111 Greenbrook Road Green Brook, NJ 08812

www.njphace.org

Phone: 732-968-5151 Fax: 732-968-5331 Email: ksumner@ middlebrookhealth.org

COLLABORATORS:

New Jersey Association Of County & City Health Officials

New Jersey Environmental Health Association

New Jersey Public Health Association

New Jersey Local Boards of Health Association

New Jersey Society for Public Health Education

New Jersey Association of Public Health Nurse Administrators

Funding Public Health:

Protects Communities

Adds Critical Staff & Infrastructure

Provides a Return on Investment

Increases Health Equity

Enables Timely Disease Investigation

Improves Productivity & Efficiency

Sustains Essential Immunization Programs

Saves Billions of Dollars

PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATIONS' COLLABORATIVE EFFORT (PHACE)

Fund Public Health & Protect our Communities

- New Jersey's public health system needs the reinstatement of dedicated funding, and local health departments are requesting \$10,000,000 statewide.
- This will establish necessary infrastructure and capacities, for which there is zero State funding.
- There is a statutory obligation for the State to provide funding to local health, and health departments have been without this funding since 2010.
- Restoration of public health funding would not replace current support or services, but would restore and expand vital essential services including, but not limited to:
 - Infectious disease investigation, outbreak containment and emergency response
 - Control of chronic illnesses and enhancement of health promotion and education
 - Advance economics of communities through regional, place-based initiatives
 - Improve health by addressing social determinants of health and increasing equity

Public Health Funding: A Return on Investment

- Funding public health is *smart* and *fiscally responsible*.
- State funding to local health departments was \$6.2 million statewide in 1990, which would equate to \$11.2 million today.¹
- Public health offers exceptional return on investment:
 - Each 10% increase in local public health spending decreases deaths attributed to heart disease, diabetes and cancer ²
 - An additional investment of just \$10 per person to increase physical activity, improve nutrition and reduce tobacco use could save the country over \$16 billion - a return on investment of \$5.60 for each \$1 spent.³ In New Jersey, this would amount to \$504 million in savings.
 - Up to \$34 is saved for every \$1 spent per person on substance abuse prevention ⁴
 - Each dollar spent on childhood vaccination saves as much as \$44 ⁵
- Public health improves productivity:
 - For every dollar spent on workforce wellness programs, absenteeism costs are reduced by approximately \$2.73⁶

Reversing the Trend: A Declining Workforce & Lack of Support

- When compared to national averages, New Jersey health departments are under-resourced, ranking 41st out of 50 states in public health expenditures.
- New Jersey's local health departments have 55% less staff than the national average.
- In 2011, the first year after public health funding was eliminated:
 - 53% of New Jersey's local health departments reported loss of staff
 - 32% reported reduced staff time
 - 71% reported cuts to at least one funded public health program
 - 47% of New Jersey's local health departments cut three or more programs⁷

Public Health Funding Saves Lives and Money!

¹ U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; ² Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; ³ Trust for America's Health, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; ⁴ Trust for America's Health; ⁵ Johns Hopkins University; ⁶ U.S. Surgeon General; ⁷ National Association of County & City Health Officials

