

Sutter County Public Health Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025



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A Message From Leadership



Sarah Eberhardt-Rios
Director of Health and
Human Services

It is with great pride that we present the 2024–2025 Sutter County Public Health Branch Annual Report. As part of Sutter County Health and Human Services, Public Health plays an essential role in creating strong, thriving communities, and this past year has reminded us just how critical that role is. Each challenge we've faced, emerging health concerns, persistent disparities, and the increasing demand for essential services, has reinforced the importance of working together to protect and promote the well-being of every resident in our county.



Dr. Phuong Luu
Health Officer

Public Health is not the work of one person or one program. It is a collective effort that reflects the broader mission of Sutter County Health and Human Services, built on partnerships, trust, and a commitment to ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to live a healthy life. This year, our team continued to expand access to critical programs, strengthen community-based initiatives, and innovate in ways that help us better understand and respond to the needs of those we serve.



Leah Northrop
Branch Director
Public Health

To our staff: your dedication, expertise, and compassion continue to drive everything we do. You have navigated new challenges with professionalism and care, always keeping the community at the heart of your work. Your efforts, often behind the scenes, make a profound and lasting difference.

To our community members and partners: thank you for your collaboration, advocacy, and trust in our mission. Public Health succeeds only when we work side by side, and we are grateful for your continued partnership in building a healthier, more connected, and more resilient Sutter County for all.

As we move forward, we remain focused on prevention, preparedness, meaningful community engagement, and the promotion of health for all.

We are proud of what we have achieved together and look ahead with optimism, gratitude, and a deep sense of responsibility for the well-being of our county.

Our Department

VISION

Healthy people in thriving communities



MISSION

Engage, educate, and empower our community to promote health, safety, and resiliency



VALUES:

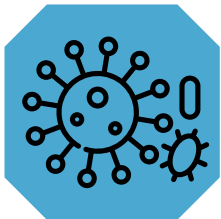
- Collaboration
- Compassion
- Equity
- Integrity
- Well-being



Foundational Public Health Services

The **Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS) Framework** defines the core responsibilities of governmental public health and the minimum set of foundational capabilities and areas that must be in place within every community. The FPHS guides the work of Sutter County Public Health (SCPH) to ensure that all individuals have the opportunity to be healthy.

Foundational Areas



**Communicable
Disease Control**



**Chronic Disease
& Injury
Prevention**



**Maternal, Child, &
Family Health**



**Access to &
Linkage with
Clinical Care**

Foundational Capabilities

- Policy Development & Support
- Assessment & Surveillance
- Community Partnership Development
- Equity
- Organizational Competencies
- Accountability & Performance Management
- Emergency Preparedness & Response
- Communications

Sutter County HHS Strategic Plan

Sutter County Health and Human Services (HHS) launched our Strategic Plan in Fall 2024, built from input from employees, community members, and local leaders. This plan reflects our mission and vision, aligns with state requirements, and supports the needs of our community as we work toward a stronger future.

HHS PRIORITIES

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

LEADERSHIP ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES ISSUES

Coordinated strategies to address homelessness, mental health, and substance use crisis

INTEGRATED COMMUNITY SERVICES

INTEGRATED & PERSON-CENTERED SERVICES

Deliver seamless, person-centered, integrated services across HHS branches & multi-sector partners

LEADERSHIP & ADMINISTRATIVE PERFORMANCE

FISCAL STABILITY

Plan, implement, and manage budget strategies that build fiscal integrity, fund balance, and budget stability

WORKFORCE

FLEXIBLE, ADAPTABLE HIRING

Simplify and reshape hiring structures to meet workforce goals and needs

AWARENESS OF HHS ROLE & VALUE

Grow community understanding of HHS services, role, and value

HEALTH DISPARITIES

Be a leader in describing and addressing health disparities and access issues

TECHNICAL SKILL

Advance and develop staff skills via ongoing training in accounting, contracts management, reporting, and policy analysis

ATTRACTIVE WORK ENVIRONMENT

Create and maintain an attractive and welcoming work environment

DISASTER, CRISIS PLANNING, & RESPONSE

Institutionalize new knowledge, relationships, and systems to plan for and respond to natural disaster crises

DEMONSTRATED HHS PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Meaningfully report on the reach and impact of HHS services

FACILITIES PLANNING

Plan for, invest in, and implement facilities improvement strategies

FOCUS ON WORKFORCE

Improve staff training, career development, coaching, and succession planning

This Annual Report is one strategy to help us put the starred priorities in action!

Public Health Strategic Alignment

SUTTER COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES STRATEGIC PLAN PRIORITY AREAS

**Integrated
Community Services**

Workforce

**Fiscal &
Administrative
Performance**

**Community
Leadership**

SUTTER COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVES



Deliver seamless, person-centered, integrated services across all HHS Branches & multi-sector partners

Be a leader in describing & addressing health disparities and access issues



Meaningfully report on the reach & impact of HHS services

Simplify & reshape hiring structures to meet workforce goals and needs

Create & maintain an attractive and welcoming work environment

Improve staff training, career development, coaching, & succession planning

Plan, implement, & manage budget strategies that build fiscal integrity, fund balance, & budget stability

Plan for, invest in, & implement facilities improvement strategies

Advance and develop staff skills via ongoing training in accounting, contracts management, reporting, & policy analysis



Grow community understanding of HHS services, role, & value

Institutionalize new knowledge, relationships, & systems to plan for & respond to natural disaster crisis

Coordinate countywide strategies to address homelessness, mental health, & substance use crisis

SUTTER COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH'S IMPLEMENTATION: HOW WE SUPPORT HHS OBJECTIVES



Enhance data-driven decision-making & program effectiveness

Develop and implement an internship & policy plan

Increase MAA training & resources to maximize all MAA funding revenues

Identify funding to support core public health services

Increase digital engagement & enhance communication strategies

Reduce health disparities and improve community health outcomes through cross-sector partnerships & capacity-building

Strengthen staff competency through training & professional development opportunities

Prioritize grant-writing & public health fiscal training

Increase opportunities for blended funding both within PH programs & other departments

Engage and support community health collaboratives to address health priority areas

Embed a culture of continuous quality improvement (QI) & performance management across all levels of SCPH

Enhance employee engagement & promote workplace well-being

Enhance relationships with community stakeholders to increase partner collaboration & community engagement



Demonstrate Public Health outcomes

Implement the workforce development & succession plans



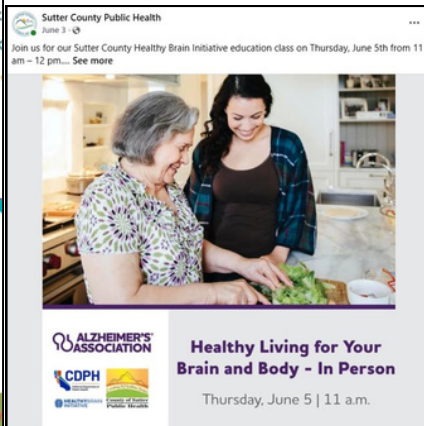
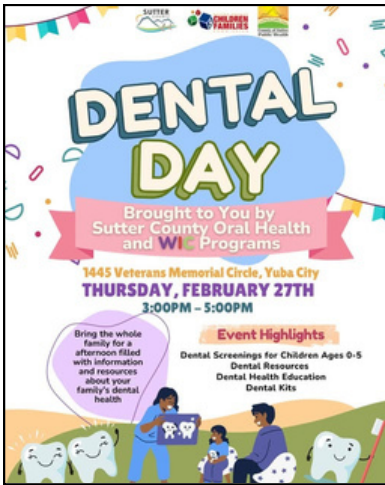
**This Annual Report
helps support the
starred priorities**



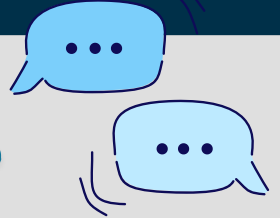
Community Engagement

Communications and Social Media Outreach

Sutter County Public Health (SCPH) communications help keep our community informed and connected to important health information and local resources. This includes managing our Sutter County Public Health website, social media, press releases, newsletters, and community outreach materials.



