

## New Mexico's County and Tribal Health Councils

Value to our State's Public Health Infrastructure

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Rural and Economic Opportunities Task Force September 19, 2022







### Overview of Presentation

- I. HM 2 Taskforce Recommendations
- II. New Mexico Alliance of Health Councils: Who We Are
- III. Health Council Priorities & Community Impacts
- IV. Sierra and Luna Health Council Stories
- V. Impact of Underfunding
- VI. Opportunity to Invest

Questions and Feedback



### HM 2 Public Health Taskforce Recommendations

## OPPORTUNITY TO INVEST IN NEW MEXICO'S PUBLIC HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE

In 2021 the Legislator passed H.M. 2, establishing a Public Health Task Force to study New Mexico's public health infrastructure and make recommendations for improvement.

The task force recommends fully funding County & Tribal Health Councils and NMAHC to:

- \*BUILD THE CAPACITY OF HEALTH COUNCILS
- **★**MOBILIZE DIVERSE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS
- \*STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY VOICE

A study conducted in 2003 indicated:



## About Us: New Mexico Alliance of Health Councils Mobilizing Communities for Health

Our mission: is to improve the health of all New Mexicans by supporting and strengthening county and tribal health councils, advocating for health equity, and by providing a strong voice for community and public health.

What We do: The Alliance offers training, coordination, convening, opportunities for collaboration and advocacy in support of health councils' role in promoting community health. Health Councils and supporters of health councils are eligible to be members of the Alliance.





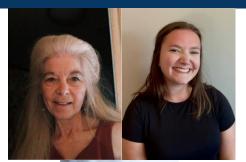
PROMOTING EQUITY AND INCLUSION



SUPPORTING CAPACITY BUILDING FOR HEALTH COUNCILS



BUILDING OPERATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE ALLIANCE







# Building Access to Services: House Bill 137

#### 2019 County and Tribal Health Councils Act:

County & Tribal Health Councils were established in 1991 by the New Mexico legislature

The functions of health councils were **reaffirmed in 2019** by the County and Tribal Health Councils Act (HB 137)

County and Tribal Health Councils are mandated with the following tasks:



Listen to, communicate with, convene, and engage diverse community members in order to...



Review local data, assess the health of the community, and consider root causes for gaps in well-being, in order to...



Plan towards communityprioritized solutions to improve health and equity for all, and...



Advise local and state government on policies to improve community health, based on collaborative work.

## New Mexico Centralized, Statewide Health Department



**NEW MEXICO IS** 

## 1 of only 6 states

WITH A CENTRALIZED, STATEWIDE HEALTH DEPARTMENT, RATHER THAN COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL-BASED HEALTH DEPARTMENTS.

- Critical need for health councils to play a key role in community- based health assessments, planning, and action at the local level
- Community- based health improvement is a fundamental function of health departments and criteria for public health accreditation

NMDOH Public Health Division and its regional public health promotion teams work closely with County & Tribal Health Councils to develop vital partnerships to improve population health and decrease health disparities





### County and Tribal Health Councils



#### **Tribal Health Councils**

- Pueblo of Acoma
- Canoncito Band of Navajos
- Pueblo of Cochiti
- Pueblo of Nambe
- Pueblo of Picuris
- Pueblo of San Ildefonso
- Pueblo of Santa Clara
- Pueblo of Santo Domingo

## Value of Community Voice and Representation

Live in and come from the communities

Advocate for local health priroirities

Connect with the community

Understand health -related disparities

Health care, health promotion, and disease prevention education, services

New Mexico's Tribes, Pueblos, and Nations

Tribal Sovereignty

**Timeline** 

Leadership Authorization

Cultural
Understanding &
Competence

Self Determination

Historical Context

Tribal Processes & Procedures

Native language, traditions, & beliefs

### All Pueblo Council of Governors

SINCE NMAHC CREATED A TRIBAL LIAISON POSITION IN 2021, THE NUMBER OF TRIBAL HEALTH COUNCILS HAS INCREASED FROM 5 TO 9

TRIBAL LEADERS & A GROWING NUMBER OF LEGISLATORS INDICATE TRIBAL HEALTH COUNCILS ARE CRITICALLY IMPORTANT TO NEW MEXICO.

**180%** 

The APCG supports the partnership of NMAHC and the Pueblos.

Former Governor of Tesuque and APCG Chairman Mark Mitchell encourages and invites all the Pueblos to consider joining NMAHC in the future if they cheese do so.

NMAHC Goal:
Partner with 2 Tribes, Pueblos, or Nations per year

## County and Tribal Health Councils Tackling COVID-19 Pandemic

In 2021, 37 of the 42 County and Tribal Health Councils received \$50,000 each distributed annually for 2 years. This allowed them to collaborate locally to assess, plan, and act to address the COVID-19 crisis.



