



# Franklin County Board of Commissioners 2023 Funding Request

Respectfully Submitted by:

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Health Commissioner  
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## Mission, Vision and Values

The Public Health Accreditation Board, the nation's accrediting body for public health, evaluates health departments based on a series of domains, standards and measures which include a set of capabilities, foundational areas and capabilities. Franklin County Public Health (FCPH) has been a fully accredited health department since 2016, demonstrating to its constituents and elected officials the quality and expertise we provide through our public health services. FCPH has applied for reaccreditation as we continue to meet foundational areas and capabilities, improve programs and services, and advance the practice of public health in our community.

Foundational Areas are areas of expertise or program-specific activities necessary to protect the community's health:

- Communicable Disease Control
- Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention
- Environmental Public Health
- Maternal, Child and Family Health
- Access to and Linkage w/Clinical Care

Foundational Capabilities are cross-cutting skills needed for an effective public health system:

- Epidemiology Assessment
- All Hazards/Emergency Preparedness Response
- Communications
- Policy Development/Support
- Community Engagement
- Community Partnership Development
- Organizational Competencies (*Leadership/Governance; Health Equity; Accountability/Performance Management and Quality Improvement; Information Technology; Human Resources; Financial Management; Legal*)



As part of its current strategic plan, the Franklin County Board of Health has charged staff to adopt a forward-leaning strategy to move “upstream” to make sustainable improvements not only in the health status of our residents but also the conditions in which our residents live. This approach is outlined in “Public Health 3.0: A Blueprint for the Future of Public Health” which is a national framework and includes five qualities essential for every community to achieve optimal health. The 2019-2021 FCPH Strategic Plan includes one goal of EQUITY and aligns with these five qualities ensuring FCPH continues to work to

achieve its vision of optimal health for all people, regardless of income, race and ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, language, and zip code.

### Public Health 3.0

1. Embrace the role of Chief Health Strategist - The public health agency should work with all relevant partners so that they can drive initiatives including those that address environmental, economic, and social determinants of health.
2. Engage with community stakeholders - From both the public and private sectors—to form vibrant, structured, cross-sector partnerships. These partnerships should share a vision for creating health, equity, and resilience in a community over the long term, with employers and payers among the key partners. The defining feature of these partnerships should be the ability to organize in order to share governance, set shared vision and goals, blend and braid funding, and capture savings for reinvestment upstream.
3. Maintain accreditation - Accreditation has been shown to be an important mechanism for local public health departments to stimulate quality improvement and enhance their capacity and accountability.
4. Data driven - Timely, reliable, granular-level (i.e., sub-county), and actionable data should be made accessible to communities throughout the country, and clear metrics should be developed to document success in public health practice.
5. Enhanced and substantially funding - The traditional, categorical funding model for much of the public health service needs to become more flexible and sustainable. Innovative mechanisms to blend and braid funds from multiple sources should be tested and scaled to support core agency infrastructure and work to address the social determinants of health.

It is said that when public health is doing its best work, nothing happens – epidemics and outbreaks do not occur, water and air remain free from contaminants, and people are unencumbered by preventable diseases. FCPH is actively engaged in the above activities and utilizing a collective impact and collaborative approach in addressing our work. However, the current funding for FCPH limits our ability to fully implement all foundational capabilities, program areas and Public Health 3.0. Additional funding is needed for FCPH to meaningfully engage, expand, and build on existing initiatives to address core public health services across its jurisdiction.

### **Funding and Modernization**

Franklin County Public Health is the 6<sup>th</sup> largest health district in Ohio by population. FCPH serves 486,525 residents and is generously supported by the 10 villages, 17 townships and 14 cities it serves. Contract cities pay \$9.32 per capita from their general funds, while the average charges for townships and villages, collectively, is approximately \$9.32 per capita dependent upon property valuation. This amount is \$4,534,413

As part of its strategic plan, FCPH has been very proactive to diversify its funding streams and seek out grant funding in program areas of tobacco, falls, chronic disease, opiates, community health workers, health literacy, and other evidence-based practices. In fact, since 2019 FCPH has been awarded more than \$15 million dollars in state and federal grants.

FCPH is also incredibly grateful to the FCBOC for its support of FCPH providing office space at Memorial Hall, funding DEI and community partnership grants, allocating CARES and ARPA funding as well as engaging in special initiatives with organizations such as A Kid Again, the Family Stabilization Unit and ROOTT.

To build on current investments and meet the growing demands of the responsibilities and expectations of local health departments, FCPH is respectfully asking the Franklin County Board of Commissioners to make a sustained investment in Franklin County Public Health as part of its annual budgeting process. In sum, an

annual investment of \$2,200,000 is being requested to accomplish the work ahead of us. The funds will not be used to supplant existing staff, grants, programs, and services nor will it be used for the general administrative functions of the agency.

**Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)**- \$300,000- Expand and lead DEI efforts including further implementation of our racism declaration, Equity Advisory Council, internal training, and community health improvement plan activities.

- Associate Director
- Equity Analyst
- Training

**Emergency Preparedness**- \$100,000 Coordinate the implementation of the COVID-19 After Action Report and Improvement Plan as well as further enhance emergency response capabilities.

- Emergency Response Planner
- Training

**Environmental Health**- \$250,000 Expand programmatic outreach and services to address and plan for emerging public health threats.

- Environmental Health Technician Vector Program (e.g., mosquitoes, ticks, rats)
- FCPH Satellite Facility and Supplies
- Environmental Health Technician Sustainability

**Infectious Disease Reporting, Epidemiology and Surveillance**- \$500,000 Identify, report and respond to outbreaks.

- Public Health Nurses (2)
- Epidemiologists (2)
- Software

**Access to Health Services**- \$750,000 Increase services for children with medical handicaps; decrease nurse to client ratio as required by the Ohio Department of Health

- Public Health Nurse Home Visiting Team (6)
- Vehicles and support

**Communications**- \$110,000- Support external engagement with respect to social determinants of health, community health improvement plan and strategic plan priorities

- Communication Specialist
- Marketing

**Quality Improvement (QI)**- \$190,000- As a core requirement of national accreditation, QI in public health is the use of a deliberate and defined improvement process, such as Plan-Do-Study-Act, which is focused on activities that are responsive to community needs and improving population health.

- QI Coordinator
- Performance Management Data Analyst
- Training

**Sources:**

[franklincountyohio.gov](http://franklincountyohio.gov); [myfcph.org](http://myfcph.org); [naccho.org/programs/public-health-infrastructure/public-health-3-0](http://naccho.org/programs/public-health-infrastructure/public-health-3-0); [phaboard.org/](http://phaboard.org/); [resolv.org/site-foundational-ph-services/](http://resolv.org/site-foundational-ph-services/); <http://kirwaninstitute.osu.edu/researchandstrategicinitiatives/community-development-collaborative/>