



OREGON  
**HEALTH**  
AUTHORITY

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# Local Public Health Authority 101

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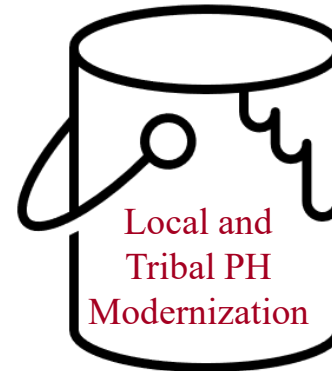
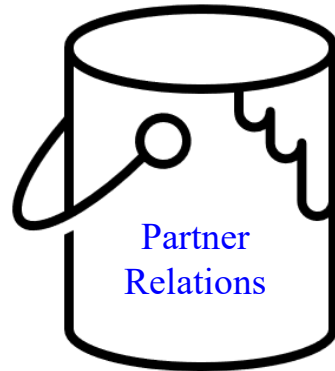
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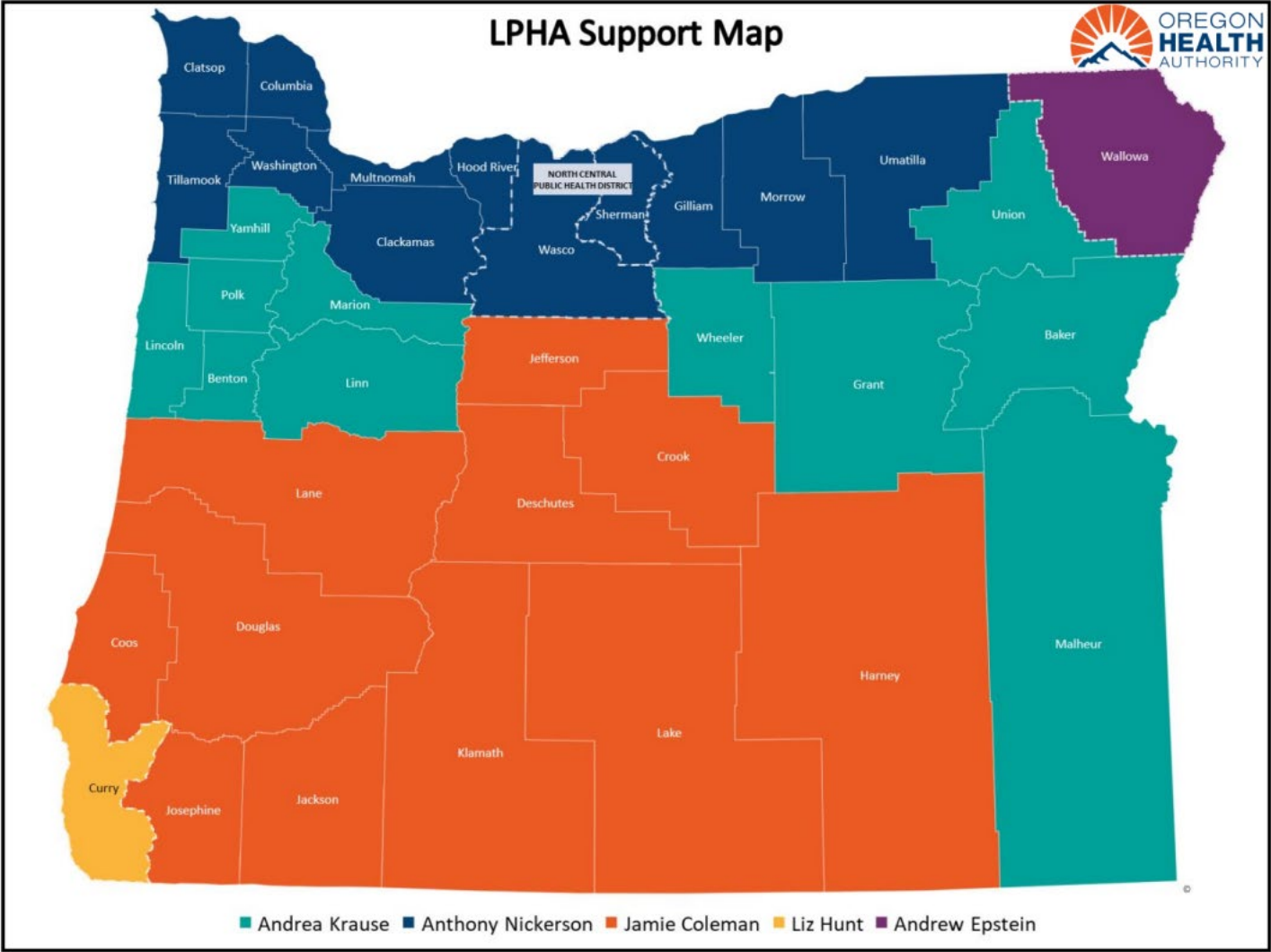
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# Our Buckets of Work