DATA Highlights



SOCIAL MEDIA

591
Total posts
through Facebook
& Instagram

34,585
People reached
through social
media platforms

Stay connected!

- [Click here to visit our website](#)
- [Click here to visit us on Facebook](#)
- [Click here to visit us on Instagram](#)

Check out our new Logo



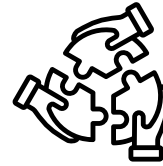
Refreshing Our Look to Better Serve You

SCPH launched a new logo and branding to help our community more easily recognize our services and trust the information we share.

We created the new design with input from our staff, ensuring it reflects our shared values and voices. Now, whether it's a flyer, a social media post, or a banner at an event, everything we produce has a consistent and professional look. This helps people easily recognize SCPH materials and trust that the information is reliable.



Community Partnerships



The Power of Community Partnerships

Strong community partnerships are at the heart of effective public health. By working closely with local organizations, schools, healthcare providers, and community members, Sutter County Public Health is able to better understand local needs, share resources, and deliver programs that truly make a difference. These partnerships help us reach more people, build trust, and create lasting improvements in the health and well-being of our community.

Bi-County Home-Visiting Collaborative

The Bi-County Home Visiting Collaborative coordinates and strengthens home visiting services across Sutter and Yuba counties. It enables agencies to share resources, align family needs, and expand access to services. This collaboration supports prenatal care, parenting education, child development, and overall family well-being.

CHIP Collaboratives

As part of the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) community partners and stakeholders have developed collaboratives to collectively tackle our communities top health priorities. These collaboratives include: The Sutter Behavioral Health Learning Collaborative, Reducing STIs Learning Collaborative, and The Yuba Sutter Food Policy Council.

Sutter-Yuba Homeless Consortium

The Sutter Yuba Homeless Consortium works to connect individuals and families experiencing homelessness with vital programs and services that support long-term stability. By addressing barriers to housing, such as access to healthcare, employment, and case management, the consortium plays a key role in guiding our community members toward safe, sustainable housing solutions.

Coalition Against Tobacco-based Community Harm (CATCH)

The CATCH Coalition is a collaborative network of schools, community-based organizations, non-profits, and public sector partners dedicated to advancing health and prevention education. The coalition focuses on key initiatives such as tobacco prevention, retail licensing advocacy, smoke-free outdoor spaces, and youth engagement campaigns like Escape the Vape, all aimed at creating healthy and tobacco-free communities.

Oral Health Advisory Committee (OHAC)

The Oral Health Advisory Committee is a bi-county collaboration of dental providers, schools, and community-based organizations working together to improve oral health outcomes. The committee plays a key role in planning and supporting activities such as Kindergarten Oral Health Assessments, public education campaigns, and other initiatives that promote lifelong oral health across our communities.

Managed Care Plans

Managed care plans collaborate on community health assessments, share data, and provide resources for local health initiatives. They help ensure residents, particularly those on Medi-Cal, have access to primary care, behavioral health, and preventive services. This partnership enhances public health capacity and promotes more coordinated, effective care for the community.

Community Health Assessment (CHA) & Improvement Plan (CHIP)

What is the CHA and CHIP?

A Community Health Assessment (CHA) helps identify the health needs, strengths, and challenges of a community. This process gathers input from residents, community organizations, and other stakeholders, and collects health data to understand what health issues impact health and well-being in Sutter County. Information collected from the CHA is used to identify key community health priorities and lays the foundation for the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).

Why Is the CHA/CHIP Important?

The CHA and CHIP process brings together community, partners, and stakeholders to collectively develop goals, create actionable strategies, and direct resources to improve the health of the communities they serve.



COMMUNITY HEALTH PRIORITIES 2023-2028

Addressing Homelessness

Building Resilient Communities:

- Adverse Childhood Experiences
- Behavioral Health
- Nutrition and Food Access

Reducing Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)

Sutter County CHA/CHIP Timeline

Year 1 (2022)
CHA completed

Year 2 (2023)
CHIP completed

Implement CHIP
Action Plans

Year 3 (2024)
CHIP
implementation

Year 4 (2025)
CHIP
implemenation

Year 5 (2026)
CHIP
implementation

Year 6 (2027)
CHIP completed



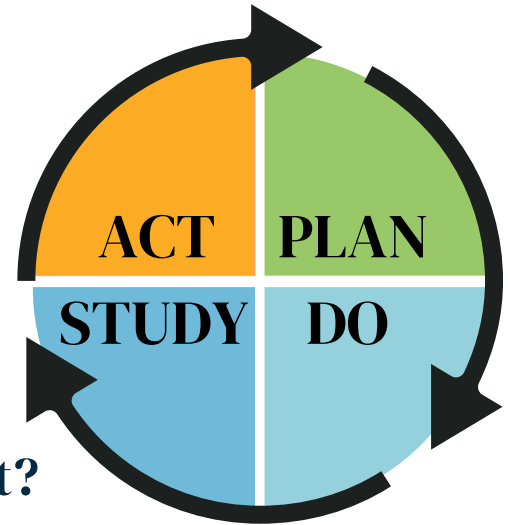
SCPH continues to lead CHIP priority workgroups and convene community stakeholders at CHIP quarterly and annual meetings to ensure we achieve the community health improvement goals defined in the CHIP.

[CLICK HERE TO CHECK OUT THE CHA/CHIP](#)

Quality Improvement (QI)

What is Quality Improvement?

The Sutter County Public Health Quality Improvement Council works to improve Public Health services continuously. By using proven improvement methods and making decisions based on data, we've become better at meeting community needs and improving health outcomes.



Why Is Quality Improvement Important?

The Public Health Quality Improvement (QI) Council serves as the backbone of Public Health's commitment to excellence. It provides leadership, coordination, and oversight for quality improvement efforts across all programs and services. The Council ensures that QI is not just a one-time project, but a sustained, organization-wide approach to improving public health outcomes. During this fiscal year, the QI Council completed three large-scale QI projects. Learn more about two of these projects highlighted below.

