Office of Family and Community Health Improvement

The Office of Family and Community Health Improvement is dedicated to enhancing the health and well-being of individuals, families, and communities. The Office works with local health jurisdictions, tribal public health partners, community-based organizations, health systems, healthcare providers, and other state agencies. The Washington State Plan for Healthy Communities guides the Office's work to promote health at every stage of life through policies, systems, and environmental changes with emphasis on health equity, life course theory, social determinants of health, and community-clinical linkages.

POPULATION OF FOCUS
All Residents of Washington State

SECTIONS

- Operations
- Community Healthcare Improvement Linkages
- Community Workforce and Partnership
- Thriving Children and Youth
- Screening and Genetics
- Surveillance and Evaluation
- Data Collection and Reporting

MAJOR FUNCTIONS

Collect, analyze, and share data and information about the health status and health needs of women, children, adolescents, young adults, families, and communities.

Collaborate with youth, families, communities, and other partners to identify root causes, recommend solutions, and create plans to address priority health needs and inequities.

Advance strategies to address serious disparities in health for children and families, especially people of color, low-income communities, and rural communities.

Develop, implement, and evaluate programs, policies, and funding that address health needs and advance equity.

Support health care system improvements to achieve better and more equitable outcomes, improve individual and family experience, and reduce costs.

Increase access to preventive services for un- and underinsured residents (e.g., cancer screening, cardiovascular disease, reproductive health care).

Ensure access to health services and supports for children, adults, and families impacted by special health needs, such as those with or at risk for genetic disease, hearing differences, or developmental disabilities.

MAJOR ISSUES

Creation of a Health Equity Zone program to address health inequities in select communities through community-informed processes.

Development of the Community Health Worker workforce and integration into existing health systems.

Continuing progress to reduce unintended pregnancies, assure access to the full spectrum of reproductive health care services, and improve sexual health.

Implementation of innovative strategies to address substance use disorder and mental health in the perinatal period.

Promotion of Universal Developmental Screening and early childhood programs to support healthy development of young children.

Expansion of School-Based Health Center model and Pediatric Mental Health Care Access to better meet child and adolescent behavioral health needs.

Cross-system collaboration to reduce child maltreatment and adversity, and promote safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments.

Addressing delayed utilization of preventive services (e.g., cancer screening, well visits) due to COVID-19 pandemic disruptions.

Improvement in access, availability, and meaningful use of data for policy and programmatic action.

BUDGET

For the 2023–2025 biennium, the Office of Family and Community Health Improvement budget is $116.4 million with interagency reimbursements (IARs)* included. This includes General State Funds(61%), Federal (37%), and Local(2%).
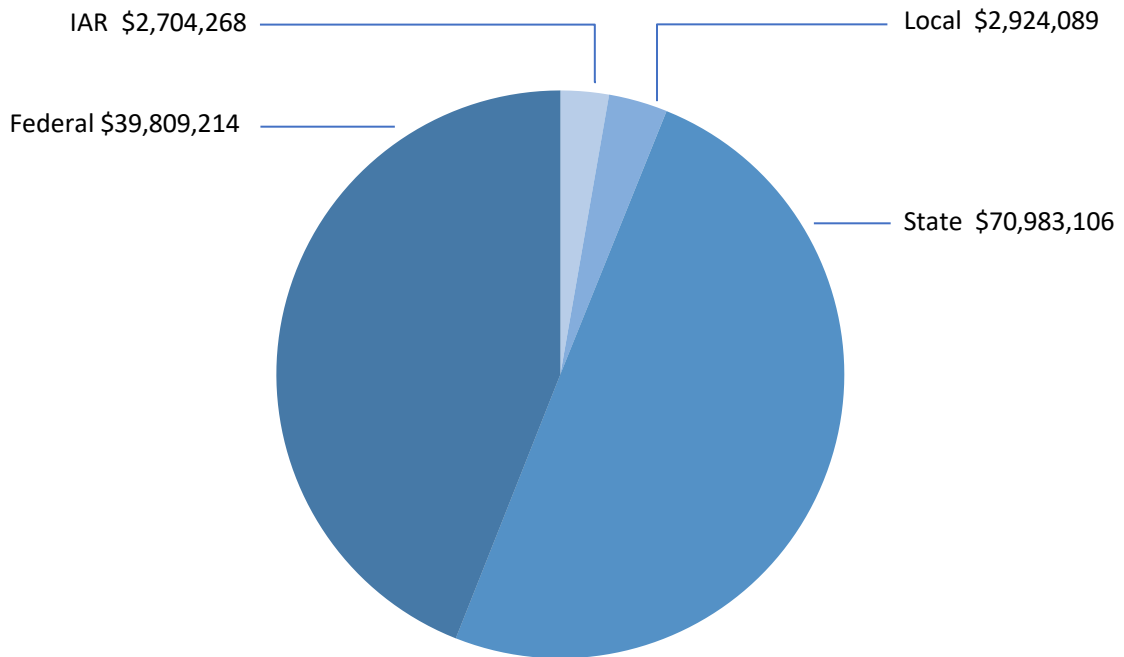
This office has 94 positions (92 FTE) among offices located in Tumwater and Shoreline.

TOTAL ALLOTMENTS BY FUND TYPE

Division of Prevention and Community Health – Office of Family and Community Health & Improvement

2023–25 Biennium

Total (with IARs)	=	$ 116,420,677
Total (without IARs)	=	$ 113,716,409

TOTAL (with IARs)

IAR $2,704,268

Local $2,924,089

Federal $39,809,214

State $70,983,106

* Interagency agreements represent another state agency funding DOH to complete work on their behalf
** Local dollars are comprised of private foundation funding, funding from MCO and other private sources

Washington State Department of
HEALTH