2019 Legislative Priorities
Public health is essential.

**Foundational Public Health Services**

$100 million for Foundational Public Health Services.
- Public health has a critical and unique public safety role to protect and improve the health of families and communities.
- Without adequate funding, public health can’t keep up with growing demands.

Thank you for your $12 million investment in 2017-2018. Our $956,806 share allowed us to:
- Investigate more than 4,000 Pierce County patients exposed to hepatitis C.
- Increase STD investigation and treatment in response to rising disease rates.
- Expand childhood immunization efforts.
- Ensure medical providers have the most up-to-date, reliable health information.

**Potentially Preventable Hospitalizations**
*People get the right care. At the right place. At the right time.*

$2 million to reduce preventable hospitalizations in the districts with the highest rates in the state. Our strategies help people with chronic conditions and will:
- Increase immunization rates and screening referrals.
- Improve how the healthcare system works for patients.
- Implement innovative, collaborative models of care.

Thank you for your 2018 planning year investment of $670,000. With it, an unprecedented strike team of public health, healthcare systems and community partners are working together to:
- Increase the delivery strategies and number of influenza and pneumonia vaccines provided to those most at risk in the target communities.
- Develop a plan for screening in primary care settings for alcohol, drugs, tobacco and depression and referral for care.

**Help Me Grow**

$1 million annual request through year 4 of the Help Me Grow pilot to reduce child abuse and neglect.
- The pilot focuses on South Tacoma, East Lakewood and Parkland where child dependency filing rates are very high.
- We want to reduce the high numbers of child dependencies filed and drive down rates of low birth weight.

Thank you for your $250,000 investment. With it:
- Planning teams are designing a system to benefit Pierce County children and families.
- We are on track to launch the Help Me Grow pilot in summer 2019.

**Behavioral Health System Reform**

Support a comprehensive behavioral health system to:
- Reduce rates of substance use, anxiety, depression, child abuse and neglect and suicide.
- Use early intervention to solve issues that often begin small.
- Address issues that affect more people such as mild depression.
- Offer a universal intake system that is trauma-informed and promotes integrated care.

**Tobacco 21**

Raise the age to purchase tobacco products to 21.
- Tobacco-related illnesses and deaths are preventable.
- Future savings, such as reducing the estimated $1.8 billion in lost productivity annually from tobacco-related sickness, will offset short-term revenue losses.
- The Department of Defense is committed to reducing tobacco use because it hurts military recruiting and readiness and costs $1.6 billion annually.