QI Success Stories

Branch wide QI Project

This year, our Public Health Branch successfully integrated Microsoft SharePoint, transforming how we collaborate, manage documents, and share information. Previously, staff relied on email and shared drives, which often led to version control issues and communication delays. With SharePoint, we now have a centralized, user-friendly platform that supports real-time document sharing, co-authoring, and improved transparency across teams.

Unit QI Project- Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

In April–May 2024, the WIC program's breastfeeding survey highlighted strong awareness of general breastfeeding support, education, and pump loans, but lower recognition of peer counseling and lactation consultant services. In response, WIC introduced Estimated Due Date Check-ins, expanded staff training, and enhanced ongoing education to provide more timely, skilled, and individualized breastfeeding support. These improvements aim to better meet families' needs and increase access to key breastfeeding resources.



Workforce Development (WFD)



Sutter County Public Health (SCPH) created its first Workforce Development Plan and Training Guide to support Public Health staff's growth and success. This plan was shaped by feedback from our team and is based on nationally recognized public health skills and standards.

The Workforce Development Plan is our roadmap for making sure staff have the training, tools, and support they need, both now and in the future. It helps us:

- Identify where we need to grow or improve
- Provide training to build knowledge and skills
- Support our team so they can serve the community effectively

Staff Training & Development

2

In-person Customer Service Excellence Trainings held at SCPH



30

Professional development opportunities completed through public health and professional development organizations



100%

Nurses completed Annual Skills Training

97

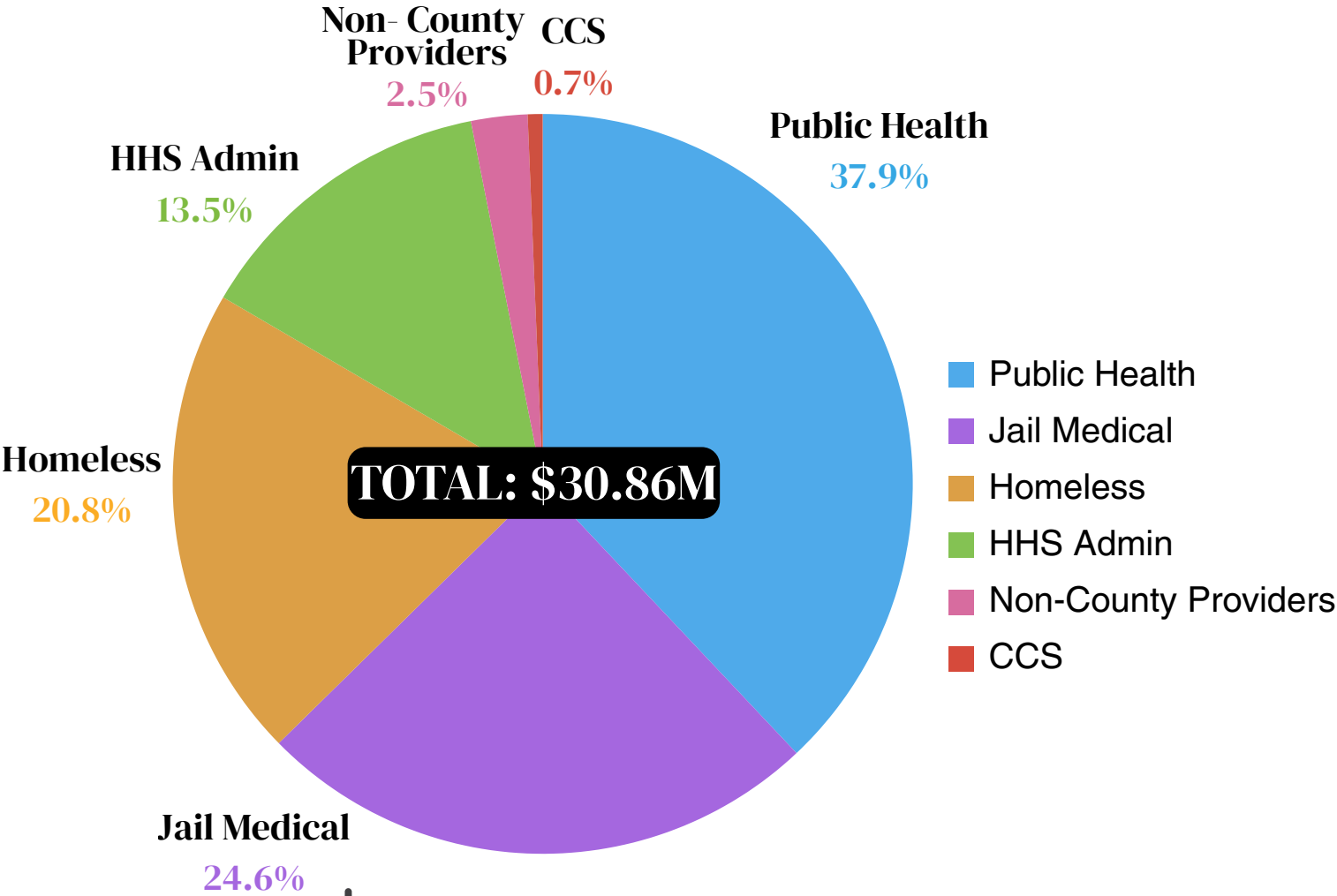
Additional Public Health-focused professional development opportunities added to Relias, the HHS training platform



Budget & Fiscal



Public health funding comes from a mix of federal, state, and local sources



Public Health manages approximately 38 unique streams of funding

CalAIM Justice Involved Program

What is the CalAIM Justice Involved (JI) Program ?

The CalAIM JI Program helps people in Sutter County Jail prepare for a healthy return to the community. Before their release, we work with them to manage any health issues, link incarcerated individuals to support services, and create a plan for care and support once they're back home. The goal is to make sure they have the help they need to stay healthy and connected to services that support their success.

Why Is this Program Important?

This program helps community members leaving incarceration stay on track with their health and avoid falling through the cracks. By connecting them to care and support before they're released, it gives them a better chance at a fresh start and reduces the risk of returning to jail or prison.



Since launching on 4/1/25 through 6/30/25, this program has helped **428** individuals preparing to return to the community from incarceration

★ **87** completed a full health risk assessment

★ **59** received personalized reentry plans to guide their next steps towards stability and wellness



After years of substance use and repeated incarcerations, one participant joined the CalAIM JI program, determined to change. In the 90 days before their release, they worked with our team to set goals around sobriety, healthcare, and housing.

Upon release, they entered a recovery center and began rehabilitation. Since then, they've maintained sobriety, secured stable employment with positive feedback from their employer, and continue to receive monthly support from their case manager as they build a healthier, more stable life.



This work is possible through strong partnerships with Sutter County Probation, the Sutter County Sheriff's Office, Sutter-Yuba Behavioral Health, Sutter County Public Health, WellPath (jail medical provider), Ampla Health, and the Sutter County Health and Human Services Employment and Eligibility Department. Together, we're helping people build healthier futures and stronger connections to care and support.

CalFresh Healthy Living Health Education

What is CalFresh Healthy Living?

The CalFresh Healthy Living program promotes healthier communities through nutrition education and physical activity. It engages residents with interactive workshops, cooking demonstrations, and community events that connect them to valuable wellness resources. By partnering with schools and local organizations, the program fosters lasting lifestyle changes and supports overall community well-being.



