



# WE'RE ALL CONNECTED

## A CELEBRATION OF OUR PARTNERS • IMPACT 2021



**JUDY MONROE, MD**  
PRESIDENT AND CEO, CDC FOUNDATION

**“COVID-19 has provided us a vivid reminder that we are all connected. Everyone—no matter who you are—has been impacted. Because of your commitment, we are having real impact at the local, state, national and global level.”**

Over the past year, the United States and our world continued to face unprecedented challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic. With your support, we were able to have tremendous impact. And together with you, we have been a part of the greatest public health collaboration in history. Healthcare workers, public health experts, researchers, businesses, schools, community organizations and so many others worked together in new ways. In this report, you will learn more about these collaborations and see your contribution in action—highlights of programs across the globe and our critical COVID-19 emergency response work. The information shared in this report includes data from the CDC Foundation’s fiscal year, July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021.

### YEAR IN REVIEW



**\$463M +**

\$463,358,468: Contributions from donors and partners to help CDC save and improve more lives. This includes \$317M for the COVID-19 response.



**203**

Emergency response projects, including COVID-19 response



**165**

Countries impacted through CDC Foundation programs made possible by our donors



**\$1.6B +**

Raised by the CDC Foundation to support 1,245 programs since 1995



**136 domestic and 83 global**

Programs with CDC and public health partners



**21,036**

Partnerships—individuals, philanthropies, corporations and organizations—working together to make an impact



**243**

Community-based organizations funded in 46 states



“When the pandemic started, it seemed more urgent than ever that public health take center stage and that a large portion of my charitable donations should go to an organization that was integral to fighting for the health of everyone nationwide and worldwide. Vanguard Charitable recommended the CDC Foundation, and I was honored to participate in a virtual meeting with the Foundation’s top leaders. All that I have read and heard has moved me to donate more and more.”

**Samantha Garbus**

Samantha provided unrestricted support to the CDC Foundation through gifts from a donor advised fund.

## HIGHLIGHTS

### RESPONDING TO COVID-19



#### Championing and Supporting Frontline Health Heroes

Our donors have enabled the CDC Foundation to assist organizations across the country that support essential workers, making a difference every day in the lives of others. As a result, the CDC Foundation received WebMD’s 2021 Frontline Champions Health Heroes award, which recognizes inspiring individuals meeting healthcare challenges and giving back to their communities. WebMD specifically recognized five organizations the CDC Foundation supported: Atlanta Fire Rescue Foundation, Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders Council, South Forsyth High School, Imperial Valley Wellness Foundation and Paterson Department of Health and Human Services. Through the generous support of individual and organizational donors, the CDC Foundation managed 177 COVID-19 projects in fiscal year 2021. This included providing 139,900 care kits to schools, jails, first responders and people experiencing homelessness, as well as 922,000 pieces of personal protective equipment (PPE). In total, over 8 million pieces of PPE were provided to frontline workers, nonprofits and others in need throughout the COVID-19 response.



Photo: J Glenn Photography for Atlanta Fire Rescue Foundation

### SUPPORTING PUBLIC HEALTH IN THE U.S.



#### Fighting Heart Disease with Communication

Million Hearts® is a national initiative co-led by CDC and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to prevent one million heart attacks, strokes and cardiovascular events. Its work with the CDC Foundation is to provide health communication campaigns that help adults in the United States take steps to protect their heart health. The CDC Foundation also convenes the Alliance for the Million Hearts® Campaigns, which in 2021 launched the first in a series of national, prevention-focused communication campaigns. The “Start Small. Live Big.” campaign encourages adults to begin with small steps so they can get back to living big. The campaign featured public service announcements, social media ads, influencer promotions and employee communications across the CDC Foundation, CDC and partner channels. This initiative is supported by the Bayer Corporation and Amgen, Inc.



#### Fighting the Opioid Epidemic

Since the start of the epidemic in 1999, one million Americans have lost their lives to opioid overdose. With support from Bloomberg Philanthropies, CDC and the CDC Foundation developed the Public Health and Safety Team (PHAST) Toolkit to help states and local jurisdictions prevent overdose deaths by supporting data sharing and coordinated overdose prevention between public health and public safety agencies. While public safety agencies hold real-time data on overdoses, arrests and emerging drug threats, public health agencies bring a data-driven approach to investigating and responding to public health crises. The PHAST Toolkit helps bridge knowledge, data and service gaps by creating opportunities for collaboration and shared accountability. The PHAST Toolkit was piloted by the CDC Foundation in three jurisdictions and will be released alongside an associated website with e-learning modules in 2022.



“At Change Healthcare, we invest in opportunities to build a sustainable healthcare system for everyone. During COVID-19, we have accelerated our delivery of innovative solutions that improve citizens’ healthcare journey, especially for the underserved. We believe supporting the CDC Foundation helps create healthier communities with more equitable access to healthcare services.”

**Neil de Crescenzo**

Change Healthcare supported the CDC Foundation through a gift to the Annual Alliance, which provides corporations, foundations and organizations an opportunity to provide unrestricted support for CDC’s critical work.

