



AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION
For science. For action. For health.

ATSDR
AGENCY FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCES
AND DISEASE REGISTRY



A Five-part Webinar Series

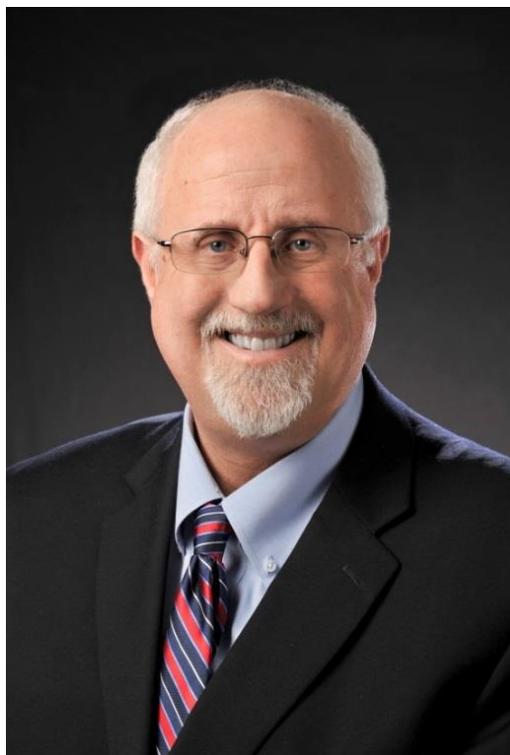
SAFEGUARDING COMMUNITIES FROM HARMFUL CHEMICALS

Welcome



Dr. Georges C. Benjamin, MD
Executive Director
American Public Health Association

Part I:
Introducing ATSDR



Dr. Patrick Breysse, PhD, CIH

Director

National Center for Environmental Health

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The Beginning of ATSDR



Love Canal Started It All

“I visited the canal area at that time. corroding waste-disposal drums could be seen breaking up through the grounds of backyards. Trees and gardens were turning black and dying. One entire swimming pool had been popped up from its foundation, afloat now on a small sea of chemicals....Everywhere the air had faint, choking smell. Children returned from play with burns on their hands and faces.”

-Eckardt C Beck
EPA Regional Administrator

CERCLA Legislation—aka Superfund Law

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

Gave EPA responsibility for identifying, investigating and cleaning up hazardous waste sites

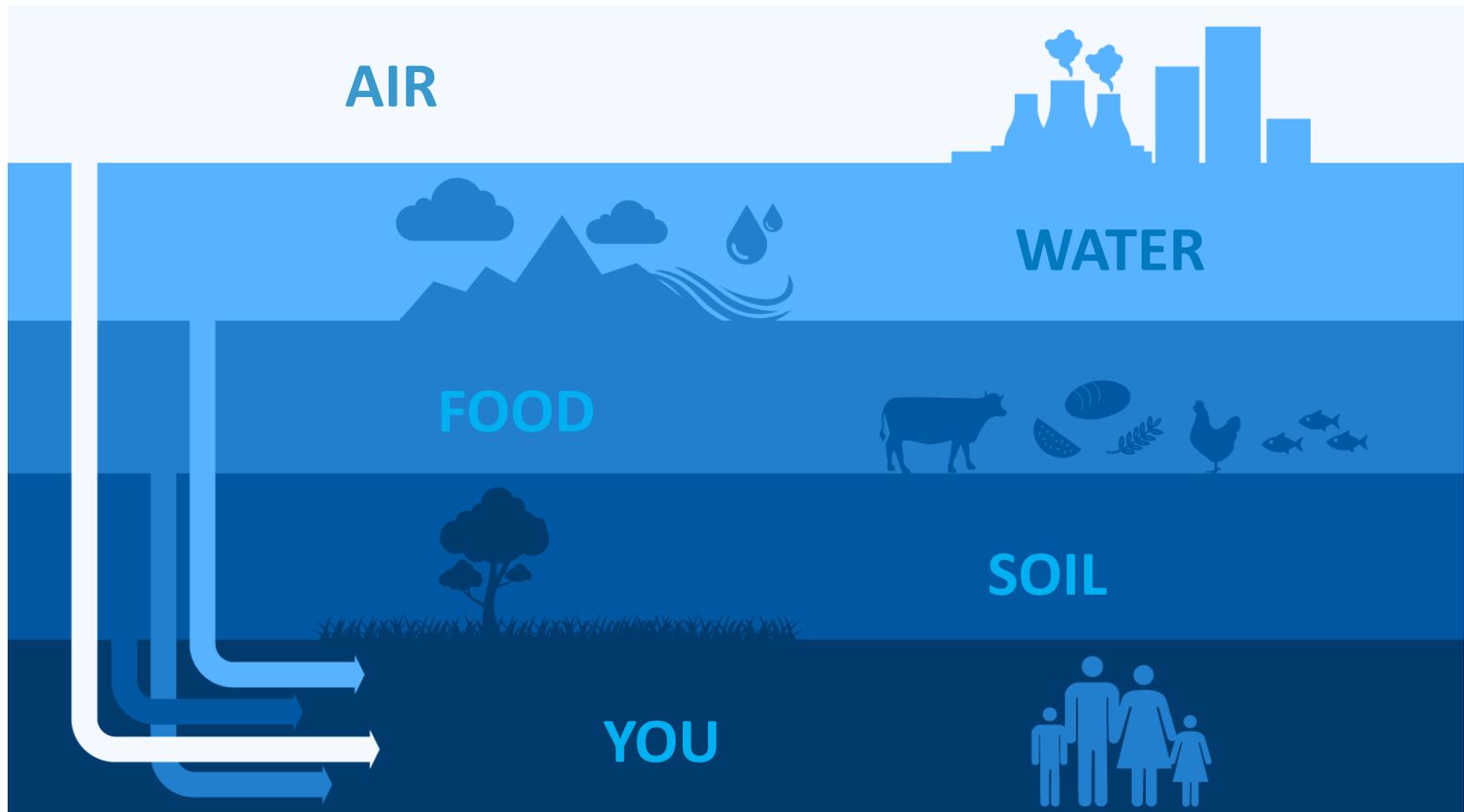
Created the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) to:

- Perform public health assessments at hazardous waste sites
- Develop toxicological profiles on harmful substances
- Conduct epidemiological health studies
- Maintain registries of exposed persons and conduct medical surveillance

Serving Americans, Community by Community ATSDR's 30 Year History

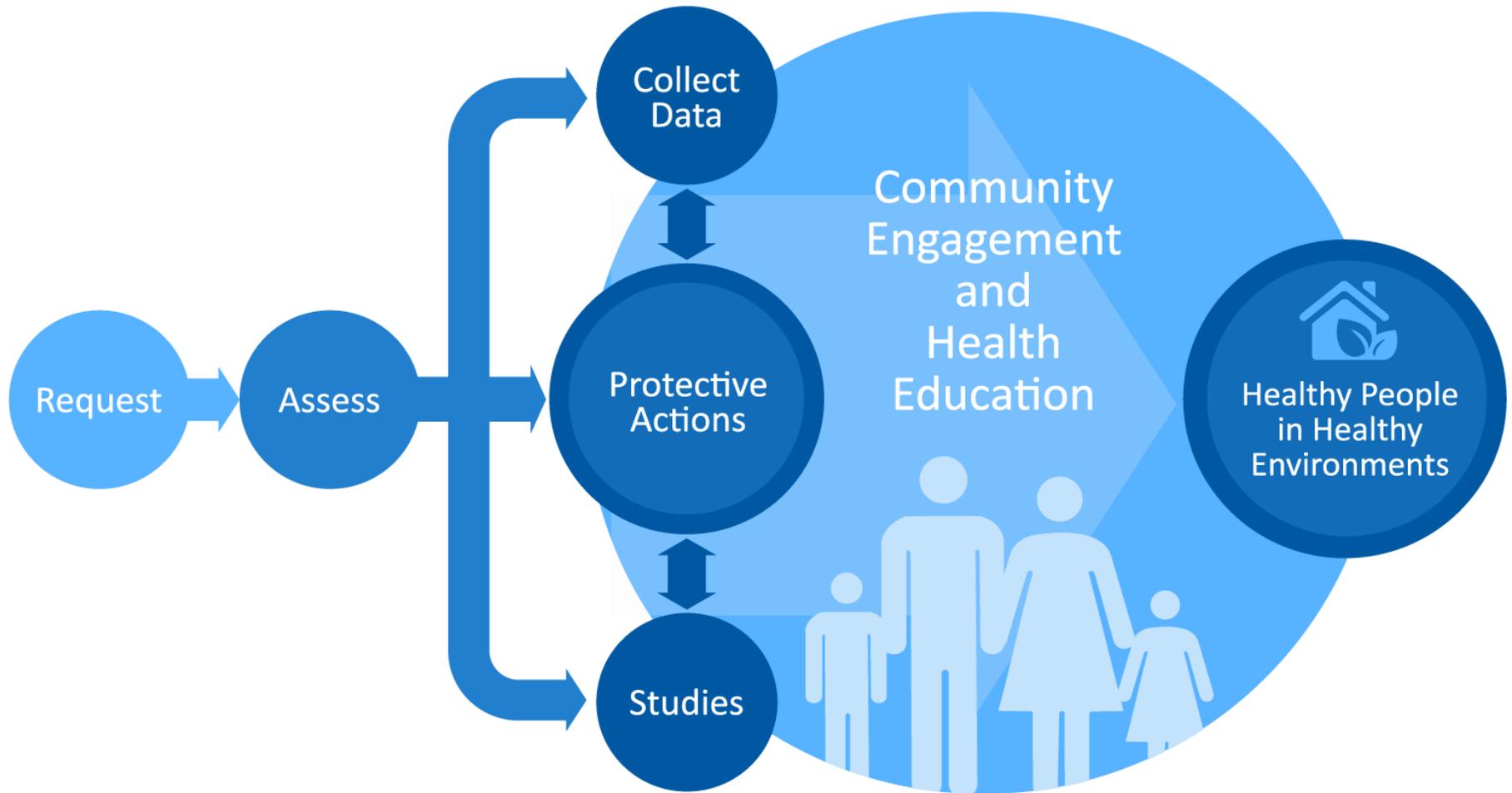


ATSDR's Core Work in Communities: Understanding Exposures



CDPH Environmental Health Investigations Branch http://www.ehib.org/faq.jsp?faq_key=94