Why is CalFresh Important?

The CalFresh Healthy Living program promotes healthy lifestyles by providing people with the knowledge and tools to maintain good nutrition and physical activity. It supports young children, seniors, and families in making the most of their food resources by learning to shop for and prepare healthy meals on a budget. By encouraging healthy eating and active living, the program helps reduce the risk of chronic diseases and improves overall community health.



Success Stories

In 2025, all four of our CalFresh Healthy Living early childhood education partners received the **Leaders in Eating and Activity Practices (LEAP)** Awards for promoting healthy eating and active living. The honored sites include Live Oak–Apricot, Queens, Cooper, and Mahal Plaza. These awards recognize schools and early education programs that demonstrate outstanding commitment to fostering health and wellness in their communities.

Client Success Stories

At a recent outreach event, a community member shared with Sutter County Public Health how much she enjoys the monthly cooking demonstrations hosted by CalFresh Healthy Living and the Yuba Sutter Blue Zones Project at the Sutter County Library.

[LEARN MORE](#) 

Highlights

 **52** Events

 **4,585** Individuals engaged in community outreach

Healthy Brain Initiative Health Education

What is the Healthy Brain Initiative?

The Healthy Brain Initiative (HBI) promotes brain health through awareness and education, offering workshops and classes on healthy habits to help prevent Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia, including a special series for caregivers. The program also connects caregivers with respite resources and support services. Although the grant ended on June 30, 2025, this work will continue through the Alzheimer's and Related Dementias Coalition and through the Diabetes Empowerment Education Program (DEEP) classes.



Why is the Healthy Brain Initiative Important?

The Healthy Brain Initiative helps people understand brain health, prevent cognitive decline, and support families affected by Alzheimer's and related diseases. It raises awareness about risk reduction, improves care for those with memory challenges, and provides caregiver support. The initiative also works to reduce stigma, expand access to resources, and enhance quality of life for older adults.

Success Stories

In 2024–25, the Healthy Brain Initiative ran a four-month Alzheimer's awareness campaign across multiple media platforms. The program partnered with the Alzheimer's Association to host 10 workshops educating the community and caregivers on dementia prevention, early signs, and available resources. HBI also established a coalition to improve the quality of life for those affected by Alzheimer's, focusing on community education, providing resources, and collaboration with other organizations.

- ✓ **Four billboard advertisements made an estimated total of 232,750 impressions each week over the course of four weeks.**
- ✓ **During a span of 8 weeks, bus ads made approximately 292,200 impressions.**
- ✓ **TV commercials aired a total of 9,183 ads with an estimated 669,081 impressions.**
- ✓ **Ads were placed across more than 20 websites, apps, and social media platforms, resulting in 1,725,444 impressions over a period of three months.**



Client Success Stories

In FY 2024–25, the Healthy Brain Initiative provided 240 hours of caregiver respite, helping six families access temporary care for loved ones with Alzheimer's or related dementias. This support gave caregivers valuable time to rest and recharge while ensuring their loved ones were cared for.

[LEARN MORE >](#)

Tobacco Control Program

Health Education

What is Tobacco Control?

The Tobacco Control Program promotes policies that prevent smoking in public outdoor spaces and supports tobacco retail licensing to reduce youth exposure and improve community health. The program also coordinates and facilitates coalitions focused on preventing tobacco use in Sutter County.

Why is Tobacco Control Important?

The Tobacco Control Program is important because it reduces tobacco use, leading to fewer smoking-related illnesses and a healthier environment. It helps prevent youth from starting tobacco use, supports current users in quitting, and protects the public from exposure to second hand smoke.



Success Stories

The Tobacco Control Program partnered with the California Health Collaborative, Yuba-Sutter Blue Zones Project, and SayLove to host a community tobacco forum. The event brought together public health experts and community members to discuss the dangers of tobacco use, emerging trends, youth-targeted marketing, and effective strategies for prevention and education.

Escape the Vape

The Tobacco Control Program led several community awareness initiatives focused on the dangers of vaping. Two “Escape the Vape” events, attended by 132 community members, featured an interactive mock teenager’s bedroom designed to educate parents, guardians, and school staff about hidden vape and tobacco products and their associated risks.



Smoke-Free Data



45 Events



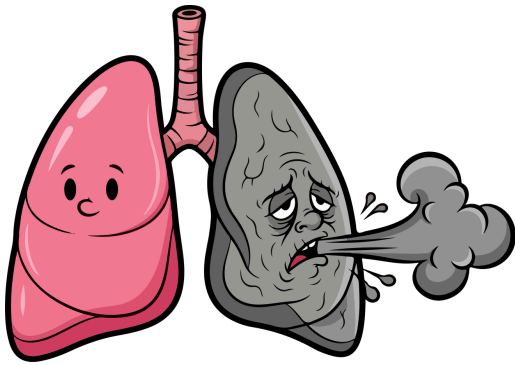
5,359 Attendees

**Building awareness. Driving prevention.
Creating healthier lives.**



Tobacco Education Program (TEP)

Health Education

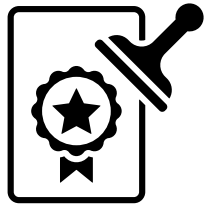


What is the Tobacco Education Program?

Sutter County Public Health's Tobacco Education Program (TEP) offers classes to help youth and students quit using tobacco. The program also educates schools and parents about the dangers of tobacco use. TEP works with local businesses that sell tobacco to ensure they understand tobacco laws, prevent sales to underage youth, and remain in compliance with state laws.

Why is the Tobacco Education Program Important?

Using tobacco carries serious health risks, including lung cancer and heart disease. Educating youth about these dangers is crucial to prevent smoking, vaping, and other tobacco use. It is equally important to educate businesses that sell tobacco, so they understand the laws, stay in compliance, and avoid selling to underage youth.



Success Stories

In 2025, the Tobacco Education Program began its retailer education efforts, visiting 14 tobacco-selling businesses in Sutter County to inform them about current tobacco laws and provide compliance tools, such as digital age verification calendars. Business owners and employees expressed appreciation, with one noting he had never received this type of outreach in his 25 years of running the store.



34

Community Events Held

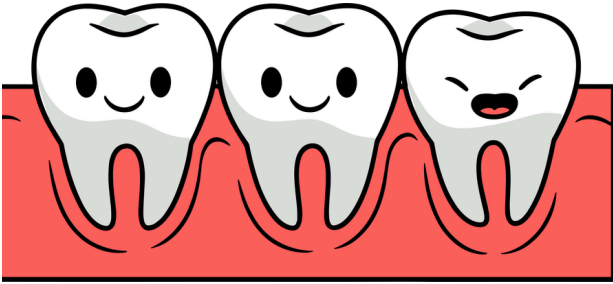
4,967 Community Members Reached



[LEARN MORE](#)

Oral Health Program

Health Education



What is Oral Health?

The Oral Health Program promotes oral hygiene education and preventive care to improve overall oral health in Sutter County. The program partners with school districts, county agencies, non-profits and dental providers to help community members access the oral health services they need.

Why is Oral Health Important?

