

# MADERA COUNTY PUBLIC INFORMATION TEAM

MADERA COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER 200 W. FOURTH STREET / MADERA, CALIFORNIA 93637 (559) 675-7700 / FAX (559) 673-3302 / TDD (559) 675-8970

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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### Madera County Department of Public Health Awarded National Accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board

Madera, CA — Madera County Department of Public Health (MCDPH) has been awarded national accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) as of February 24, 2023. Established in 2007, PHAB is the non-profit organization that administers the national accreditation program, which aims to advance and transform public health practice by championing performance improvement, strong infrastructure, and innovation.

"This 7-year endeavor involved every member of our department as well as many other county departments and partners. I am so proud of our team and the Live Well Madera County Coalition for this landmark achievement for Madera County," said Public Health Director Sara Bosse.

To achieve accreditation, health departments go through a rigorous peer-reviewed assessment process to ensure they meet a set of quality standards and measures. During the accreditation process, MCDPH took several actions to improve core services including publishing a Community Health Assessment (CHA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) to better understand the health priorities of residents and developing their first-ever department strategic plan. MCPDH also launched a performance management system and customer feedback system designed to cultivate a culture of quality improvement.

The national accreditation program, which receives support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, sets standards against which the nation's governmental public health departments can continuously improve the quality of their services and performance. "The value of becoming nationally accredited through PHAB extends far beyond the walls of the health department," said PHAB President and CEO Paul Kuehnert, DNP, RN, FAAN. "People living and working in communities served by these health departments can be assured that their health department is strong and has the capacity to protect and promote their health. Just going through the accreditation process itself helps health departments pinpoint the areas that are critical to improving the work they do for their communities."





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Often called the "backbone" of the public health system, public health departments are on the front lines of communities' efforts to protect and promote health and prevent disease and injury. Across the nation, health departments provide services aimed at promoting healthy behaviors; preventing diseases and injuries; ensuring access to safe food, water, clean air, and life-saving immunizations; and preparing for and responding to public health emergencies.

MCDPH joins Merced, Tulare, San Joaquin and Stanislaus as being accredited health departments within the San Joaquin Valley.

About the Public Health Accreditation Board

The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) was created to serve as the national public health accrediting body and is jointly funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Vital Records/Health Statistics accreditation is funded, in part, by the National Center for Health Statistics. The development of national public health department accreditation has involved, and is supported by, public health leaders and practitioners from the national, state, local, Tribal, and territorial levels. For more information, contact PHAB Communications Specialist Janalle Goosby at <a href="mailto:igoosby@phaboard.org">igoosby@phaboard.org</a>. Learn more about PHAB and accreditation at <a href="mailto:www.phaboard.org">www.phaboard.org</a>, and by <a href="mailto:signing-up">signing-up</a> for the PHAB e-newsletter

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