#### IMPACT OF INCREASED FUNDING

In the first 8 months of receiving increased funding:



OF HEALTH COUNCILS ESTABLISHED A HEALTH EQUITY
COMMITTEE TO ADVISE ON EQUITY, TACKLE HEALTH DISPARITY &
ADDRESS ROOT CAUSES.



OF HEALTH COUNCILS HELD VACCINE TESTING EVENTS AND
DISTRIBUTED INFORMATION ABOUT COVID-19 RISKS &
RESOURCES WITH LOCAL PARTNERS TO MEET BOTH EMERGING &
LONG-STANDING HEALTH CARE CHALLENGES IN THEIR COMMUNITIES.

As a part of their vaccine equity work, between October 2021 and April 2022:

HEALTH COUNCILS PARTICIPATED IN

HEALTH COUNCILS DISTRIBUTED

4/3
VACCINE EQUITY

**EVENTS** 

24,886

PANDEMIC RELATED INFORMATIONAL ITEMS IN THEIR COMMUNITIES

HEALTH COUNCILS REACHED

345,665

**NEW MEXICANS** 



## County and Tribal Health Councils **Health Councils Community Impact**

HEALTH COUNCILS COORDINATE LOCAL SERVICES, RESULTING IN:







HEALTH COUNCILS SUPPORT LOCALLY DRIVEN AND COLLABORATIVE HEALTH ASSESSMENT, PLANNING AND ACTION, INVOLVING:











HEALTH COUNCILS SECURE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR NEW MEXICO COMMUNITIES THROUGH COLLABORATIVE GRANT PROPOSALS.

## County and Tribal Health Councils Health Councils Community Impact

HEALTH COUNCILS ADVOCATE FOR POLICY CHANGES AND SERVICES TO IMPROVE HEALTH OUTCOMES ACROSS AREAS OF:







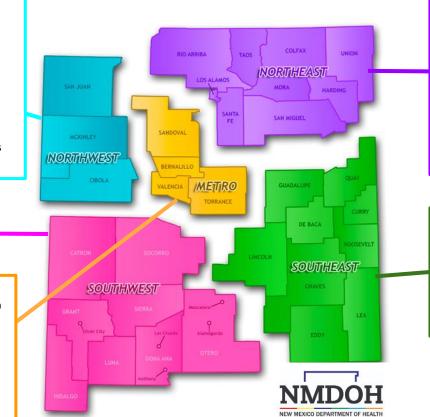


HEALTH COUNCILS ADDRESS HEALTH DISPARITIES BY FOCUSING ON ROOT CAUSES SUCH AS:

- structural racism
- policies that result in conditions which make certain populations more vulnerable to health risk factors, including lack of insurance, insufficient plumbing or electricity, etc.

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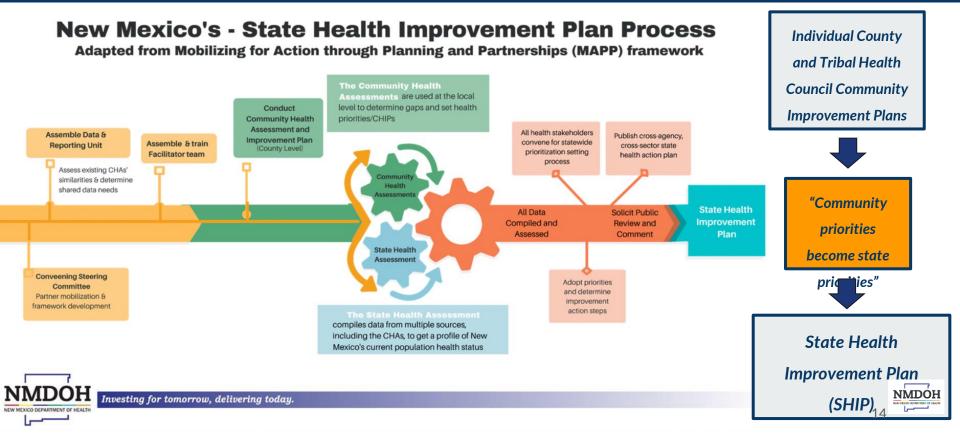
- Alcohol Abuse
- Child Abuse/ ACEs- Bullying
- Physician Recruitment and Retention
- Healthy Food and Nutrition
- Sexual Violence/ Assuatl/
- Mental/ Behavioral Health
- Obesity/ Diabetes
- Substance Abuse
- Suicide
- Food Access
- Undersage Drinnking
- Racial, social, and economic injustices impact on population health
- Health Food and Nutrition
- Sexual Violence/ Assualt
- Substance Abuse
- Suicide
- Underage Drinking
  - Child Abuse/ ACEs- Bullying
  - Physician Recruitment and Retention
  - Healthy Food and Nutrition
  - Sexual Violence/ Assuatl/
  - Mental/ Behavioral Health
  - Obesity/ Diabetes
  - Substance Abuse
  - Suicide
  - Food Access
  - Undersage Drinnking