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# Local Public Health Authorities



# Overview

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- A day in the life of public health\*
- Local Public Health Authorities – what are they and what do they do?
- Conference of Local Health Officials
- Questions

\*Adapted from a public health promotion originating from the Colorado Health Department, Vermont Department of Health and the Oregon Department of Human Services

# A Day in the Life of Public Health

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- Up out of bed, you head for the shower and then brush your teeth. You have confidence that your water is safe and clean because public health monitors and tests local water for safety. You also know that routine dental exams, combined with fluoride in the public water system, will assure your teeth will last a lifetime.

# A Day in the Life of Public Health

- You head off to the car. Fastening seat belts is a habit – and your policy is “hands off” mobile devices, for safety’s sake. It’s snowing and you drive at a safe speed. You know from public health messages that most crashes and injuries are avoidable.



# A Day in the Life of Public Health

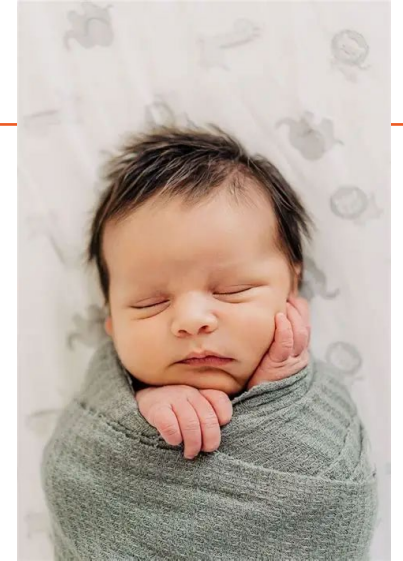
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- At work you enjoy a smoke-free environment, just like almost everywhere else. Oregon continues to be a leader in health prevention, continuing to work so that younger generations are not targeted for smoking and vaping advertisements. You smile because your best friend has succeeded in quitting, with help from Oregon's Quit Line, a 24/7 telephone and web-based program offering personalized counseling, support, and nicotine replacement to help Oregonians quit tobacco. Your kids have never smoked, thanks to your example and the public health messages all around them.

# A Day in the Life of Public Health

- Your sister calls. She and her new baby are just back from the pediatrician. The six-week checkup was great! The Health Department promotes early prenatal care, and every baby gets a newborn screening to test for conditions that, if untreated, can cause development and learning delays and severe health problems. If a child has a special health need, the Health Department coordinates specialty care. She's also thrilled with her visits to her Health Department, where she can access breastfeeding support, healthy WIC foods and nutrition services, plus a debit-like card to buy fresh fruit and vegetables at local markets.



# A Day in the Life of Public Health

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- For lunch you stop for take-out soup and salad. You assume that the food is safe to eat because the Health Department oversees inspection and licensing of restaurants and food trucks, publishes scores, and investigates foodborne illness outbreaks.