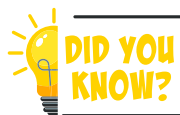
Taking care of your teeth and gums is essential for overall health. The Oral Health Program educates the community to prevent cavities and infections, which can lead to serious health problems. By promoting dental checkups, teaching good oral hygiene habits, and raising awareness of how oral health affects daily life, the Oral Health Program helps people live healthier.

We completed 560 Kindergarten Oral Health Assessment (KOHA) dental screenings in schools throughout Sutter County!



Success Stories

Last year, six schools in the Yuba City Unified School District did not have an oral health program. The Sutter County Oral Health Program has since implemented screenings at these schools and provides oral health education to all Kindergarten classes, improving assessment collection rates. Now, all Yuba City Unified schools participate in the program, and Sutter County continues to partner with more districts and dental clinics to expand oral health support.



Kindergarten Oral Health Assessment (KOHA) reporting increased from 2 schools in 2018 to 22 schools this year!



[LEARN MORE](#)

Tooth Fairy Day Health Education

What is Tooth Fairy Day?

Tooth Fairy Day is an annual community health fair in Sutter and Yuba Counties that promotes healthy oral habits for children, families, and individuals through educational activities, interactive games, dental screenings, and free oral health kits. The Sutter and Yuba County Oral Health Programs partnered with the Sutter Yuba Oral Health Advisory Committee and local community organizations to host a successful multi-organizational event, sharing vital oral health information and resources while highlighting each organization’s role in promoting oral health across the community.



Why is Tooth Fairy Day Important?

The event helps families establish early oral health habits, reduce the risk of cavities, and practice daily dental hygiene. It also brings together dental providers, educators, and community organizations in one place, allowing residents to connect and address their dental health needs.



Tooth Fairy Day’s success earned state recognition and inspired colleagues across Northern California to create their own Tooth Fairy Day events.



DID YOU KNOW?



National Public Health Week

April 7th, 2025 - April 11th, 2025

What is National Public Health Week?

In celebration of National Public Health Week, Sutter County Public Health hosted its annual Cultural Health and Wellness Celebration on April 10, 2025, bringing together local agencies and community organizations to provide vital resources and education. The event served a diverse range of community members, including families, school-aged children, expecting parents, and seniors. Key topics included nutrition, physical activity, behavioral health, substance use support, and access to healthcare.



AN INITIATIVE OF THE AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

The National Public Health Week 2025 theme is "It Starts Here," which emphasizes that improvements in public health begin with community systems, partnerships, and collective efforts. This theme reflects the 30th anniversary of the event and highlights the role of public health in creating healthier communities for everyone.

Why is National Public Health Week Important?

National Public Health Week celebrates the contributions of public health and highlights prevention efforts that improve the health of all. Together with community partners, it brings valuable health and wellness resources and education to residents in a single, fun-filled location. It also provides partners the chance to connect with community members they might not reach in everyday settings.



Health, Heritage, and Heart in Action!

- 24 Community Resource Tables
- 201 Attendees
- 4 Cultural Performances:
 - Native American
 - Hispanic
 - African
 - Punjabi



Haunted Health Fair

Health Education

What is the Haunted Health Fair?

The Not-So-Scary Haunted Health Fair is a fun, Halloween-themed community event that promotes health and wellness. Local health partners and organizations offer resources, services, and interactive booths covering topics like nutrition, fitness, and mental health. Children and adults can enjoy fun, engaging educational activities, giveaways, and educational sessions throughout the day.

Why is the Haunted Health Fair Important?

This event helps break down barriers by connecting community agencies with residents in a fun, unconventional setting. Attendees are encouraged to wear costumes, with prizes for creativity, adding to the casual and festive atmosphere. This unique environment makes it easier for community members to engage with local agencies and access valuable resources, all in one convenient location.

BOOOOO -tiful Wins

- 22 community partners participated
- Sutter County Health and Human Services (HHS) Programs Represented:
 - Nursing – Maternal Child Adolescent Health, Home Visiting, Communicable Disease and Immunizations Programs
 - Oral Health, CalFresh Healthy Living, Tobacco Control, Tobacco Enforcement, Healthy Brain Initiative, Womens Infants Children (WIC), Emergency Preparedness, Sutter-Yuba Behavioral Health, Employment & Eligibility
- 21 Vaccines Administered:
 - 20 Flu
 - 1 COVID-19

Special thanks to our amazing Key Club volunteers!



Better Way Shelter Homeless Services

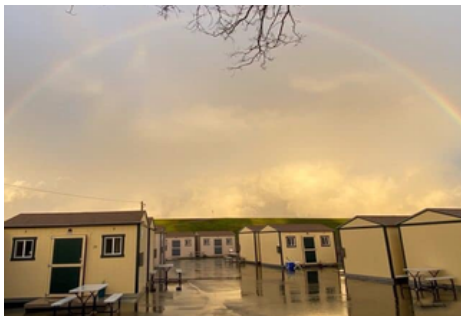


What is Better Way Shelter?

Better Way is a 40-bed temporary shelter that offers intensive case management, housing navigation services, and support from shelter monitors seven days a week. Better Way Shelter is dedicated to fostering a safe, healthy, and welcoming environment where individuals feel truly empowered to achieve permanent housing. Better Way takes pride in its resourceful and effective efforts to help individuals secure stable housing and move forward with confidence.



Aaron, a U.S. Army veteran, experienced homelessness from age 13 and faced challenges after leaving the military, including time in prison and living on the streets. He first entered Better Way Shelter in January 2023, returned in April 2024 determined to change his path, and fully engaged with the shelter's resources while bringing joy to others with his dog. With the support of his case manager, the local VA office, and housing navigation, he was granted Social Security benefits and successfully secured housing in January 2025.



Why is the Better Way Shelter Important?

Better Way Shelter provides a stable, safe, and temporary place for individuals experiencing homelessness, helping them get off the streets while addressing the root causes of their situation. Through services like case management for health needs, job-readiness support, and housing navigation, the program helps participants work toward securing and maintaining long-term, sustainable housing.

Program Outcomes

130

People served at
Better Way

38

People permanently
housed

Paving the Way at Better Way



- New Cement Walkway: Easier access for clients using wheelchairs and walkers.
- Insulation installed in 14 out of 20 units, now more comfortable for residents and saving electrical costs.

[LEARN MORE](#) >>



Homeless Engagement & Resolution Team Homeless Services

What is the Homeless Engagement and Resolution Team (HEaRT) Program?

HEaRT provides street outreach to individuals and families experiencing homelessness by meeting people where they are and identifying barriers to accessing services. HEaRT conducts mobile Coordinated Entry (CE) assessments across Sutter and Yuba Counties to connect individuals to services, reduce the risks associated with being unsheltered, and build trusting relationships.



Why is the HEaRT Program Important?

The HEaRT program plays a vital role in supporting people experiencing homelessness by going directly into the community, connecting with individuals and families, and identifying what may prevent them from accessing essential services. Serving both Sutter and Yuba counties, the team works to ensure homeless individuals are linked to the full range of available resources. The HEaRT program is a Sutter-Yuba Behavioral Health program integrated into the Public Health Branch, thereby strengthening collaboration between Sutter-Yuba Behavioral Health and Sutter County Public Health through regular and ongoing coordination.

