



# Health Department FY 2024 Proposed Budget Health Officer

Presented to the  
Board of County Commissioners

Multnomah County  
May 23, 2023

Located at: [www.multco.us/budget](http://www.multco.us/budget)

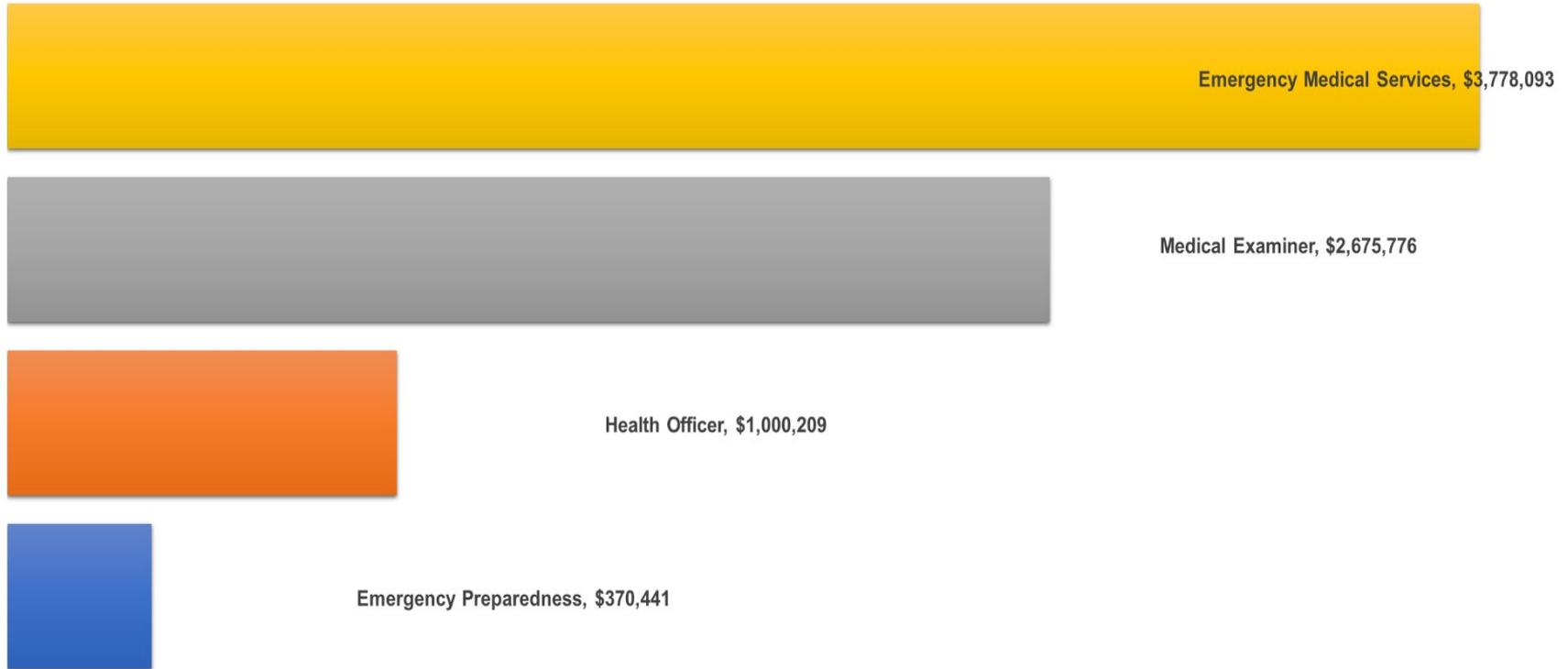
# Agenda

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- Introduction
- Division Budget Overview
- Program Budget Overview
- Service Trends or Program Highlights
- General Fund Reductions
- New, One-Time-Only, & Backfill General Fund
- Reallocations
- State/Federal Impacts or Other Policy Issues
- COVID-19 and American Rescue Plan Programs
  - FY 2023 Update and FY 2024 Budget
- Questions



# Health Officer: Budget by Program Area



# Health Officer: Budget by Program Area

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- Emergency Medical Services
  - Coordinate, administer, regulate and provide medical direction to the County's EMS system.
  - TC911 a regional program that performs intensive case management with frequent utilizers of the 911 system.
- Medical Examiner
  - The County's Death Investigation Team
- Health Officer
  - The County's public health physicians
- Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response
  - Plan, and coordinate public health emergency responses



# Critical Support for Vulnerable Populations

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TC911

Data integrity

Death investigations



# Medical Examiner

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- The Medical Examiner team serves a Public Safety function that intersects with behavioral health, and homeless services
- Medicolegal Death Investigators (MDI's) are our front line Public Safety team that investigate all suspicious and unnatural deaths in the County, accurately reporting the cause of death
  - MDI's investigate deaths related to substance use, help identify what substances are causing those deaths.
  - Work includes: domicile unknown report, heat wave fatality report, suspected overdose surveillance, compilation of motor vehicle death statistics and pedestrian vs motor vehicle death data, suicide reporting
- County-wide public health strategies to reduce morbidity and mortality are directly informed by this team's investigation and documentation of causes of death.