# A Day in the Life of Public Health

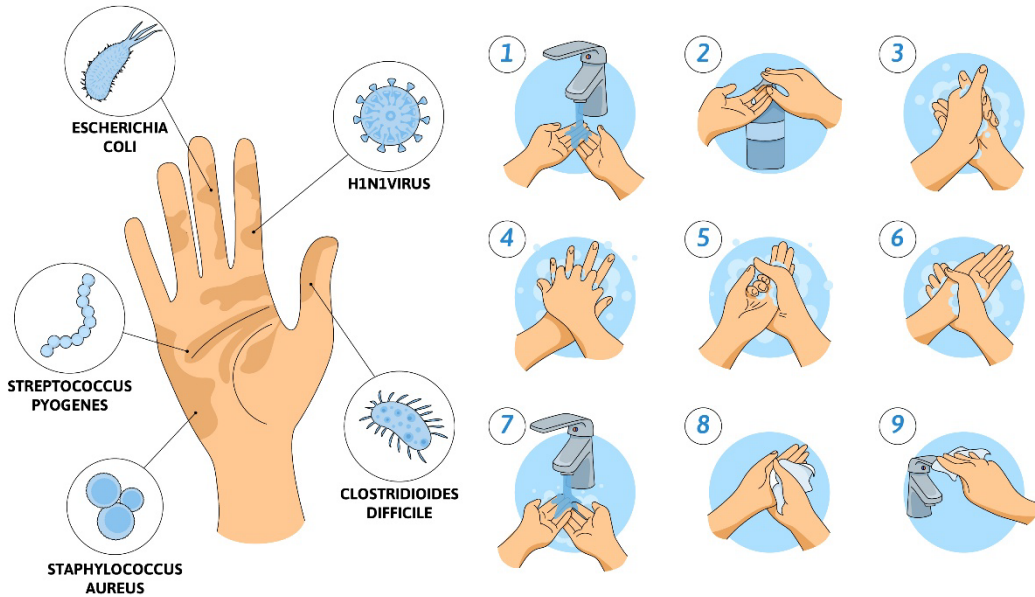
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- Another workday ends. You start your car and the radio comes on. You hear a public service announcement advising parents to make sure their young children have all their vaccines. Public health promotes early childhood immunizations to protect against serious, sometimes life-threatening diseases. Public health also monitors vaccination rates and disease incidence, promoting and providing access to vaccines to keep your whole community safe.



# A Day in the Life of Public Health

## WASH YOUR HANDS CLEAN HANDS SAVE LIFE!



- Your family comes together for dinner, and you tell them to wash their hands before eating. Your family knows that washing hands keep germs from spreading, that they should cover their cough, and when sick, to stay home and away from others. Messaging so common, that originated from public health.

# A Day in the Life of Public Health

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- The evening news tells of a mysterious illness among visitors at a local event. Thankfully, the outbreak is under control. The Health Department's planning, practice and close coordination with other local and federal agencies has made for a faster and more effective response to any public health emergency. Examples of other emergencies public health prepares for are extreme heat and weather events, wildfires, etc.