- Access to Care
- Alcohol Muse & Underage Drinking
- Behavioral and Mental Health
- Child, Youth, & Individuals at Risk
- Diabetes
- Healthy Foods
- Low Birth Weight Babies
- People in Crisis or Poverty
- Substance Misuse
- Suicide Prevention
- Transportation
- Veterans Services

- Alcohol Abuse
- Healthy Food and Nutrition
- Sexcual Violence/ Asault
- Metal/ Behavioral Health
- Obesity/ Diabetes
- Substance Abuse
- Food Access

## NMDOH CHIP/SHIP Process County and Tribal Health Council Involvement



### **Stories from Health Councils**

Luna County
Health Council

Edith Vazquez









#### Luna County 2 LUNA COUNTY R HEALTH COUNCIL

#### MISSION

To build an community strengths by positively addressing needs through cultaboration with consumers and agencies, thereby increasing the wellness of families.



Luna County is predominantly a rural county with an average of 8.4 persons per square mile with an estimated of 25.427.1 Located approximately 30 miles north from the international border with Mexico.

Goal 1: Increase access to care.

Goal 2: Reduce youth access to alcohol and prescription drug misuse through increased enforcement.

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#### Access to Care



22,8% of adults over III have beathcare coverage in Lune Counts

PVZ1: created/promoted a digital community resource directory. Produce and dissentiate pocket resource gastes for provider info as well as behavior health resources. The health council partners with school-based health center which has been in operation since 2017.

#### Underage Drinking & Drug Misuse In Lana County 31.8%



of high subset students moort having paragraph alooked within the last 30 days, I

#### What have we been doing about it's

- Collected and disposed of unused prescription drugs. all our Drug Take Back events in April and October.
- Medication drop box at the Denning Police Department. has been open since 2018.
- Continue implementation of environmental strategies. with the MintelligHouse prevention companys.

#### COVID-19



Luna County has the second highest CDVID-19 vaccination rates in the **SW Plegion** 

#### What have we been doing about it

- DOH provided drive-thru testing and vaccine events.
- In collaboration with the Luna County Emergency Management and the Complete Court conveilles we distributed over 1000 at home could 19 led bits.
- Disservinate COVID-19 vaccine educational malerials and promoted vaccine events.

#### Disease Prevention



- Elitine community health workers to result thing recal volcerable.
- E Distributed 100 bags with resources and substance are education and presential. The council stay came a presentation to Mile parents with Help Mill on spind antifolion and education.
- Parkner with DCH to provide have reduction.
- Type 1000 copies of medication safety tipe. distributed.
- Dissentrate syringe sectoring três.

#### Mental Health & Substance Abuse Awareness



Montant Seri Armusi Phonocopy Assertment, Wide events to returnin community mentions that substance use handword and morelal health persons can english those with resolutional tradesiance use discretes, to the healthy and waveling face.

#### Capacity Building



Resignation of the bles Messon College of Health Initiative. This propert is its increase community engagement to create health equily, Luna County Health Council has multi-sector partnerships.

that size a significant rate in the beath of my community. The health countries write torse a health equity coordinator and is waiting with DOK, CHWL and The Alterias of health councils to achieve health equity in the country and involve the health or and a capacity to increase inseast and reduce disparities.

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- The health council made in construction with the state and healt partners to serve a subscrattle constitute on the US Meson banks. The major highlight of the counsits is its rule to connecting community members and
- Noticed Specing has allowed the countril to parties with CHMA NM Allower of Health respecte, and department of feasible to focus on health equally executing all Lucia county residents has the ability to prosper. The council in working to ensure everyone to besided justly according to their conumitations.
- The council issued at a acceptable assure equity plan which included many war profit groups as well as Tile. Deeping Public Schools and Minters Minnated Hospital.
- The council has recently partnered with the SCH Office of Border Hastilli to increase their capacity and greater never their community.
- MANAGE STREET, STREET,
- Watcome to Lana County New Mexico (Innecessity on and

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Large County Health County meets on the locally Thursday of every morth of 8-00em (sound, but and European)

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## SIERRA COUNTY HEALTH COUNCIL

#### MISSION:

Unite community efforts to enhance the health and wellbeing of all Sierra County residents.