WHO'S INVOLVED?

Multidisciplinary Team Members:

- Prevention Services Coordinator
- Intervention Counselors
- Peer Mentors
- Outreach Workers

Partnering Agencies:

- Law Enforcement
- Code Enforcement Officers
- Coordinated Entry

A large graphic of the number '595' where the digits are filled with an aerial view of a residential neighborhood with many houses.

**number of unhoused individuals
HEaRT engaged with in Sutter County
& Yuba County**

[LEARN MORE](#)



Open Doors Homeless Services

What is Open Doors?

Open Doors serves homeless individuals who are currently hesitant to engage, or not yet engaged, in services offered by the County and community partners.

Why is Open Doors Important?

The event is designed for HHS and community partners to engage with individuals experiencing homelessness, foster connections, and build trust, with the goal of increasing awareness and use of available services. During the event, participants will have the opportunity to connect with multiple agencies to address their specific needs and access services.

SUCCESS

- Clients receiving public benefits, such as Medi-Cal, were provided with free cell phones, giving them a vital tool to stay connected and access essential services.
- At the June 2025 Open Doors event, one client connected directly with Social Security, updated their address, and started receiving benefits!

FY 24-25 PROGRAM OUTCOMES



Did You Know?



Immunizations Nursing

What are Immunizations?

The Sutter County Public Health Branch provides essential vaccinations to protect the community. Children 18 and under who have Medi-Cal, are uninsured, or underinsured can receive all California-recommended vaccines at no cost. Adults who are uninsured or have limited access to healthcare can receive certain vaccines for a minimal fee, helping to prevent the spread of disease and keep the entire community healthy.

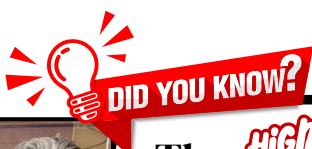
9 community clinics held
in FY 2024–2025

2,002

Total immunizations given at
Sutter County Public Health and
throughout the community

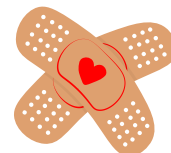
Why are Immunizations Important?

Since vaccines became common, we've seen a huge drop in vaccine-preventable diseases. Illnesses that used to be very common like measles, mumps, and polio are now rarely seen and usually only pop up in small, localized outbreaks. It's a big reminder of how effective widespread vaccination has been in keeping communities healthier.



The **High Five** Immunity Squad at SCPH

- ✓ Influenza (Flu)
- ✓ Tdap / DTaP (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis)
- ✓ MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella)
- ✓ Varicella (Chickenpox)
- ✓ Hepatitis B



We also provide vaccine clinics at schools throughout our Sutter County!

School Vaccination Clinics Facts

6 Schools

186 Vaccinations Given

25 Adults

161 Children



LEARN MORE >>

Emergency Preparedness & Community Clinics

What is Emergency Preparedness?

The Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Program and Pandemic Influenza (Pan/Flu) Program work together to ensure our medical infrastructure can meet the community's needs. Our program serves as the liaison between medical providers, skilled nursing facilities, emergency responders, and regional partners. We also ensure that medical facilities have the necessary equipment, supplies, and personnel to respond to any emergency.

Why is Emergency Preparedness important?

The PHEP program is essential for keeping Sutter County's medical infrastructure fully resourced, equipped, and prepared to respond to any emergency.



Stock up on these 9 essential items to help you stay safe during an emergency

PLAN 9

1. WATER
2. CLOTHES
3. FOOD
4. FLASHLIGHT
5. MEDICATIONS
6. CAN OPENER
7. RADIO
8. HYGIENE ITEMS
9. FIRST AID

What is the Mass Vaccination Clinic?

The Mass Vaccination Clinic promotes community health by offering free, walk-in flu vaccination clinics for children and adults. Our goal is to provide safe, effective, and high-quality vaccines to our community.

Why is the Mass Vaccination Clinic Important?

The Mass Vaccination Clinic is to prevent death and disability caused by preventable diseases. In the U.S., flu-related deaths range from 6,300 to 52,000 each year, and during the 2023–2024 flu season, an estimated 28,000 people including children died from the flu.

164

Total vaccinations given at the October 2024 mass vaccination clinic at Live Oak High School!

Annually, SCPH staff create a mock shelter to practice for Public Health emergencies. Each fall, PHEP and Pan/Flu staff run a mass vaccination clinic to test county public health readiness for a pandemic or biological threat and provide free flu vaccinations to the community.



This is a free service Sutter County Public Health provides for our community!

Animal Bites

Nursing

What is Animal Bites Surveillance?

The Animal Bites Surveillance program monitors bite reports from Sutter Animal Services (SAS) and coordinates testing of animals suspected of rabies. It advises bite victims on rabies risk, ensures timely medical care, and helps prevent the spread of disease in the community.

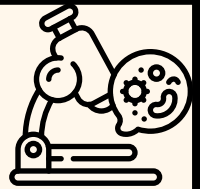


What is Rabies?

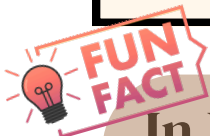
Rabies is a deadly virus that attacks the brain and nervous system and is almost always fatal once symptoms begin. It is spread mainly through the bite or saliva of infected animals such as bats, skunks, raccoons, and unvaccinated pets. Rabies can be prevented with prompt medical care after an exposure, making it important to report animal bites and avoid contact with wild or unfamiliar animals. Vaccinating pets, staying away from wildlife, and seeking medical advice after any bite are key steps to staying safe.



Animal Bite Prevention: 10 Essential Tips

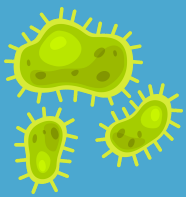


- Avoid touching or approaching unfamiliar, stray, or wild animals.
- Watch for warning signs like growling, hissing, stiff posture, or raised fur.
- Don't disturb animals while they're eating, sleeping, or caring for young.
- Keep pets socialized, trained, and up to date on vaccinations.
- Avoid actions that can trigger aggression, such as running from a dog or making hard eye contact.
- Use protective gear if you work with animals and handle them properly.
- Secure your environment by closing gates, managing trash, and not feeding wildlife.
- Teach children safe behavior around animals, including gentle handling and asking permission to pet.
- Stay away from animals that appear sick, confused, or unusually aggressive.
- Know first-aid steps for bites: wash the wound and seek medical care if the skin is broken.



In FY 2024-2025, of the 12 specimens collected, Sutter County had **ZERO** positive rabies test results!

[LEARN MORE](#)

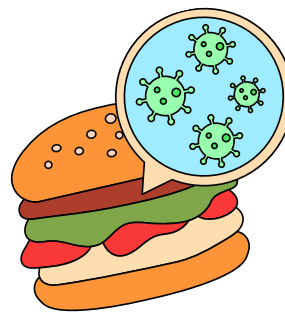


Communicable Diseases Nursing



What are Communicable Diseases?

