

Making an Impact

THE CDC FOUNDATION RESPONDS TO COVID-19

Response Update 23
May 28, 2021

This issue represents the twenty-third of the CDC Foundation's COVID-19 response updates, highlighting the work the Foundation is doing through donor support to extend CDC's emergency response. We thank our donors for their incredible generosity and support that is saving and protecting lives as part of the COVID-19 pandemic response.

Update: Globally, more than 168.6 million confirmed cases of coronavirus disease have been reported, including approximately 3.5 million deaths. In the United States, there have been more than 33 million confirmed cases and more than 592,000 deaths.

CDC Update: As of May 27, 2021, more than 165 million people in the United States have received their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. Of those, 131.8 million have received both doses and are fully vaccinated. Learn more from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) COVID Data Tracker](#).

More than 60 percent of American adults have received their first COVID-19 vaccine. COVID-19 cases, deaths, and hospitalizations are down, and vaccinations continue to climb. As summer begins, CDC is asking everyone to consider how COVID-19 is spreading in your community when making plans and choosing activities. More information can be found in the [CDC COVID Data Tracker Weekly Review](#).

What the CDC Foundation is doing: To date, individuals, philanthropies, organizations, corporations and government funders have committed \$297 million for the CDC Foundation's COVID-19 response, and we have deployed those funds in over 89 states, territories and countries.

The CDC Foundation continues to feature stories about the impact that is being generated by our donors. [You can read about this critical work in action](#)—from support for the homeless during COVID-19 through the use of sanitation stations, to providing technical assistance to community-based organizations, to helping American Samoans return home during the pandemic and more.

Today, challenges remain in reaching more adults with the COVID-19 vaccine and, now, adolescents over the age of 12. States are considering a variety of incentives. An event in Alabama this past month offered a creative incentive—[the opportunity to drive the famed Talladega Superspeedway](#) for those receiving a vaccine or test. Partners for the event, entitled The Race to End COVID, included the Alabama Department of Public Health, Talladega Superspeedway, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Alabama National Guard, eTrueNorth and the CDC Foundation.

Our President and CEO Dr. Judy Monroe participated in an informative and engaging conversation with CDC Director Dr. Rochelle P. Walensky for the 2021 edition of [Aspen Ideas Health](#) in late April. Their conversation focused on looking over the horizon beyond the post-COVID-19 pandemic and examining how to collectively meet the public health challenges of the future.

Today, COVID-19 continues to infect and take lives in the United States and across the globe. We need the help of our donors now more than ever to continue to fight the coronavirus pandemic and save lives. [Please join with us to Crush COVID at give4cdcf.org](#).

Supporting the Work to Save and Protect Lives:

Through the support of our donors, our team has addressed a variety of needs as part of our response efforts since the last update. These highlights include:

- Conducting a cohort study among healthcare personnel in two hospitals in Manuas, Brazil, to understand the infection rate, re-infection rate and risk factors related to the COVID P.1 variant and improve the understanding and response to it among healthcare workers in Brazil.
- Engaging key immigrant populations through the Nationalities Services Center in greater Philadelphia to address vaccine hesitancy; develop and disseminate key messages about vaccines; and facilitate access through a scheduling phone line.
- Supporting the expansion of the National Acts of Love campaign with the National Indian Health Board, which aims to depoliticize the public health efforts around COVID-19. This includes social marketing to stress that wearing a mask, washing hands, and maintaining appropriate physical distance are all acts of love.
- Working with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Equity Alliance to increase vaccination rates, improve vaccine knowledge, and decrease vaccine hesitancy in specific communities. This includes creating and sharing accurate, culturally-appropriate information and developing strategic partnerships to support community outreach and vaccinations.
- Partnering with Google to help community-based organizations in promoting vaccine education and equitable distribution. This includes promoting organizations' messaging through search ads.
- Partnering with the Puerto Rico Department of Health by providing laboratory reagents that will allow for an island-wide SARS-CoV-2 Genomic Surveillance program.
- Working with the Houston Health Foundation (HHF) to use zip code-level wastewater monitoring to inform the COVID-19 vaccine rollout and monitor for herd immunity. This program aims to mitigate vaccine-related inequities by identifying communities at high risk and/or experiencing significant community spread and then providing the COVID-19 vaccine to these areas by zip code.

For a broader look at our response efforts since January 2020, please visit:

bit.ly/CDCFimpact