

# Making an Impact

THE CDC FOUNDATION RESPONDS TO COVID-19

Response Update 31  
January 21, 2022

*This issue represents the thirty-first 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 343.1 million confirmed cases of COVID-19 have been reported, including approximately 5.6 million deaths. In the United States, there have been more than 69.3 million confirmed cases and more than 860,000 deaths.

**CDC Update:** As of January 20, 2022, more than 250 million people in the United States have received their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. Of those, 209.8 million are fully vaccinated. Learn more from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) COVID Data Tracker](#).

The Omicron variant spreads more easily than the original virus that causes COVID-19, and the United States is experiencing a surge in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations. CDC recommends that everyone take actions to stop Omicron by using all the tools to protect yourself and others, including wearing well-fitting masks, getting vaccinated and boosted.

**What the CDC Foundation is doing:** To date, individuals, philanthropies, organizations, corporations and government funders have committed \$561.5 million for the CDC Foundation's COVID-19 response, and the Foundation has deployed those funds in over 95 U.S. states and territories and other countries.

While the public health community has worked tirelessly to take on COVID-19, the pandemic has exposed critical weaknesses in our public health system. With this in mind, the CDC Foundation is convening with co-hosts and partners [a national summit series](#) to advance actions for a modernized U.S. public health system. Earlier this month, the Foundation released [a Contagious Conversations podcast episode](#) with Anand Parekh, MD, one of the speakers at the first summit in December. Dr. Parekh's discussion builds on the critical topic of achieving a diverse and robust public health workforce. Dr. Parekh also discusses the importance of prevention in America's public health strategy.

The second Lights, Camera, Action summit takes place on January 25 and is focused on creating an interoperable and modern data and technology infrastructure. Learn more and register at [futureofpublichealth.org](#).

With COVID-19 cases surging to record highs across the United States, building public confidence in vaccines is more critical than ever. However, widespread misinformation about vaccines has fueled distrust and hesitation in many of the country's communities at greatest risk. Organizations must find new ways to cut through skepticism and communicate information about the safety and effectiveness of vaccination. That is why the CDC Foundation is collaborating with the National Endowment for the Arts to support organizations across the country that are engaging the arts to build vaccine confidence

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 Clean the World Foundation to **increase access to hygiene for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness** in several states.
- Expanding a project to identify the needs and **mitigate the barriers encountered by respite care programs operating during COVID-19**, focusing on issues related to insufficient or inadequate space and insufficient staffing for the unique needs of medical respite care patients.
- Generating data on **concentrations of SARS-CoV-2 in wastewater settled solids** in Davis, CA, led by Stanford University, and providing this information to inform the COVID-19 pandemic response.
- Supporting the **third phase of mass communications for the Healthy Davis Together Project** and continuing implementation of COVID-19 focus areas to accelerate recovery across the community of Davis, CA, inclusive of the University of California Davis campus community.
- Expanding Project REFOCUS (Racial Ethnic Framing of Community-informed and Unifying Surveillance) to **pilot a Crisis Stigma Monitoring and Response System** to better understand communities disproportionately impacted by COVID and to ensure an effective local-level response.
- **Providing personal protective equipment (PPE)** to the Rocky Mountain Tribal Leader's Council, which serves 10 tribes on eight reservations in Montana and Wyoming, with a total American Indian population at more than 75,000 people.

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

[bit.ly/CDCFimpact](https://bit.ly/CDCFimpact)