

NYSACHO REQUEST FOR INCREASE IN ARTICLE 6 STATE AID TO LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS



**County
Health Officials
of New York**
Leading the way to healthier communities

Local health Departments (LHDs) are on the front lines of Population Health. While most of the costs required to meet LHD obligations under Article 6 of the Public Health Law are covered by local tax levies, State Aid to LHDs provides a crucial foundation for fulfilling government responsibilities and obligations for core public health services in communities throughout NYS.

Local health departments are on the front lines every day protecting the health of New York State's residents, communities and visitors. The challenges range on a daily basis from responding to outbreaks of Legionnaire's Disease and Measles, to monitoring for Ebola in travelers from certain African nations, providing training to save New Yorkers who succumb to opioid overdoses, providing health education to the public to prevent obesity and chronic diseases, identifying and implementing effective ways to prevent suicide and promote mental health, and much, much more. We are proud to be a partner with New York State to ensure public health and safety.

As the number and complexity of public health crises increase, local health departments must remain vigilant and responsive to a variety of challenges. Currently, LHDs provide local support to the Triple Aim and Population Health initiatives of the State Health Department, including the Prevention Agenda, the Medicaid Redesign DSRIP program, and Public Health Improvement Programs (PHIPs). In light of these increased responsibilities, along with ongoing and emerging threats to public health, we respectfully request **additional Article 6 funding** in the 2016-17 State Budget as follows:

- Increase the base grants that ensure 100% reimbursement of local expenditures in three ways:
 - ◆ **Increase the base grant to full service LHDs** (i.e. those with environmental health units) from \$650,000 to \$750,000
 - ◆ **Increase the base grant to partial service LHDs** (i.e. those smaller counties with no environmental health unit) from \$500,000 to \$550,000
 - ◆ **Increase the per capita rate** from 65 cents per resident to \$1.30 per resident
- **Increase the beyond-base-grant reimbursement rate** from 36% to 38%
- **Curtail additional administrative cuts and disallowances and institute a one year notice prior to implementing changes to allowable claims**

**AN ADDITIONAL ALLOCATION FOR ARTICLE 6 STATE AID FOR PUBLIC WORKS
WOULD ENSURE A SOUND PUBLIC HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE
THROUGHOUT THE STATE.**

**THE COUNTY
HEALTH
OFFICIALS OF NEW
YORK (NYSACHO)
REPRESENTS ALL 58
LOCAL HEALTH
DEPARTMENTS
IN NEW YORK STATE.**

**OUR MISSION:
TO SUPPORT
LOCAL HEALTH
DEPARTMENTS IN
THEIR WORK TO
PREVENT DISEASE,
DISABILITY AND
INJURY AND
PROMOTE HEALTH
AND WELLNESS
THROUGHOUT
NEW YORK STATE**

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