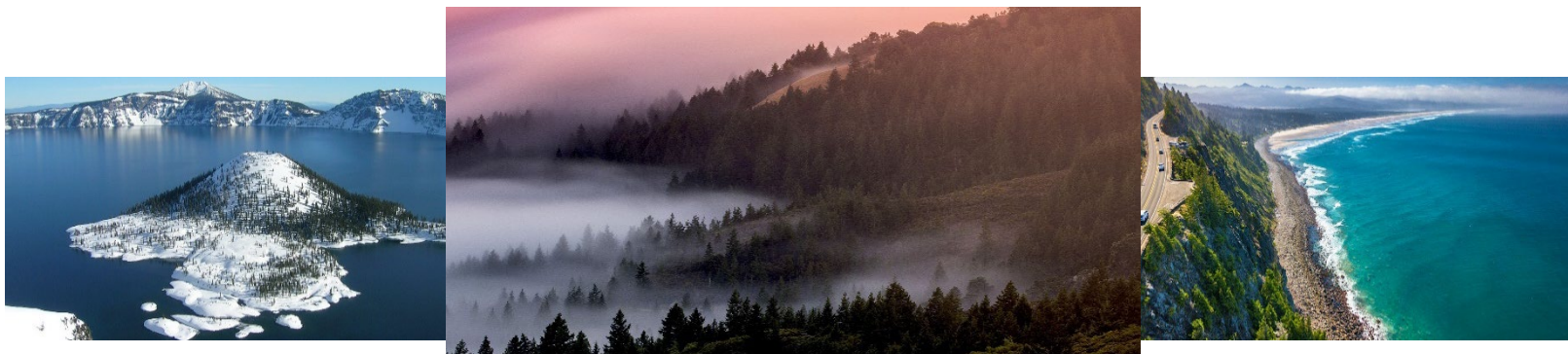


# A Day in the Life of Public Health

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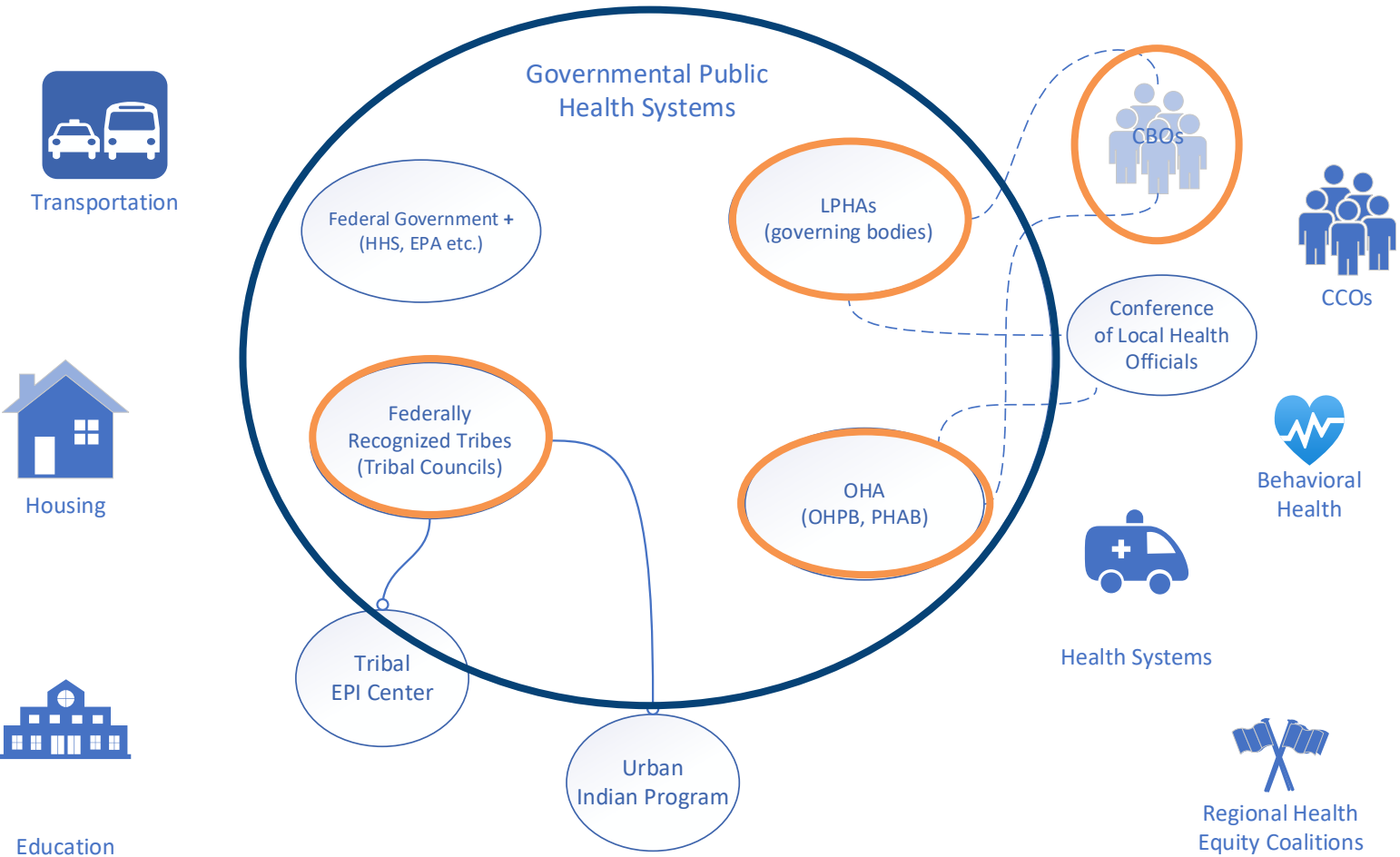
- It's time for bed and you drift off to sleep. Public health has touched your lives in countless ways today, working behind the scenes – nearly invisibly – to keep you all safe and sound.





# What is a Local Public Health Authority and what do they do?

# Oregon's Public Health System



# What is an LPHA?

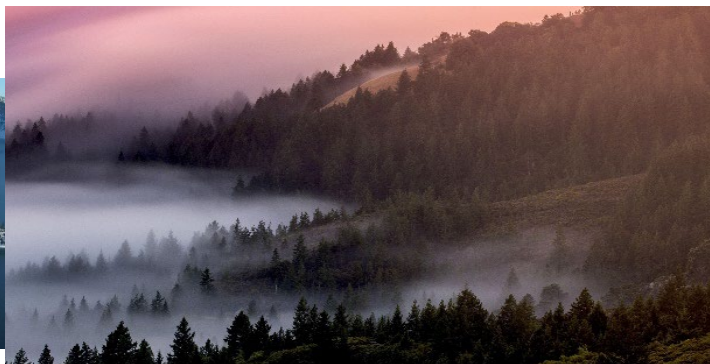
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- LPHA = Local Public Health Authority
  - A county government.
  - A health district formed under Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 431.443 by two or more contiguous counties.
  - Intergovernmental entity that provides public health services pursuant to an agreement under ORS 190.010.
- Governing Body of LPHA
  - Governing body of a county (Board of Commissioners).
  - A district board of health.
  - Board of intergovernmental entity formed under ORS 190.010.

