

Polk County Public Health is dedicated to strengthening leadership and organizational capacity to develop a strong workforce to meet the Public Health Modernization foundational capabilities and programs outlined in ORS 431.413. Utilizing a Health Equity lens, we are actively addressing capacities through:

- Reorganizing departmental structure
- Updating job descriptions
- Creating mindful onboarding procedures and staff development opportunities
- Fostering team well-being

Building on the Community Partnerships developed and additional staff recruited during the Covid-19 response, we are enhancing collaboration in public health education, prevention initiatives and emergency preparedness. Our partners include:

- Other county departments
- Our CCO
- Community Based Organizations
- Hospitals
- Fire/EMS
- Long-Term Care Facilities
- Senior & Disabilities Services entities
- Homelessness initiatives
- Schools and universities
- Faith-Based Organizations
- Local cities and civic groups
- Surrounding counties public health entities

In our ever changing world of technology and innovation we have a unique opportunity to provide our communities with public health information they can trust to inform their personal choice. We aim to widen the scope of public health services; strengthening overall community health which allows us to live, move, work and play each day. We are keeping our community informed through equitable and culturally responsive channels:

- Social media content
- Website information
- Brochures, pamphlets & forms
- Community presentations
- Presence at relevant community events

Through capacity building (depth and breadth), robust community partnerships (diverse and inclusive) and public communication work (equitable and responsible) we will produce health outcomes that will make our community healthy and proud.

*Public health is “the science and art of preventing disease, prolonging life, and promoting health through the organized efforts and informed choices of society, organizations, public and private communities, and individuals.” — CEA Winslow*