Protecting Communities



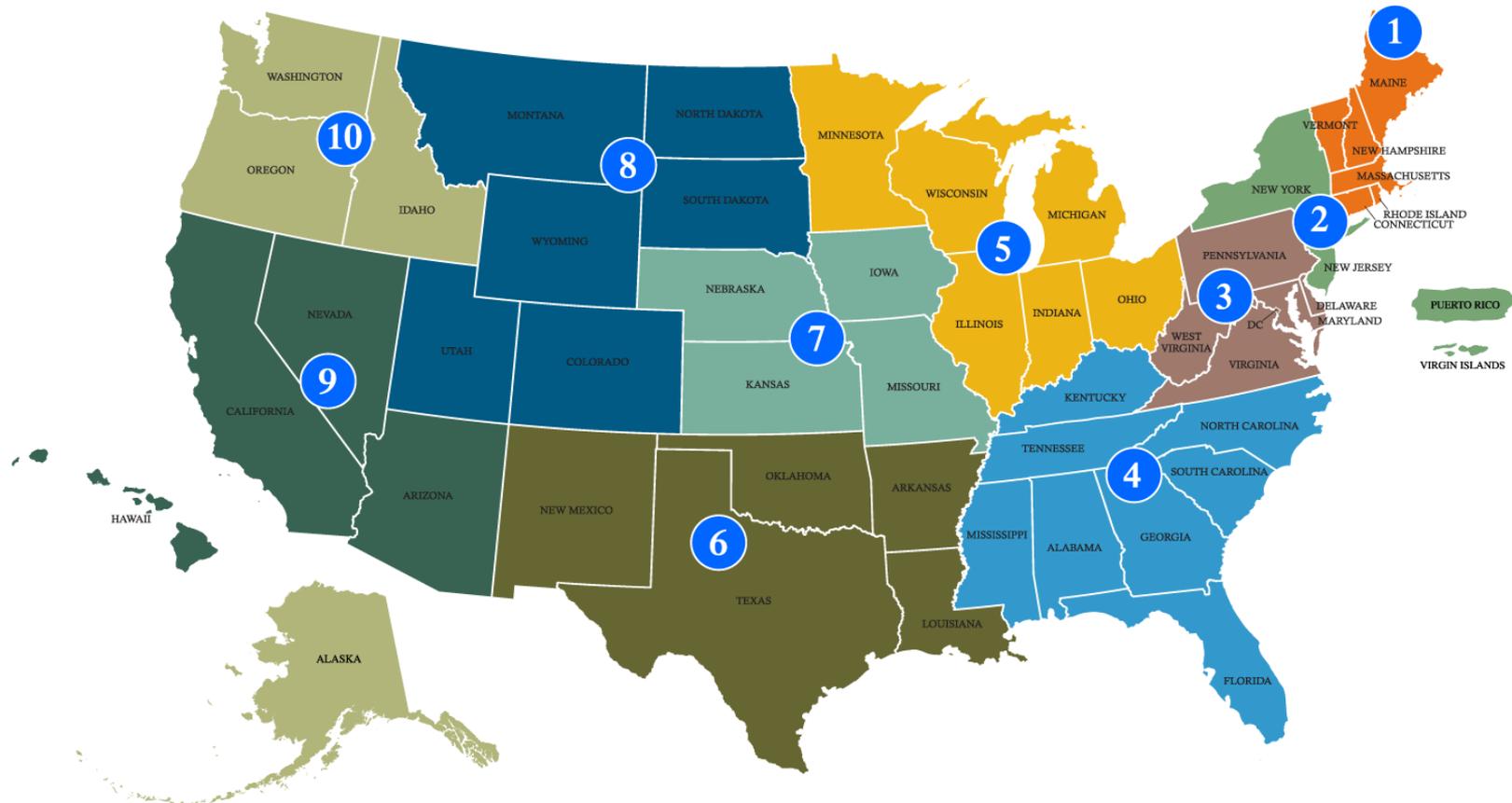
Protecting Communities: What it takes



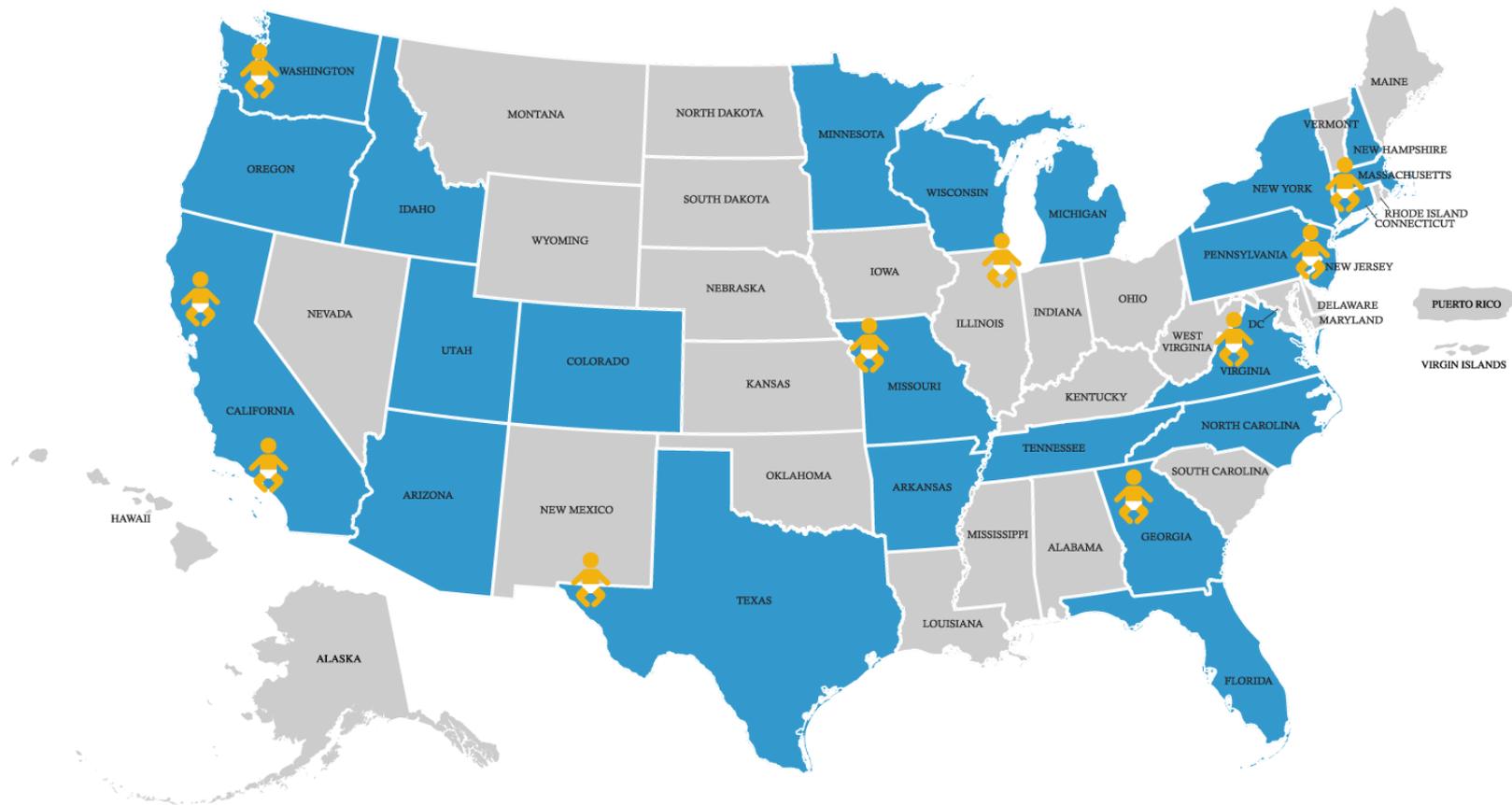
Extensive Staff Expertise:

- Toxicology
- Environmental Science
- Environmental Medicine
- Health Education and Community Engagement
- Public Health
- Physical Science and Engineering (radiation, hydrology, modeling, etc.)
- Epidemiology

The Ten EPA Regions



Protecting Communities: What it takes



States Funded by Cooperative Agreement



Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Units (PEHSUs)