The one constant in the past several years has been change. In the face of intense demands, uncertainty and shifting conditions, public health laboratories have responded with determination, resilience and creativity. Innovations, successes and collaborations highlight the evolving role that laboratories can play in public health and in their communities. These are only a few snapshots of the association’s activities.

As APHL continues to make real-world impacts for our members and public health community, we are grateful for the continuing support of our members and federal partners—including our federal partners—including but not limited to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the US Food and Drug Administration, the Health Resources and Services Administration and the US Environmental Protection Agency—and all of our public and private collaborators.
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BY THE NUMBERS

As a member-driven organization, APHL relies on its member laboratories—as well as the people within them—to advance the mission of public health domestically and globally. In turn, APHL stands in solidarity with our members to provide them what they need to satisfy the public health mission. APHL’s membership has grown in the past year.

929 State, local and Public Health Associate Institutional (PHAI) member associates.

236 Individual, retired, emeritus and honorary members.

228 Student and fellow member.

134 State, local and PHAI member laboratories.

355 Fellows or interns who are hosted by APHL member public health laboratories.

208 Fellows or interns who received mentorship from APHL member-laboratories.

101 APHL member-laboratories who stepped in to provide mentorship to a fellow or intern.

59 Member public health laboratories that have participated in the Career Pathways Program by hosting at least one fellow or intern.

APHL and its member laboratories have consistently been at the forefront of laboratory science, positioned to quickly identify and respond to new public health threats. Drawing on this tradition of innovation, many groups are leveraging new techniques and technologies to expand the reach and influence of public health laboratory science. From sequencing in newborn screening to new wastewater surveillance collaborations to overdose surveillance, the association is empowering change.

The COVID-19 pandemic challenged the US public health system in new ways, underscoring the critical roles of timely and reliable data for decision making, resilient supply chains, a strong workforce and support for flexible testing and diagnostic options. Above all, the experiences of the last few years have exposed the vital importance of coordination across multiple sectors, from local to national levels and among healthcare facilities, public health laboratories, state and local governments, manufacturers and federal agencies. APHL, in collaboration with federal partners, is guiding early conversations about what an effective national laboratory system could look like.

Public health outcomes rely on rapid, accurate data exchange. Building off APHL’s established expertise in connecting public health laboratories with a broader national and global public health ecosystem and fueled by federal support such as the Data Modernization Initiative, these efforts are facilitating the flow of data and specialized expertise between jurisdictions and even around the world.

As public health laboratories emerged from the pandemic, APHL leaders engaged the membership to come together and define what they want and need as a community. At the end of several months of discussion, APHL adopted four core values to guide its own work and those of its member organizations. These values served to further anchor the unprecedented expansion of workforce development efforts, now in its fourth year.

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**INTRODUCTION**