cause adverse health effects, from respiratory ailments to vectorborne disease. Guidance from NCEH is critical. Recent studies by the NCEH include:

- Impacts of wildfire smoke on rural and semi-rural communities: This research demonstrated how such smoke affects health and approaches to mitigate these impacts.
- Extreme weather events: NCEH studied the aftereffects of hurricanes, tornadoes, and droughts on health. Their research gave state and local agencies direction on approaches to limit the adverse health impacts from these events.
- Heat events: The number of heat-related deaths in the U.S. is rising. NCEH collects county-level information on the expected number of days at or above a dangerous heat level for public health, which helps health departments take appropriate actions. During these heat waves, this information provides critical awareness and aids communities most impacted by extreme heat.
- Children's environmental health: Children are perhaps the most vulnerable of all populations. They take in most air, eat more for their size, and absorb more of their environments than adults. Changes in their environment cause adverse health effects that last their entire lives. The federal government through NCEH and other agencies provide the insight necessary for state and local agencies to respond to environmental health threats to children.
- Private drinking water: Up to 23 million household

NCEH performed all these services for \$229 million in FY 2024. For FY 2025, NCEH is requesting \$249 million, of which \$17 million comes from the Public Health Trust Fund.

On behalf of NEHA and state, local, tribal, and territorial environmental health agencies in general, please support this modest request to ensure communities in this country remain safe from environmental health threats.

If you have any questions, please contact our Director of Government Affairs Doug Farquhar at dfarquhar@neha.org.

In health,

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