

# AGENCY SUMMARY

## THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

### Leadership

Ernest L. Carter, MD, PhD, Health Officer

The Health Department [website](#)  
The Health Department [FY 2023 Approved Budget](#)  
The Health Department [FY 2023-2028 Approved CIP Budget](#)  
The Health Department [FY 2023 Budget Review Report](#)  
The Health Department [FY 2022 Budget Review Report](#)

### CORE SERVICES

- The Health Department protects the public's health; assures availability of and access to quality health care services; and promotes individual and community responsibility for the prevention of disease, injury and disability.
  - Health service resources for families and individuals in need
  - Chronic disease interventions and education
  - Disease prevention
  - Environmental safety

### ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

- **Administration Division** provides administrative support for the General Fund and grant programs through centralized fiscal (budget, accounts payable, collections and purchase card), personnel, procurement, contractual, facility maintenance, security, vital records and general services.
- **The Family Health Services Division** offers clinical and preventive health services to women, children and their families both in public health clinics and in their homes.
- **The Behavioral Health Division** provides substance abuse treatment and prevention services for adults, adolescents and their families.
- **The Environmental Health/Disease Control Division** is responsible for the licensing and/or inspection of all food service facilities, public swimming pools and spas, private water supplies and sewage disposal systems, solid waste facilities and the review of plans for all new and proposed facilities.
- **The Health and Wellness Division** is responsible for chronic disease and access to care programs for the elderly and chronically ill, which allow them to remain in the community in the least restrictive environment while functioning at the highest possible level of independence.
- **The Office of the Health Officer** directs the public health programs and activities in conformance with applicable laws, regulations, policies, procedures and standards of the State of Maryland and the County.

### FY 2023 TOP PRIORITIES

- Support the workforce and administrative needs through revised departmental policies and procedures and working closely with County administrative agencies to refine business practices that impact grant funded operations.
- Conduct behavioral health system mapping, development and integration with a focus on expanding the crisis and acute care continuum in the County including the opening of the new LHDCMC facility and the implementation of a County Stabilization Center to divert behavioral health patients from local emergency departments.
- Expand the Population Health Initiative that will encompass programs to address the social determinants of health, asthma, maternal and child health, chronic disease, cancer and infectious disease programs focused on populations experiencing vulnerabilities.
- Transition COVID-19 activities to support an endemic including investigations, prevention, testing and vaccination.

### BACKGROUND

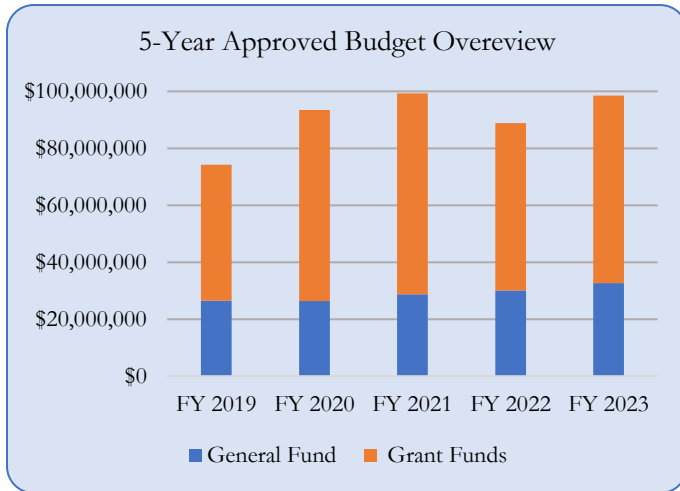
In 1880, the General Assembly authorized the State Board of Health to organize local boards of health (Chapter 438, Acts of 1880). In 1886, the Board of County Commissioners was designated as the Prince George's County Board of Health (Chapter 22, Acts of 1886). In 1914, it was placed under control of the State Department of Health, which had organized in 1910 (Chapter 560, Acts of 1910; Chapter 742, Acts of 1914). Later, under provisions of the "County Health Law" of 1922, County health duties increased, opening the way for a full-time health officer in each county (Chapter 116, Acts of 1922).

Today, the Health Department, under direction of the Health Officer, provides public health services and administers and enforces State and local health laws and regulations within Prince George's County. Programs meet the public health needs of the community and provide services not offered by the private sector ([Code Health-General Article, secs. 3-101 through 3-202](#)).

Appointed by the Secretary of Health, the Health Officer is the executive officer and secretary of the County Board of Health ([Code Health-General Article, secs. 3-301 through 3-310](#)).

# AGENCY SUMMARY THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

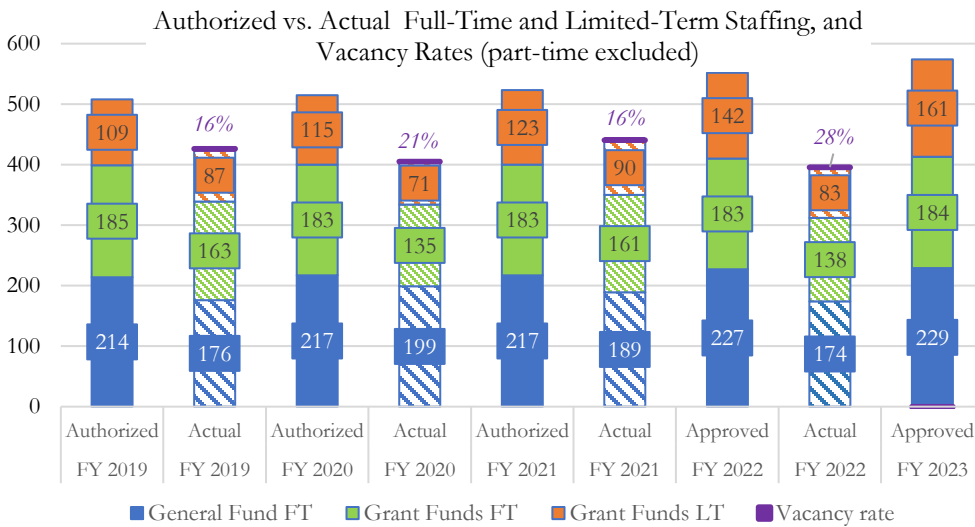
## BUDGET QUICK FACTS



- Total FY 2023 Approved Budget: \$98,530,700
- FY 2022 Estimate: 118.2% of FY 2023 approved funds expended (unaudited)
- FY 2022 to FY 2023 Budget Change: + \$9.6 million
- FY 2023 General Fund Portion: 33.2%
- The Health Department General Fund Allocations as Percentage of the County's Total General Fund Budget: 0.8%
- FY 2023 General Fund Operating Budget as Percentage of the Office's Total General Fund Budget: 54.2%

Note: The American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) and Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) expenditures can be found under the "Grant Programs" section of the approved

## STAFFING QUICK FACTS



- FY 2022 General Fund full-time vacancy rate: 23%
- FY 2022 Grant Funded full-time vacancy rate: 25%
- FY 2022 Grant Funded limited term vacancy rate: 42%
- Staffing-related challenges: recruitment, retention, high reliance on grant-funded positions and inability to grow merit staffing complement.