

COUNTY OF YOLO

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Health Department Receives Funding to Prepare for National Accreditation

(Woodland, CA) – The Yolo County Health Department has been awarded \$35,000 to support its progress in meeting the requirements of the Public Health Accreditation Board, the first and only voluntary national accreditation program for public health departments. The department is one of 29 local health departments to receive this funding through the Accreditation Support Initiative. A total of 147 local health departments, from 19 states, of all sizes and types and ranging from rural to urban applied for this funding.

The Accreditation Support Initiative was created in 2011 to promote national accreditation readiness among a greater number of local health departments and to support their varying needs to reach accreditation. Funding for the initiative is provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support, and is administered by the National Association of County and City Health Officials.

"Quality improvement is one of the most important investments a local health department can make – always seeking ways to do things better, more efficiently, with just the right amount of resources and with a greater impact," said National Association of County and City Health Officials Executive Director Robert M. Pestronk. "As a participant in this initiative, the Yolo County Health Department is taking a big step to ensure better health for the people of Yolo County."

The Yolo County Health Department received funding under the general category of "Completing a Health Improvement Process". The department will use the grant to complete a Community Health Assessment, develop methods for community distribution and input, and for ongoing monitoring, refreshing and analyzing of the assessment data.

"The Community Health Assessment will not only serve as an excellent indication of our community's health and well-being, but is also a critical step in moving the Yolo County Health Department forward with public health accreditation," said Yolo County Director of Health Services Jill Cook. "We are pleased to have received this funding to help us continue in our mission to promote health and wellness for the residents of Yolo County."

More information, including a full list of selected local health departments and descriptions of the work they have been funded to complete, can be found at www.naccho.org/asi.