

COVID-19 & PUBLIC HEALTH TAKES A LEAD ROLE DURING PANDEMIC.

KY PUBLIC HEALTH

Department of Public Health (DPH)

- COVID-19 Testing and Treatment
- Contact Tracing
- Ensuring health care workers have adequate access to personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Ensuring social needs are met during the pandemic
- Development & enforcement of state guidelines and orders



DID YOU KNOW?

Every KY county has a Public Health Department to carry out Public Health duties.

Public Health Departments across the state carried out the COVID-19 duties assigned by the Department of Public Health in addition to regular health department services.

PUBLIC HEALTH NOW IN THE SPOTLIGHT!



Thanks to Public Health guidance at the state level, Kentucky has risen in the ranks when it comes to effective COVID-19 response. Public Health has utilized much of their resources to combat the COVID-19 pandemic.



EDUCATION PHYSICAL ACTIVITY COMMUNITY HEALTH VACCINES
 MENTAL HEALTH LIFESTYLE RESTAURANT INFECTIOUS DISEASE
 POLICY EPIDEMIOLOGY LIFESTYLE WELLNESS
 WOMEN'S HEALTH FAMILY PLANNING SOCIAL FOOD SAFETY
 NUTRITION EQUITY ADDICTION ENVIRONMENTAL
 SOCIAL JUSTICE REPRODUCTION INFANT & CHILD HEALTH
 HEALTH DISPARITIES TOBACCO CESSATION WATER SAFETY SUBSTANCE ABUSE



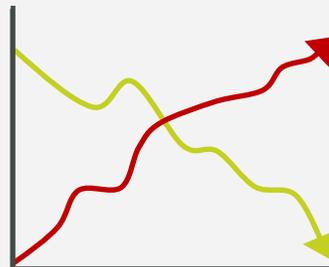
COVID-19

While medical facilities such as Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) have been offered added COVID-19 funding, the Kentucky Department of Public Health has been the entity with the infrastructure to take a lead role and effectively carry out COVID-19 responsibilities and meet the needs, whether medical or social, during the pandemic.



A large portion of Public Health revenue comes from fee for service activities. Fee for service activities have been reduced since Public Health has focused more on COVID-19 responsibilities.

Public Health revenue has decreased during the onset of COVID-19 while expenses have increased.



REVENUE

EXPENSES

July 2020



This data has been provided from the Kentucky Health Department Association (KHDA) and the Kentucky Public Health Association (KPHA).

COVID-19 & KY PUBLIC HEALTH

... WHAT DO WE NEED IN PUBLIC HEALTH?

Public Health services are **ESSENTIAL** to the **HEALTH** of our communities, and we need additional **FUNDING** for..



IMPROVED TECHNOLOGY

Public Health falls short as far as having adequate electronic systems to effectively track and monitor disease in our communities. This was especially evident during the acute rise of COVID-19 over the last several months across Kentucky. As positive COVID-19 cases and direct contacts were identified, traced, and contacted, public health workers were tasked with collecting and organizing information

from thousands of individuals.

While a few health

departments had staff with the skillset to collect, organize and build databases to effectively house this information, the majority of health departments lacked the resources to efficiently track the data. Funding is needed to build streamlined systems that can be utilized by health departments across the state in order to quickly collect, share, and compare data. Having a consistent system in place would allow health departments to easily track disease in their communities as well as monitor and evaluate the health of citizens across the state.

'This is not sustainable': Public health departments, decimated by funding cuts, scramble against coronavirus

Jayne O'Donnell USA TODAY NETWORK
Published 7:41 p.m. ET Mar. 2, 2020 | Updated 2:45 p.m. ET Mar. 3, 2020



STAFF

During the pandemic, Kentucky Department of Public Health contracted with temp agencies to recruit and hire additional staff to serve as **contact tracers**. Over the last 5 years, funding cuts have depleted Public Health staff. We need additional staff not only during the pandemic, but to efficiently carry out foundational Public Health services.



WHAT IS CONTACT TRACING?

Contact tracing is part of the process of supporting patients and warning contacts of exposure in order to stop chains of transmission.

TOP STORY

Vaccines and other services to be cut from Louisville's health department under city's budget shortfall

Fallon Glick Feb 12, 2019



WE ARE COUNTING ON

YOU!



Public Health is counting on YOU, our state leaders, senators, representatives, and even our community, to stand up for us, and ensure we have the funding to continue to provide effective Public Health services. We have seen the necessity for Public Health over the last several months. While we have seen much of the monetary assistance go to other community entities who may have been closed during the pandemic, our communities and leaders have heavily relied on Public Health officials and professionals to provide guidance and help prevent the spread of COVID-19, as well as monitor and meet the social needs of our citizens. We ask that you invest in Public Health, in the health of the community, and in YOUR health, and ensure Public Health has the necessary funding to excel as we continue to support the health of our communities.