WHAT’S CHANGED IN PUBLIC HEALTH IN THE LAST 30 YEARS?

Public health has made huge strides in keeping the nation safe and healthy over the last three decades—but health departments still need more resources.

THE 1988 IOM REPORT

In 1988, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) issued a report, The Future of Public Health, that raised grave concern about the public health system’s ability to effectively meet the needs of society. The report called for a variety of changes, including defining the mission of the public health service system and improving the technical, political, managerial, and programmatic skills of public health practitioners.

THE EVOLUTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

In the 30 years since IOM issued the report, the public health system has evolved and improved.

- The field has identified public health services that should be available in every jurisdiction and has benchmarked them through a system of public health accreditation.
- New areas of focus like emergency preparedness have matured and become systematic.
- HIV has become a chronic disease for many, rather than a death sentence.
- Local public health professionals are recognized as community experts on how to keep the public healthy and safe.
- Local health officials regularly communicate health concerns to policymakers at all levels.

PUBLIC HEALTH FUNDING

CDC funding has not kept pace with inflation or the severity of emerging threats, putting the health of the nation at risk.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Funding for the CDC in 1989</th>
<th>Actual Appropriations 2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 1989</td>
<td>$979 million</td>
<td>$6.2 billion</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2018</td>
<td>Funding for the CDC in 2018 would be $1.96 trillion</td>
<td>Funding for the CDC in 2018 is actually $6.2 billion</td>
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Inflation
Local health departments are facing new and ever-changing challenges

Emerging infectious diseases like Ebola and the Zika virus

The reemergence of eradicated infectious diseases like measles due to vaccine hesitancy

Opioid addiction and associated infectious diseases

Chronic diseases such as diabetes and heart disease

Antibiotic resistance

NACCHO is the voice of the nearly 3,000 local health departments across the country. These city, county, metropolitan, district, and tribal departments work every day to ensure the safety of the water we drink, the food we eat, and the air we breathe. Learn more at http://www.naccho.org.