# Local Public Health Authorities

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- 36 counties in Oregon
- 33 LPHAs
  - 32 county governments
  - 1 intergovernmental entity (Serving Wasco and Sherman)
- Two counties (Curry and Wallowa) transferred local PH authority to OHA.



# Local Public Health Authority Responsibilities

# What must an LPHA do per Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS)?

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- Accept reports of communicable disease, disease outbreak or epidemics and investigate them.
- Issue or petition for isolation and quarantine orders as necessary to protect the public's health.
- Review immunization records and issue exclusion orders.
- Ensuring access to immunizations.
- Ensuring access to family planning and birth control services.

## What must an LPHA do per ORS? (cont'd)

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- Duties and activities related to enforcing the Indoor Clean Air Act.
- Licensing of tourist accommodations, recreational parks and organizational camps, pools, spas, restaurants, bed and breakfasts, vending machines, mobile units, if delegated.
- Regulation of public water systems, if delegated.
- Enforcement of public health laws.

# Public Health Services in Oregon

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- Majority of public health services are delivered by county government.
  - Public health department
  - Division within a health and human services agency.
- One intergovernmental entity (Wasco & Sherman).
- County government provides governance functions but contracts out everything else (Douglas, Gilliam, Grant, Lake, Union).

# Examples of Oregon LPHAs

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- Benton County Health Department
- Coos Health & Wellness – Coos County
- Jackson County Health & Human Services
- North Central Public Health District – Wasco and Sherman Counties
- Douglas Public Health Network – subcontract of Douglas County
- Malheur County Health Department
- Washington County Public Health

# Public Health Services in Oregon (cont'd)

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- Some LPHAs do not provide any clinical services and rely on community partners.
- Two counties have transferred public health authority to OHA.
  - Wallowa and Curry
  - OHA is responsible for limited public health services.

# LPHAs do A LOT of different work, it varies across jurisdictions

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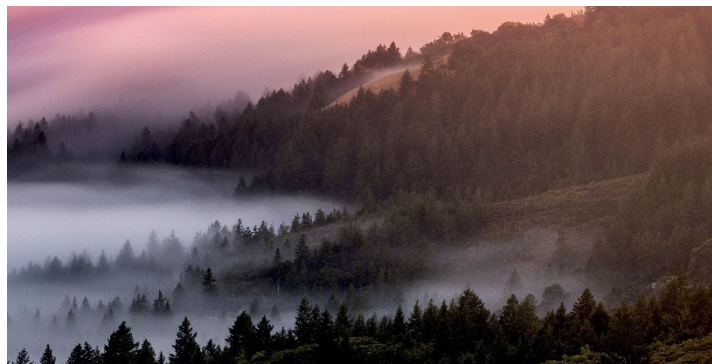
- Foundational capabilities and programs
- WIC (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants & Children)
- Administer immunizations
- Reproductive health care
- Ambulance Service Area plans
- Animal control
- Maternal and child health home visiting
- Tobacco prevention
- Alcohol and drug prevention

# Foundational Capabilities & Programs

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- Leadership and organizational competencies
- Health equity and cultural responsiveness
- Community partnership development
- Assessment and epidemiology
- Policy and planning
- Communications
- Emergency preparedness and response
- Communicable disease control
- Prevention and health promotion
- Environmental health
- Access to clinical preventive services

**Public Health Modernization Framework:** Foundational programs & capabilities are present within every LPHA. LPHAs are funded for PH modernization through Program Element 51.



# Conference of Local Health Officials

# CLHO - [www.oregonclho.org](http://www.oregonclho.org)

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- Conference of Local Health Officials
  - In Oregon Revised Statutes.
  - All Local Public Health Administrators are members.
  - Venue in which OHA and LPHAs negotiate funding and scopes of work.
  - Venue in which OHA and LPHA work through local and state public health systems issues.
  - Subcommittees for program areas.
    - Access to Clinical & Preventive Services, Communicable Disease, Environmental Health, Health Prevention & Promotion, Public Health Emergency Preparedness, and Systems & Innovation
- Subject to public meeting law.



## Questions/Discussion

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# For more information

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OHA LPHA/Tribes team webpage:  
[www.healthoregon.org/lhd](http://www.healthoregon.org/lhd)