

California Climate and Health Case Stories: The Local Public Health Department Response



This series of *California Climate and Health Case Stories* highlights how public health departments are responding to climate change as an emerging public health issue.

Climate Change and Health in California Local Health Departments

Public health departments have important roles to help reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and to adapt to the impacts of climate change. These stories were prepared by the Office of Health Equity's CalBRACE program, which is part of the California Department of Public Health, funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Climate Ready States and Cities Initiative (CRSCI) through Cooperative Agreement 5UE1EH001052. The CDC-CRSCI funds states and cities to use the Building Resilience Against Climate Effects (BRACE) framework to identify climate impacts in their communities, potential health effects associated with these impacts, and their most at-risk populations and locations.

BRACE helps states and cities to develop and implement health adaptation plans that impact health, and address gaps in critical public health functions and services. CalBRACE wanted to share these inspiring stories about how, with few resources, local public health departments are mobilizing. From Maternal Child Health to Emergency Preparedness programs, and planning efforts with multi-sector county partners, local health departments are linking and connecting to prepare to meet this complex public health threat. Inclusion, health equity and the social determinants of health, as well as sustainability and resilience, and Health in All Policies approaches are some of the lenses that practitioners are applying to their planning and programmatic work.

Many of the strategies initiated by California's local public health agencies are linked with health and the built environment. These range from promoting active transportation and food security, to forestry management. Others are focused on communication and campaigns to stimulate individual and community actions to reduce GHGs and make personal changes to increase resilience to climate change. The series is not a complete picture of how public health agencies address climate change, but rather a highlight that we hope encourages you to visit other counties' websites to explore their important work as well.

Case Stories:

Los Angeles County Public Health Agency
Mariposa County Public Health Department
San Diego County Public Health Services
San Luis Obispo
Santa Clara County Public Health Department

Additional Departments:

San Francisco Public Health Department
<https://www.sfdph.org/dph/EH/climatechange/>

Contra Costa Health Care Services
<http://cchealth.org/built/>

CalBRACE Project - California Department of Public Health, Office of Health Equity
<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/Pages/CalBRACE.aspx>

Climate and Health Initiative - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
<http://www.cdc.gov/climateandhealth/brace.htm>