Communicable diseases are illnesses caused by germs like viruses, bacteria, or parasites that can spread from person to person, through the air, by touch, contaminated food or water, or even through animals and insects. These diseases can range from mild to life-threatening, but many can be prevented with vaccines, good hygiene, and clean water.



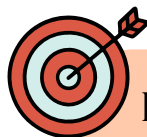
Examples of Communicable Diseases We Investigate:

- Tuberculosis (TB)
- Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)
- Foodborne Illnesses



Why is learning about Communicable Diseases Important?

Early detection and timely intervention can prevent many diseases from spreading widely. Educating people about how diseases are transmitted and how to protect themselves helps reduce infections and keeps communities healthier. By raising awareness and promoting simple preventive measures, we can stop outbreaks before they become serious.



Program Outcomes for FY 2024-2025



4,520 Number of cases investigated

796 Number of cases requiring case management

FOODBORNE ILLNESS



Foodborne illnesses (sometimes called “food poisoning”) are caused by eating or drinking something contaminated with germs (such as bacteria, viruses, or parasites) or chemicals (such as toxins or metals) that can make people sick. Sutter County Public Health works with Sutter County Environmental Health staff to investigate foodborne illnesses and keep our community safe!



Communicable Diseases

Nursing



TUBERCULOSIS

Tuberculosis is a serious infectious disease caused by bacteria that mainly affect the lungs but can impact other parts of the body. It spreads through tiny droplets in the air when a person with active TB coughs, sneezes, or talks.

Latent TB accounts for approximately 80% of all TB cases in the US

Active vs Latent TB

Active TB

Active TB is when a person has an infection, usually feels sick, and may be able to spread TB bacteria to others.



Latent TB

Latent TB is when a person has an infection but does not feel sick and cannot spread TB bacteria to others

We provide comprehensive case management for Active TB cases

TB Program Outcomes

- 205** Number of TB skin tests performed
- 97** Number of TB assessments performed
- 9** Active TB cases managed by nursing staff
- 280** Estimated hours completing Electronic Directly Observed Therapy

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS (STI)

STIs are germs that can be passed through sexual contact, and sometimes people don't even notice any symptoms. That's why it's important to get checked by a doctor regularly. Using protection and getting treatment when needed helps keep you and others healthy. In Sutter County, public health nurses provide education and case management to help reduce STIs and keep our community safe.



PROGRAM FOCUS AREAS

1. STI education
2. Increase STI testing, especially for those at higher risk.
3. Improve provider education to screen & treat STIs.
4. Make sure pregnant women get syphilis testing and care.

CD CASE MANAGEMENT

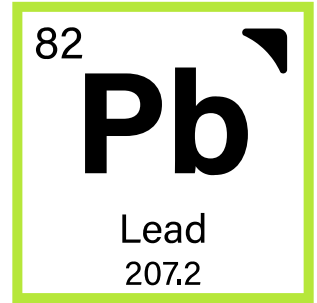
[LEARN MORE](#)

Coordinating medical care, monitoring symptoms, and providing education on prevention, public health nurses support patients in managing their conditions safely and effectively. Case management includes controlling all types of communicable diseases by ensuring that individuals receive timely diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up. Effective case management helps prevent the spread of infections within communities, reduces complications, and improves overall health outcomes.

Childhood Lead Nursing

What is the Childhood Lead Prevention Program?

Sutter County Public Health (SCPH) provides education about products and foods that may contain lead and explains how elevated levels can affect a child's development. SCPH reviews reports from healthcare providers and, when needed, partners with Environmental Health, and works with families to identify potential sources of exposure.



Why is the Childhood Lead Prevention Program Important?

The normal amount of lead in the human body is zero, and any exposure can harm health, especially in children, where it can affect brain development, behavior, and growth. Environmental Health partners with our Sutter County Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program by conducting environmental investigations when a child's blood lead level is elevated, working with public health nurses to identify the source, recommending remediation, and preventing further exposure while ongoing outreach helps families understand these risks and avoid sources of lead.



TRACKING OUR IMPACT

136

Total lead cases managed

1180

Total community members reached

BE AWARE

Lead can come from unexpected sources such as:



COSMETICS



DISHES



CANDY



PAINT



OCCUPATION

Adults who work with lead can carry it home on their clothing

[> LEARN MORE](#)

Maternal Child Adolescent Health Nursing

What is Maternal Child Adolescent Health (MCAH)?

Sutter County MCAH is a program dedicated to promoting the mental and physical health of pregnant women, infants, children, teens, and their families in our community. MCAH offers an array of programs to meet families' needs and improve their health and wellness.

Why Is MCAH Important?

MCAH strengthens families through resources such as prenatal care, breastfeeding support, and health education, empowering them to overcome challenges and thrive. Through partnerships with community-based organizations, the program responds to the unique health needs of diverse populations and helps reduce maternal and infant mortality, improve birth outcomes, enhance child development, and reduce health disparities.



MCAH Programs and Services

- Reproductive Health and Prenatal Care Access
- Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Support
- Infant Safe Sleep Program
- Lactation Support
- Families with Children with Special Health Care Needs
- Education and resources to promote safe sleep and infant safety



Program Outcomes for FY 2024-2025

378 Hospital visits to provide safe sleep education, referrals, and resources to families

79 Cribs, sleep sacks, and safe sleep education provided to families

29 Caregivers attended the Mother and Babies Community Support Group



[LEARN MORE](#)



Home Visiting - Healthy Families Sutter County Nursing

What is Healthy Families Sutter County?

Healthy Families is a home visiting program in which Family Support Specialists provide regular in-home support from pregnancy through age three, helping parents establish a strong foundation for health, learning, development, and long-term stability.



Why Is the Healthy Families Sutter County Program important?

Partner with parents to reduce their stress and help them grow essential parenting and life skills that will empower them to provide their children with a safe, loving home and the inner strength to reach their highest developmental potential.

- Healthy Families Sutter County began offering the Mothers and Babies Program as part of their services to families. Mothers and Babies is an evidence-based program that has been shown to prevent and reduce symptoms of perinatal mental health disorders.
- Healthy Families Sutter County has built strong partnerships with community organizations to promote continuity of services, including a warm handoff approach that supports families relocating between Yuba and Sutter Counties.

“
A family with an infant with special health needs overcame language and cultural barriers through home visiting support that connected them to specialized services like Alta Regional Center and community supports. Within two years, the child thrived, and the family gained stable housing, self-sufficiency, and independence.”

“
A participant overcame domestic violence, depression, and anxiety to become a confident, stable caregiver. With support from her Family Support Specialist, she secured housing, accessed early intervention for her child, engaged in therapy, and completed the evidence-based Mothers and Babies program to improve her mental well-being.”

45 Families served in
FY 2024-2025



Our program proudly received accreditation in 2022 from Healthy Families America, and we are now preparing for our second accreditation cycle.

This preparation is a comprehensive 9-month process, with our next accreditation site visit scheduled for May 2026.

[LEARN MORE](#) ➤

Home Visiting - Cal-InSPIRE Program

Nursing

What is the Cal-InSPIRE Program?

