What is Public Health Accreditation?

• The measurement of health department performance against a set of nationally recognized, practice-focused and evidence-based standards

• National public health accreditation has been developed because of the desire to improve services, value, and accountability to stakeholders and the public
What is the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB)?

- Non-profit entity which oversees national public health accreditation
- 13 member Board of Directors, 4 executive committee members, and 4 ex-officio members
- Accreditation by PHAB signifies that a health department is meeting national standards for ensuring essential public health services are provided in the community
History of PHAB

• History and timeline of PHAB
  – **2003**: Institute of Medicine report calling for national public health accreditation
  – **2005**: *Exploring Accreditation* project launched
  – **2007**: Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) incorporated
  – **2011**: National public health accreditation launched in September

• As of September 2015
  – 79 jurisdictions accredited
    • California: California Department of Public Health and Ventura County
Why Accreditation?

- Demonstrates accountability and improved quality via a peer reviewed process
- Highlights areas for quality improvement via performance feedback
- Provides credibility and visibility
- Improves staff morale
What Does Accreditation Focus On?

• Leadership
• Planning
• Community Engagement
• Customer Focus
• Workforce Development
• Evaluation
• Quality Improvement
• Service
Why is the Health Services Agency, Public Health Division Seeking Accreditation?

• To improve our infrastructure to ensure that the delivery of programs and services are optimal in maintaining and improving the health of Santa Cruz County residents and visitors

• We value our partnerships and envision the accreditation process as a method for strengthening these linkages and coordinating them to operate the most efficient and effective public health system possible
PHAB’s Seven Step Process

- Pre-application
- Application
- Document Selection and Submission
- Site Visit
- Accreditation Decision
- Reports
- Reaccreditation (5 years later)
Core Components of Accreditation
12 Domains

1. Conduct and Disseminate Assessments
2. Investigate Health & Environmental Hazards
3. Educate on Public Health Issues
4. Engage with the Community to Identify and Address Health Issues
5. Develop Public Health Policies and Plans
6. Enforce Public Health Laws

7. Promote Strategies to Improve Access to Health Care Services
8. Maintain a Competent Public Health Workforce
9. Evaluate and Continuously Improve Department Processes, Programs
10. Contribute to and Apply the Evidence Base of Public Health
11. Maintain Administrative and Management Capacity
12. Maintain Capacity to Engage the Public Health Governing Entity
10 Essential Services of Public Health

1. Conduct and Disseminate Assessments
2. Investigate Health & Environmental Hazards
3. Educate on Public Health Issues
4. Engage with the Community to Identify and Address Health Issues
5. Develop Public Health Policies and Plans
6. Enforce Public Health Laws
7. Promote Strategies to Improve Access to Health Care Services
8. Maintain a Competent Public Health Workforce
9. Evaluate and Continuously Improve Department Processes, Programs
10. System Management, Research, and Develop Policies
Our Accreditation Timeline

1. Pre-Application
   - July 2015

2. Application
   - Fall 2017

3. Document Selection & Submission
   - Spring 2018

4. Site Visit
   - Fall 2018

5. Accreditation Decision

6. Reports

7. Reaccreditation
   - Every 5 years
Questions?