Siera County encompasses Truth or Consequences, Elephant Butte and Williamsburg with many other outlined small communities. Sierra County has a population of 11,576 people with a 22.1% poverty rater. Sierra County also has a high rate of suicide and drug overdoses compared to the National Averages and no public transportation:

#### PRIORITIES:

Educate and provide prevention strategies to address teen pregnancy and sexual activity, mental health / substance misuse, and obesity/nutrition.



In 2018 Teen Birth Rates per 1,000 girls was 24.7\*



37.4% of our county's population is 65 or older, †



In 2018 Sierra county had 69.4 overdose deaths per



Now more than ever before, broad-based community planning is needed to address our community's strengths, assets, and opportunities to collectively develop strategies that build a healthier community. In order to build this type of collaboration and build on the many strengths of the county it is important for the health planning group to restructure and build its representative membership so that all stakeholder groups from the county are reflected in its membership. This includes healthcare organizations; advocates; educational institutions; human service agencies; children and youth providers; government bureaus; economic development agencies; businesses; older adult providers; civic and philanthropic groups; community initiatives; and others.



#### COVID-19

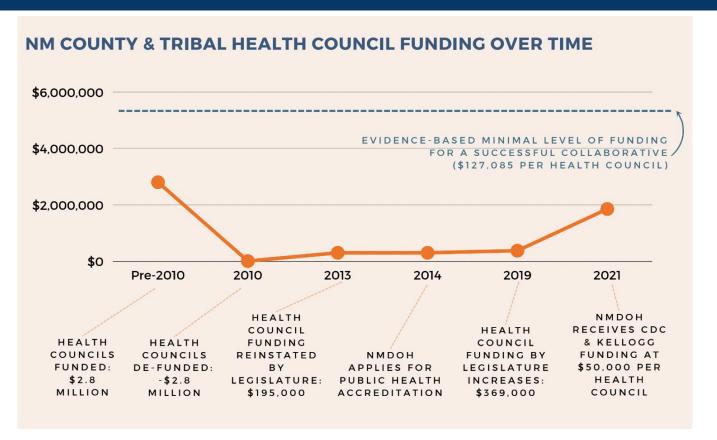
Partnered with Sierra County Public Health Office and Sierra Vista Hospital to encourage testing, early treatment, and vaccination.



Contact info: john.kutinac@state.nm.us

- \* New Mexico Birth Certificate Database, Bureau of Vital Records and Health Statistics, New Mexico Department of Health
  - 2016 American Community Survey 5-rear Estimates
- New Mexico Death Certificate Database, Office of Vital Records and Statistics, New Mexico Department of Health
   New Mexico Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey, New Mexico Department of Health and Public Education Department

# County and Tribal Health Councils History of Underfunding



# County and Tribal Health Councils: Underfunding

#### **Statute**

County and Tribal Health Councils are mandated by House Bill 137 to fulfill their roles and responsibilities with **LIMITED**<u>funding</u>

#### FY 2022:

NMDOH: \$9,461 per Health Council per year

FY 2023:

NMDOH: \$12,952 per Health Council per year

FY 2021 - 2023 (2 year grant):

CDC & Kellogg Foundation Funding: \$50,000 per Health Council/ year

From 2013 to 2022, County and Tribal Health Councils received only 3-7% of what would be considered an evidencebased adequate level of **funding** from the state, only about \$4,000 -\$9,461 per health council per year.

## Opportunity to Invest New Mexico's Public Health Infrastructure

ACTION NEEDED: INVEST IN NEW MEXICO'S PUBLIC HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITY-DRIVEN HEALTH PLANNING AND SOLUTIONS.

SUPPORT THE \$6.3 MILLION FUNDING PACKAGE, WHICH INCLUDES:

\$5,500,000



\$800,000

TO SUPPORT EACH
COUNTY & TRIBAL
HEALTH COUNCIL AT
\$125,000 PER HEALTH
COUNCIL PER YEAR

THIRD PARTY (EX. NEW MEXICO ALLIANCE OF HEALTH COUNCILS)

TO CONTRACT WITH A

WITH ROOM TO FUND 2 ADDITIONAL HEALTH COUNCILS EACH YEAR TO PROVIDE STATEWIDE ANCILLARY SERVICES TO ALL COUNTY & TRIBAL HEALTH COUNCILS

<sup>\*</sup>This amounts to a \$5,767,000 increase over the FY23 level of funding

### **Questions and Feedback**



**Questions Feedback** 

Please reach out to New Mexico Alliance of Health Councils for additional questions and comments!





### Contact



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