

## The California Department of Public Health

The mission **California Department of Public Health (CDPH)** is to optimize the health and well-being of the people of California. CDPH is both large and complex, with over 3,700 employees distributed between over 200 programs. Below is a brief snapshot of the centers and offices that house California's foundational public health services.

**The Emergency Preparedness Office (EPO)** coordinates overall planning and preparedness efforts for CDPH. EPO, plans and executes activities to prepare Californians for, and respond to, public health emergencies, coordinates planning for the Strategic National Stockpile, maintains contact names and numbers for crisis response, oversees statewide public health disaster planning, and distributes and oversees funds to local health departments for disaster planning and response.

**The Center for Infectious Diseases (CID)** protects the people in California from the threat of preventable infectious diseases and assists those living with an infectious disease in securing prompt and appropriate access to healthcare, medications and associated support services. CID houses the Division of Communicable Disease Control, the Office of AIDS, the Office of Binational Border Health, and the Office of Refugee Health.

**The Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (CCDPHP)** houses the Office of Problem Gambling, Division of Environmental and Occupational Disease Control, and the Division of Chronic Disease and Injury Control (CDIC). Within CDIC are the Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Branch, the Safe and Active Communities Branch (Injury and Violence Prevention), the Chronic Disease Surveillance and Research Branch, the Chronic Disease Control Branch, the State Dental Director, and the Tobacco Control Branch. Together with local partners, the CCDPHP programs create a vital statewide system to prevent chronic diseases and injury throughout the state.

**The Center for Environmental Health (CEH)** works to protect and improve the health of all California residents by ensuring the safety of food, drugs, medical devices, and manufactured cannabis products; conducting underage tobacco enforcement; conducting environmental management programs; and overseeing the use of radiation through investigation, inspection, laboratory testing, and regulatory activities. CEH includes the Division of Food, Drug, and Cannabis Safety and the Division of Radiation Safety and Environmental Management.

**The Center for Health Care Quality (CHCQ)** is responsible for regulatory oversight of health facilities, certified nurse assistants (CNAs), home health aides (HHAs), certified hemodialysis technicians (CHTs) and licensed nursing home administrators (NHA). Through the Center's Licensing and Certification and Healthcare Associated Infections programs, the CHCQ plays a critical role protecting patient safety. CHCQ does this by evaluating and investigating complaints for health facilities, agencies, and CNAs, HHAs, CHTs and NHAs for compliance with state and federal laws and regulations.

**The Center for Health Statistics and Informatics (CHSI)** maintains California's birth, death, fetal death, still birth, marriage, and divorce records. CHSI annually publishes a comprehensive County Health Status report that provides county-specific health status information for every California county. CHSI is working to enhance data sharing between programs, departments, and agencies to better inform policy, program development, and evaluation.

**The Office of the State Public Health Laboratory Director (OSPHLD)** protects the public health by assuring accurate and reliable clinical, environmental, and public health laboratory services through support services, consultation, and regulatory compliance oversight of the six independent public health laboratories that comprise the State Public Health Laboratory System.

**The Center for Family Health (CFH)** houses the Genetic Disease Screening Program (GDSP), the Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Program (MCAH), and the Women, Infants and Children Supplemental Nutrition Program (WIC). GDSP screens newborns and pregnant women, and provides follow up services including counseling and confirmatory tests. Through partners at the local level, MCAH develops and implements systems that protect and improve the health of California's women of reproductive age, infants, children, adolescents, and their families. The WIC Program serves low-income women, infants, and preschool children through nutrition education classes and counseling, support for breastfeeding, referrals to healthcare and other services, and access to nutritious foods at grocery stores.

**The Office of Health Equity (OHE)** plays a key leadership role in reducing health and mental health disparities in vulnerable communities throughout the state. OHE builds cross-sectoral partnerships and consults with community-based organizations and local and state governmental agencies to ensure that diverse perspectives and input are included in policies, strategic plans, recommendations, and activities.