



**NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION
OF COUNTY HEALTH OFFICIALS**

Leading the Way to Healthier Communities

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**NYSACHO STATEMENT ON CDC STOP WORK ORDERS AND \$400 MILLION IN
CUTS THREATENING PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACROSS NEW
YORK STATE**

STATEMENT BY: Sarah Ravenhall, MHA, CHES, Executive Director

“The Center for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) across-the-board national cut of \$11 billion in public health funds will have a profoundly harmful impact in every corner of New York State. Current estimates indicate that New York will lose a total of \$400 million in critical health funding, with \$100 million of that directly affecting the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

These cuts will immediately undermine essential public health programs that have strengthened New York’s laboratory and disease surveillance capacity—resources that enable rapid and effective responses to public health emergencies and infectious disease outbreaks. This funding has allowed us to expand our capacity to investigate, test, vaccinate, and respond to threats such as COVID-19, mpox, measles, rabies, tuberculosis, and numerous other infectious diseases that continue to pose risks.

We are deeply concerned about the impact these cuts will have on our public health workforce and our collective ability to protect communities across the state. Equally alarming is the sudden nature of these reductions, leaving no time for local health departments to prepare. Public health operations cannot simply stop on a dime, because disease threats do not stop. We are now forced to assess and manage the consequences of this abrupt decision.

New York State’s Legislature and Governor have been steadfast public health partners, and we are relying on them now more than ever to sustain our public health infrastructure. We look forward to working with them to determine the next steps related to these federal cuts and will continue to urge them to restore Article 6 public health state aid funding to the NYC Health Department and increase base grants for local health departments statewide as final state budget negotiations take shape.”

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