## RESPONDING TO COVID-19



### Keeping Schools Healthy and Safe

The CDC Foundation, in partnership with CDC, launched a project to help determine which COVID-19 prevention strategies are being used in schools across the country and the impact of COVID-19 on the social, emotional, academic and mental health of the school community. Based on data collected from thousands of respondents, the study showed that 27 percent of teachers reported symptoms consistent with clinical depression, and a further 37 percent reported symptoms consistent with general anxiety. The study also found that 90 percent of students and teachers reported wearing masks at school, and 83 percent of teachers reported that their schools had a policy for implementing physical distancing. The project—supported by individual and organizational contributions to the CDC Foundation’s COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund—has provided decision-makers with timely, actionable data they can use to keep schools safe.



Sara Lowther, PhD, MPH

## SUPPORTING PUBLIC HEALTH GLOBALLY



### Achieving Better Outcomes for Newborns

Countries affected by humanitarian crises often lack accurate public health data about maternal and child health, especially due to population movements driven by refugee and internally displaced populations. In response to this global public health challenge, the CDC Foundation and CDC have partnered with ministries of health, humanitarian organizations and other partners in Cameroon, Chad and Burkina Faso to strengthen the availability of data on maternal, perinatal and neonatal deaths in humanitarian settings; develop a model for better understanding the challenges to achieving good maternal and newborn health outcomes in these settings; and use data for evidence-based decision making. This innovative pilot, supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, will give ministries of health the tools they need to accelerate progress to end preventable maternal and neonatal mortality.



### Support for Future Public Health Leaders Across the Globe

The COVID-19 pandemic has spotlighted the importance of infectious disease prevention and training future public health leaders. Both causes were important to Sara Lowther, acting lead of the Epidemiology Technical Support Unit for the Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP) team at CDC. In 2020, to honor her legacy, Sara’s friends and colleagues partnered with the CDC Foundation to establish the Sara Lowther FETP Memorial Fund, which provides financial support for an FETP fellow to conduct a project that makes significant contributions to infectious disease prevention and control in their country. Jessica Yun, the first awardee, has been working on a project evaluating CoughWatchSA, a South African digital participatory system that allows people to self-report symptoms for acute respiratory tract infection. Alpana Majumder, the 2022 awardee, will work on a project to assess infection prevention and control practices in health care facilities in Bangladesh.

“Paying one’s blessings forward is a hallmark of a life well lived. Our support of the CDC Foundation has allowed a material gift to be translated into real time, meaningful and impacting differences in the lives of our fellow human beings. Now that is a blessing!”

**Rob and Joan Blackman**

Rob and Joan Blackman provided unrestricted support to the CDC Foundation through gifts from their family foundation.

## **Bringing Clean Water to Rural Alaska**

With more than 3,000 homes in rural Alaska lacking piped water systems, sanitation remains a serious health challenge. To address this need, in coordination with CDC, the CDC Foundation approached the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC), a nonprofit agency with deep ties to Alaska Native and American Indian communities across the state. ANTHC developed the Mini Portable Alternative Sanitation System (PASS), a system comprised of a handwashing station and ventilated toilet, and coordinated with tribal regional health associations and community elders to identify communities and residents most in need. Through the generosity of a private CDC Foundation donor, ANTHC was able to install 100 Mini-PASS units within six months, and additional



installs will take place in 2022. Funding also enabled the hiring of an individual in each selected community to support unit recipients and troubleshoot any issues.

## **Healthier Communities Through Inclusivity**

Racial and ethnic minority groups have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19, but efforts to advance health equity have been hindered by inconsistency and under-reporting of data. To address these gaps, the CDC Foundation and the Satcher Health Leadership Institute at Morehouse School of Medicine created a Health Equity Task Force to monitor and assess the impact of COVID-19 on vulnerable populations. With input from the task force, the Satcher Health Leadership Institute designed the Health Equity Tracker, a website of summary data to shed light on health disparities at the individual, county, state and national levels. Comprised of data drawn from a variety of publicly available sources, the tracker both consolidates disparate health data on COVID-19 and allows users to access that data on a granular level. The Satcher Health Leadership Institute continues to work closely with the Health Equity Task Force to grow the scale and influence of the tracker. This project was supported by individual and organizational donors to the CDC Foundation’s COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund.

## **COVID-19 reminds us that we are all connected.**

The pandemic brought new meaning to public health, and our hope is that the experience we have all lived through over the last two years will lead to a better understanding of public health—change the way people think about public health and how it affects our daily lives. Our goal is to continue to turn all of the hard-won lessons of the pandemic into a healthier, more equal future for all.

Thank you for supporting public health and for being a part of this critical work. Because of your support, we provided tools and mental health resources to help those affected by COVID-19 related stress, grief and loss. We rolled out an innovative solution for safe water access to rural Alaskans. We supported research to provide critical COVID-19 data to inform reopening plans and safety strategies for schools. We provided support to many community-based organizations throughout the United States. We implemented a creative program to help address the opioid epidemic. We organized multiple communication campaigns and partnerships to help address vaccine and COVID-19 misinformation. And many more initiatives like the ones you see highlighted throughout this report.

**Thank you for connecting with us, supporting us and for working together to make an impact in the United States and around the world.**