

Living in a rural community, I see the day to day efforts of our county public health department managing the many aspects of COVID-19 in our local communities. Public health has been underfunded for many years and now when their services for communication, health services, emergency management, organization of volunteers, WIC and other critical services for community members are being critically challenged. Staff are working hard to maintain critical services and reach out to collaborate with other community organizations to address the health and safety needs of many diverse populations in our area. Please keep our public health departments at the top of the priority list for supporting rural citizens with managing COVID-19. Often these services are the most critical for our low income and vulnerable populations.

Thank you,
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