individuals for local health departments with a cost per FTE of \$109,000. Each LHD must also have enough funds for 1 additional FTE for every 5,000 persons above the initial 15,000 number of residents. The cost must be recalculated every two years during the state budget cycle



Minnesota: \$15M in 2021 to support local public health infrastructure

State – Local Partnerships

Better
Together



Public Health & WCA Collaborations

Public Health
Feature in WCA
Journal

HHS Committee

Information
sharing at
Statewide
Conferences

Public Health Transformation



As the backbone of the public health system, health departments need modern tools and resources to respond to emergencies and promote the health of their communities:

- Local Health Departments
- Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health
- Regional Offices
- WALHDAB

FPHS Costing and Capacity Assessment

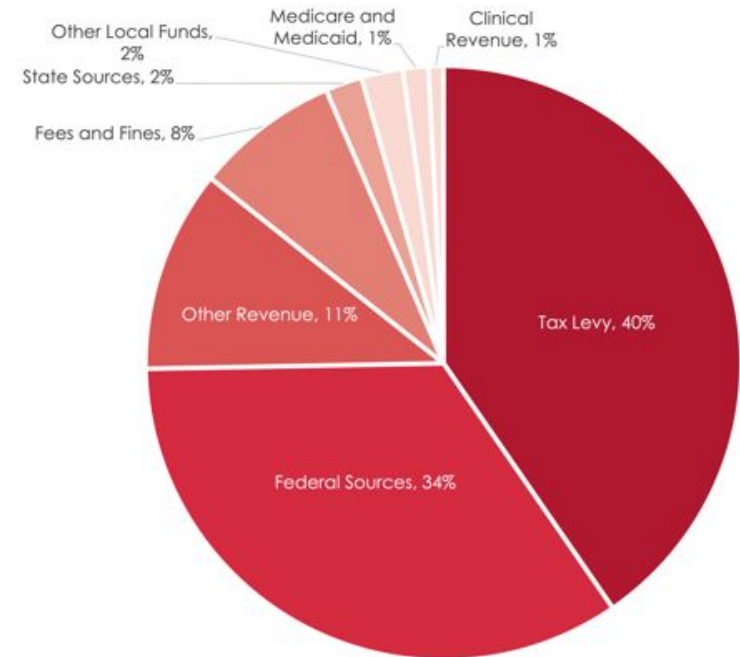
Funding is needed to fully implement FPHS is based on Wisconsin's existing governmental public health service model.

Previously asked for \$28 million in total for local health departments



LHDs are primarily funded by local tax levy (est. 40-49%) and federal grants (est. 31-34%). Community commitment to public health is evident in the level of funding coming from tax levy. State funds account for less than 5% of local public health funding

2022 Estimated Annual Revenue Sources



Wisconsin State Health Plan



The Wisconsin State Health Plan is:

- A statutorily-mandated public health agenda and platform to organize partners in action.
- An alignment with local community health assessments and improvement plans.
- A series of iterative and overlapping processes.

WALHDAB/DPH New Health Officer Onboarding

- Three – part orientation series
- Individual coaching
- Mentoring
- Monthly Forum
- Ongoing workshops



PHAB Accreditation Readiness

Readiness Fee

Document Library

- Approved state plans and documents
- Other preparatory materials

Hot Topics & Communities of Practice

- DHS Monthly Health Officer Connections Calls
- WALHDAB Tuesday Forums
- Learning Communities

PFAS

Monkey Pox

SHIP Community of Practice

Questions?



After hearing the presentation today:

- What is on your mind?
- What is keeps you up at night?
- How might we be able to support you?
- What community health topics or issues regularly come up for you in your communities?
 - How can your state organization or state health department help with these challenges at the local level?

Contact Information

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Thank you for your Support!

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