# Medical Examiner

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## Medical Examiner Program cases over time

	<b>2019</b> Actual	<b>2020</b> Actual	<b>2021</b> Actual	<b>2022</b> Actual
# of deaths requiring investigation	2,348	2,631	3,108	3230
In-person scene response	744	1009	1175	1296
All deaths at home	1144	1300	1560	1565
% home deaths with scene response	68%	61%	62%	49%
Deputy Medical Examiner FTE	7.00	7.25	8.00	10.00



# State Medical Examiner Service Changes

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As of July 1, 2023, State Medical Examiner will no longer provide routine death certification

- New work for Multnomah County Health Officer Division:
  - Signing 1,200 death certificates per year, including 500 extensive medical record reviews
  - Hiring and training new staff to be certified in external exam performance in order to complete 600 external exams / year
- A NEW unbudgeted minimum cost of at least \$433,000 is expected
  - \$125K provided in the Proposed Budget
  - The remainder of funding is to be determined
- Potential additional charges for storage at ME facility - discussions underway



# Health Officer

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- Provides physician consultation, technical direction and leadership to support public health activities and clinical services in Multnomah County
- Works with deputy health officers for Multnomah, Clackamas and Washington counties to align public health activities in the greater Portland-metro area including:
  - communicable disease prevention
  - outbreak response
  - environmental health concerns
  - injury and chronic disease prevention
  - public health emergency preparedness
  - education on issues of public health significance
  - public health policy
  - on-call support 24/7/365 for urgent public health needs



# TC911 Program - A Critical Safety Net Program

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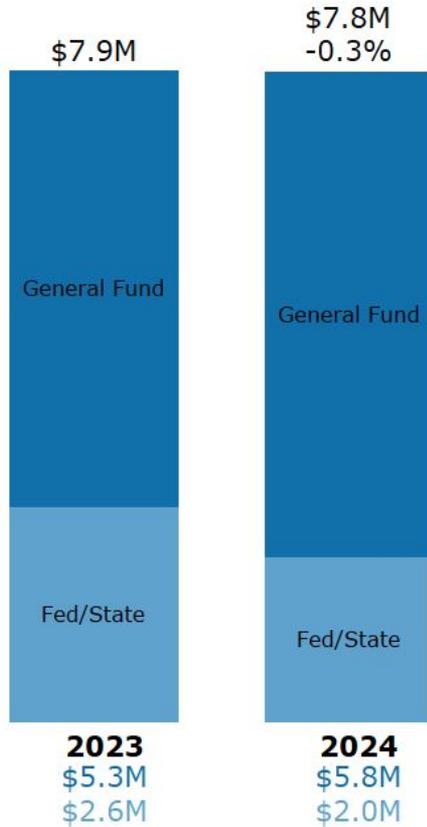
Primarily HealthShare funded program, supporting regional response to frequent 911 EMS users

- Coordination of many complex systems within the behavioral health, human services, public safety, homeless service and physical health and medical services realms
- Skilled licensed clinical social worker team provides short term, intensive case management to make meaningful connections and ultimately reduce the individuals' needs and use of 911



# Health Officer Program

Total Budget & Percent Change



FTE & Percent Change



General Fund  
Fed/State

General Fund  
Fed/State



# Health Officer: Significant Changes

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## New CGF investments:

- \$125K investment in State Medical Examiner death certificate changes

## Other funds reductions:

- \$600K Peer-driven Approach to Opioid Use Disorder Grant no longer managed by HO, no reduction in services (now managed by MCSO)





# **FY 2024 Proposed Budget**

## **Summary & Impacts**

# General Fund Additions

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Program Name/# or Description	FY 2024 General Fund	General Fund FTE
PO 40052B - Medical Examiner State Backfill	\$125,000	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$125,000</b>	<b>0.00</b>



# COVID-19 & American Rescue Plan Funding

Program	FY 2023 Adopted	FY 2024 Proposed	Variance
40199E ARP - COVID-19 Response Health Officer	\$205,848	\$0	(\$205,848)
40199O ARP - Health Data Exchange	\$400,000	\$0	(\$400,000)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$605,848</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>(\$605,848)</b>



# COVID-19 and ARP Update

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- In February of 2023 it was determined the Health Data Exchange (HDE) would not move forward
- A proposed \$400K ARPA investment in Hospital and Emergency Medical Services data systems sharing
- A number of hurdles were identified with existing electronic charting system changes, privacy and security of all system participants that need addressed prior to making this kind of long term investment that could not be resolved this year.



# Questions

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