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The COVID-19 pandemic revealed tremendous need for a robust and competent local public health presence. It would not be unduly stated that Oregon Health Authority (OHA) took the lead in public health modernization prior to the pandemic's start. Taking the opportunity for modernization and lessons learned from the pandemic response, Clatsop County Department of Public Health Department (CCDPH) has achieved the following in the past two years:

- CCDPH obtained a common vision and language in addressing local health disparities and put that vision and language into action;
- CCDPH established strong community collaborations to meet local needs, including climate-change-related public health issues;
- CCDPH added several needed positions and capacities and built its management team for the department's long-term goals and success.