



## HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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### **Stanislaus County Health Services Agency – Public Health Division Awarded National Accreditation Through the Public Health Accreditation Board**

**Modesto, CA** – December 18, 2019 – Stanislaus County Health Services Agency - Public Health Division (HSA/PH) announced that it has achieved national accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). The national accreditation program works to improve and protect the health of the public by advancing and ultimately transforming the quality and performance of the nation's state, local, Tribal, and territorial public health departments. HSA/PH joins public health departments across the nation in this prestigious achievement.

"Achieving this status is a significant achievement for us and a great honor," said Lori Williams, Public Health Director of HSA/PH. "We are thrilled and excited to be recognized as an outstanding health department committed to excellence, high performance and continuous improvement."

The national accreditation program supported by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, sets standards for governmental health departments to improve the quality of their services and performance. HSA/PH successfully underwent a rigorous assessment process to ensure it met or exceeded a set of quality standards and measures outlined by the national PHAB. "This achievement validates the dedication, perseverance, and hard work of our staff and the ongoing support of our community partners and our Board of Supervisors to improve the health and well-being of all our residents," said Williams.

HSA/PH is critical in protecting and improving the health of people and communities within Stanislaus County. Health departments across the nation provide a range of services aimed at promoting healthy behaviors, preventing diseases and injuries, and preparing for and responding to public health emergencies.

"Whenever you see our seal of accreditation, you will know that HSA/PH meets and exceeds national standards and be confident that your health department has demonstrated its capacity to be high functioning, responsive, and accountable to the communities we serve, our funders, and our partners," continued Williams.

HSA/PH becomes the 17<sup>th</sup> local health department in California to achieve national accreditation, and is second in the San Joaquin Valley region. To ensure ongoing commitment to meeting national standards, HSA/PH will be required to submit Annual Reports to the PHAB, and after five years will complete another rigorous assessment known as re-accreditation to keep its accredited status.

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