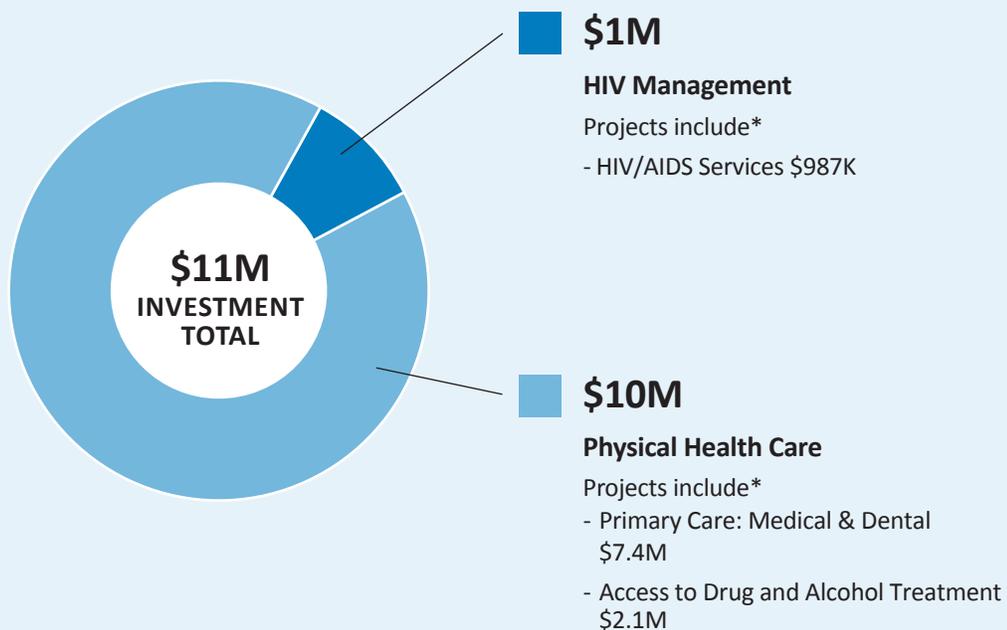


# Promoting Public Health



The Human Services Department invests additional dollars in public health in Seattle and King County to supplement basic services. These additional investments improve our communities, reduce health inequities, and maximize the lifespan of all Seattle residents by helping to ensure all residents have access to preventive care, primary care, specialty care, urgent care, and behavioral health services. The goal of these programs and services is that all people living in Seattle experience moderate to optimum health conditions.

## 2019 Budget



*\*Projects mentioned do not reflect all services funded for this impact area.*

## Seattle Access and Outreach

Access and outreach services promote health, self-sufficiency, and well-being by linking low-income residents to health insurance, the Basic Food program, ORCA LIFT, Energy Assistance, and other public benefits.

In addition to outreach staff who attend many community events, the program provides services at the Court Resource Center in the King County Jail to ensure that people are directed to needed services upon release.



### Health Insurance

**1,100 clients obtained publicly sponsored health insurance coverage and 475 low-income clients received other public benefits (e.g., utility, childcare, and food assistance).**



### Dental Services

**100,462 dental visits were provided to low-income and vulnerable populations in 2019**

## Medical and Dental Care

The City’s investments in public health work to ensure all low-income Seattle residents, whether they have health insurance or not, have access to primary care and behavioral health services. These investments also work to ensure that kids can get dental check-ups and dental sealant applications conveniently at their schools.

## Youth Behavioral Health

HSD invests in youth behavioral health through community-based organizations and through King County’s Department of Community and Human Services. Investments in youth behavioral health provide culturally appropriate outreach, engagement, and counseling to underserved youth and their families.



These investments change lives. “Thomas,” who struggled with “feeling lost” about his future, recognized how his marijuana and alcohol use impacted his life and his future options but was not sure where to go for help. After connecting with behavioral health services, he also got support with getting a job at a senior center. After working there for a couple of weeks, Thomas reported that getting a job gave him hope for the future and provided motivation to end his substance abuse. “I feel like my life is more on track. I’m doing better at school and getting along more with my family.”

*Photo by Tom Sodoge on Unsplash*