

# ITEM #XX: AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE OF UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN DIEGO GRANT FUNDING FOR FORECASTING AND OUTBREAK ANALYSIS

Heidi Aiem, Chief, Agency Operations

Epidemiology & Immunization Services Branch

Public Health Services

October 3, 2023



# EPIDEMIOLOGY & IMMUNIZATION SERVICES BRANCH

## Epidemiology Unit

Communicable disease surveillance, investigation, outbreak response, 24/7 operations, and more

## Immunization Unit

Health promotion, prevention, vaccination services, community vaccine response and epidemiology and evaluation, and more

## Public Health Lab

Laboratory services, testing, genomic sequencing, water testing, and more

## Vital Records Unit

Registration and issuance of birth and death certificates, and medical marijuana ID cards



# CONTEXT & OPPORTUNITY

- The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the importance of timely evidence for decision-making during outbreak responses
- Disease modeling and forecasting within the U.S. public health system has not been broadly resourced and systematically operationalized
- Existing modeling and analytic approaches often rely on data sources that aren't fully representative of the entire population and may not include groups that experience higher risk.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has made a grant funding opportunity available for a limited number of locations across the United States.



# GRANT FUNDING FOR FORECASTING AND OUTBREAK ANALYSIS

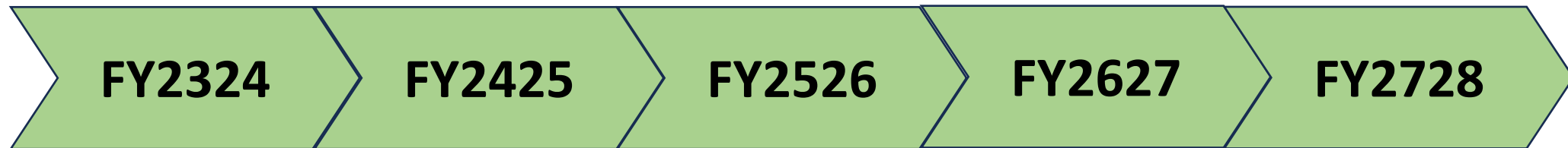
- **Funding Source:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- **Funding Amount:** \$17.5 million
- **Primary Lead:** UCSD
- **Partnering Organizations:**
  - **County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency**
  - UCLA, UCSF, and UC Riverside
  - Los Alamos National Laboratory
  - University of Washington



# GRANT FUNDING FOR FORECASTING AND OUTBREAK ANALYSIS

## County of San Diego Health & Human Services Agency

- County would be subrecipient and receive the funds as a subrecipient award
- \$1.4 million total
- Approximately \$300,000 per year
- Grant period September 29,2023 through September 30,2028
- Funding to support Epidemiology staff associated with this grant



# FORECASTING AND OUTBREAK ANALYTICS

- **Grant Goal:** Improve preparedness for and response to infectious disease outbreaks through data, modeling, and analytics
- **Funding will support:**
  - Disease outbreak response capabilities
  - Communities to identify public health threats
  - Decision makers during public health emergencies



# PROJECT ACTIVITIES

**Implement** new analytical tools and enhance existing tools useful for public health emergencies

**Test** existing technology and find new ways to support modeling and outbreak analytics

**Develop and validate** models and outbreak analytics specific to a disease

**Leverage various data sources** useful for the development and enhancement of outbreak analytics

**Identify information needs** of policy makers related to disease modeling, forecasting and outbreak analytics

**Provide training** to public health professionals in disease modeling, forecasting and outbreak analytics



# HEALTH EQUITY & SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

**Leveraging data sources that represent those at highest risk of illness**

**Forecasting methods and adaptive modeling and to ensure all groups are represented**

**Testing and validation of forecasting across all age groups, geography, race/ethnic groups, and for persons experiencing homelessness**





# BUILDING ON PREVIOUS WORK

- Previous forecasting and modeling work:
  - Hepatitis A Outbreak
  - COVID-19
  - Mpox
- Will leverage a coalition of experts
- Enable expanded capacity for future disease response



# TODAY'S REQUEST

1. Authorize the approval and acceptance of \$1,423,227 in funds from the University of California San Diego for the period of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2028, for the Centers for Outbreak Analytics and Disease Modeling grant.
2. Authorize the Agency Director or designee, Health and Human Services Agency to pursue future funding opportunities.



# THANK YOU