The Sutter County Cal-InSPIRE Program supports families of children and youth with special health care needs through home visiting, care coordination, and mental health services. Partnering with local hospitals, clinics, and community organizations, Cal-InSPIRE strengthens perinatal and early childhood systems of care. The Cal-InSPIRE Program concluded on June 30, 2025, with SCPH MCAH and home-visiting programs continuing to carry forward elements of its impactful work where possible

Services include:

- Developmental screenings
- Caregiver mental health screenings
- Medical & behavioral health access
- Access to evidence-based programs

2025 NACCHO MODEL OF PRACTICE AWARD WINNER



Why Is the Cal-InSPIRE Program Important?

Sutter County faces higher rates of children and youth with special health care needs, economic hardship, and limited access to perinatal mental health providers. The Cal-InSPIRE Program is vital in meeting these needs through coordinated home visitation, addressing social determinants of health, and supporting the well-being of vulnerable families.



NACCHO
National Association of County & City Health Officials

✦ SUCCESS STORIES ✦

An 8-year-old with a severe neurological disorder, autism, and speech/language impairment was referred to the Cal-InSPIRE social worker. The child's family previously struggled to access services. Through home visits, the social worker connected them to essential supports, including In-Home Supportive Services, Section 8 housing, California Children's Services, dental and vision care, and transportation assistance, while addressing ongoing needs such as sedation dentistry, prescriptions, and home safety. The father, who had sought help for over two years, expresses profound gratitude, seeing the social worker as key to accessing the care his family desperately needed.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

- ✓ **27** Behavioral health providers trained to support perinatal mental health
- ✓ Reduced wait times for therapy from **30-60** days to **7-10** days
- ✓ **12** families received home visiting services
- ✓ **95** families provided direct contact/support

California Children's Services Nursing

What is California Children's Services (CCS)?

CCS is a program that pays for and offers medical case management, as well as physical and occupational therapy services, to children under the age of 21 who have certain debilitating medical conditions and are financially eligible.

Examples of some CCS eligible medical conditions:

- Cystic Fibrosis
- Cancer
- Hemophilic
- Diabetes
- Cerebral Palsy
- Traumatic Injury
- Heart Disease
- Premature Births



Why Is California Children's Services Important?

The CCS program provides medical care coordination to help connect children with specialists to treat their health conditions. We help families navigate the complex health care system so that they can focus their time and energy on their child's needs.



Sutter County CCS staff continue to help clients receive the same high-quality case management as Sutter County CCS transitions to the Whole Child model 1/1/2025.

Stories That Grow



"We are very thankful for CCS. Without CCS my son would not have the equipment he needs to have some independence."

"Pleased with CCS which has backed up my child behind the scenes to make sure her medical needs are addressed."

Program Outcomes for FY 2024-2025

1148 Processed authorizations for services

780 Average case count

62 Medical Therapy Program (MTP) average case count

286 New referrals to the CCS Program

[LEARN MORE >>](#)

Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care (HCPCFC) Nursing

What is HCPCFC?

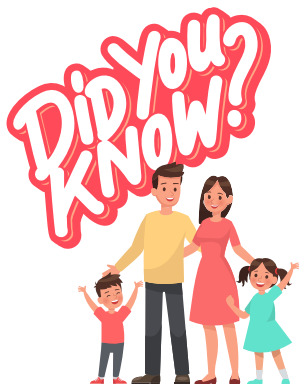
HCPCFC is a program that ensures children in foster care receive comprehensive health care tailored to their individual needs. A public health nurse (PHN) provides expertise in meeting the medical, dental, mental, and developmental needs of children and youth in out-of-home placement. The program functions as part of local Child Welfare Departments, addressing the unique challenges experienced by this population through collaboration with providers and care coordination.

Why Is HCPCFC Important?

In partnership with social workers and probation officers, PHNs play a vital role in supporting the health and well-being of children and youth in foster care. They develop health care plans, assist in obtaining timely comprehensive health and dental assessments, and coordinate swift referrals to ensure better access to essential services. PHNs also provide medical education by interpreting health reports and offering training to foster care team members on the unique health needs of the children they serve.



Provided case management for 117 foster youth with complex medical needs



HCPCFC oversees and monitors Psychotropic Medications prescribed to youth for the management of behavioral health conditions. HCPCFC nurses also screen children ages 0–5 for developmental concerns and refer to appropriate intervention services.

Women, Infants & Children (WIC)

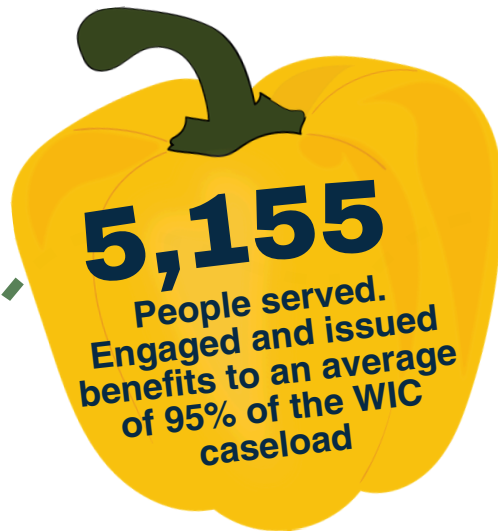
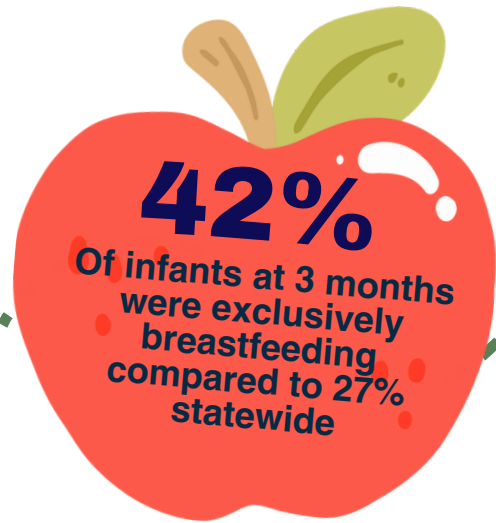
What is Women, Infants & Children (WIC)?

The Sutter County WIC program provides nutrition education and health information, breastfeeding education and support, benefits for specific healthy foods, and referrals to medical providers and community services. The program is for low to medium income families that have a child under 5, someone who is pregnant, are breastfeeding, or just had a baby.



Why is WIC Important?

Studies have shown that families who receive WIC benefits have a higher intake of fruits and vegetables. Women receive breastfeeding education and support which increases positive health outcomes for moms and their infants.



DID YOU KNOW?
WIC celebrated 50 years in August 2024!



50 YEARS



Vital Statistics

What is Vital Statistics?

The Sutter County Public Health Branch Vital Statistics program helps our community obtain birth certificates, death certificates, and burial permits.



Why Is Vital Statistics Important?

The Vital Statistics Program plays an important role in our community by accurately recording life's key events such as births, deaths, and ensuring timely access to these records. Beyond documentation, the program supports identity verification, legal processes, and data analysis that informs health policy and protects community well-being.

Program Spotlight

8

Birth records for home births registered



618

Death records registered



2,878

Total certificates processed



We do not have a birthing hospital in Sutter County so we only register home births

Includes amendments, duplicates, birth and death records