

Making an Impact

THE CDC FOUNDATION RESPONDS TO COVID-19

Response Update 27
September 24, 2021

This issue represents the twenty-seventh 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 230.9 million confirmed cases of COVID-19 have been reported, including approximately 4.7 million deaths. In the United States, there have been more than 42.7 million confirmed cases and more than 685,000 deaths.

CDC Update: As of September 24, 2021, more than 212.8 million people in the United States have received their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. Of those, 182.9 million are fully vaccinated. Learn more from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) COVID Data Tracker](#).

Last week, the Biden-Harris Administration announced a \$2.1 billion investment to improve infection prevention and control activities across the U.S. public health and healthcare sectors. The administration, working through CDC, is investing American Rescue Plan funding to strengthen and equip state, local and territorial health departments and other partners with the resources needed to better fight infections, including COVID-19 and other known and emerging infectious diseases, in U.S. healthcare facilities.

What the CDC Foundation is doing: To date, individuals, philanthropies, organizations, corporations and government funders have committed \$524.1 million for the CDC Foundation's COVID-19 response, and the Foundation has deployed those funds in 93 U.S. states and territories and other countries.

As the United States has withdrawn from Afghanistan and evacuees have left the country, the CDC Foundation is requesting urgent support for its Emergency Response Fund to meet the immediate public health needs of those individuals and families coming to America. Among the most pressing needs is connecting the evacuees with public health networks to facilitate communication about COVID-19 testing and follow-up vaccinations and serve as a connection point for other essential health and resettlement services. [Learn more about the latest updates in this blog.](#)

Communities around the country began another school year during the COVID-19 pandemic, and parents, teachers, school staff and administrators have been working to ensure safe and productive learning environments for all students. Earlier this month, the CDC Foundation was pleased to sponsor the ["Back to Class" Virtual Town Hall](#), which was hosted by the National PTA and featured opening remarks by First Lady Dr. Jill Biden. Throughout the discussion, speakers shared guidance for students and schools and practical resources for parents and teachers.

With the Delta variant accelerating COVID-19 cases and deaths, we're at a critical point in the pandemic, but together we have the power to Crush COVID. Unite with the CDC Foundation to make a difference now. [Please join with us to crush COVID at give.cdcfoundation.org/SOS.](#)

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:

- Partnering with Food & Society at the Aspen Institute to create the **Food Worker COVID-19 Health Safety Toolkit** for frontline food industry workers who continue to work while facing the COVID-19 pandemic daily. This toolkit is being adapted into two new online trainings: one for food-service professionals in the restaurant and hospitality industry and the other for public-health professionals providing sector-specific guidance within their localities.
- Working with CDC and the Department of Homeland Security to **provide cell phones to Afghan evacuees** coming to the U.S. This is a critical tool for contact tracing and alerting evacuees about health threats—not only COVID-19, but also common infectious diseases like measles, mumps, chicken pox and tuberculosis. To date, the Foundation has purchased 10,000 phones and initial service that have been provided to evacuees.
- Partnering with The National Center for Farmworker Health to work with regional agriculture trade associations to **help ensure vaccine access for seasonal and migratory farmworkers**. This includes identifying at least two agricultural employer associations and two community-based organizations in their areas and supporting their COVID-19 vaccine clinics.
- Working with Oklahoma Tribal Engagement Partners and CDC to create **Community Protectors, a story and coloring book for children** that teaches ways they can stay safe and help protect their communities from COVID-19. The book conveys culturally relevant and science-based messages for American Indian and Alaska Native children and educators. To date, over 95,000 copies of the coloring book have been shipped to tribal serving organizations across the country.

For a broader look at our response efforts since January 2020, please visit:
bit.ly/CDCImpact