Each of you, our generous supporters and engaged partners, are part of every program and partnership we bring to life. You have helped us address workforce shortages by placing public health professionals in all 50 states, develop creative approaches to sharing critical health information that can protect our families, advance data sharing processes to provide a stronger public health infrastructure and much, much more. And that impact is a reason to celebrate.

Thank you for being right beside us—and for making this lifesaving work possible.

A CELEBRATION OF OUR PARTNERS | IMPACT 2023

All Because of You.

Year in Review

$274,854,710
Support from donors and funders to help CDC and our public health partners save and improve more lives

138 programs
Including 110 domestic and 28 global programs with CDC and public health partners

3,460
Partnerships—individuals, philanthropies, corporations and organizations—working together to make an impact

237
Partnerships—individuals, philanthropies, corporations and organizations—working together to make an impact

77
Countries impacted through CDC Foundation programs made possible by our donors and funders

$2.2 Billion
Raised by the CDC Foundation to support nearly 1,400 programs since 1995

232
Community-based organizations funded throughout the country

100%
Donors representing all 50 U.S. states, as well as colleagues and citizens from U.S. territories and other nations helping advance lifesaving work

The information shared in this report includes data from the CDC Foundation’s fiscal year, July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023.
“Through my several-decades career working at CDC, I have first-hand knowledge of the critical support that CDC Foundation has provided in complementing CDC’s public health mission around the world. Because I believe that public health should be supported by both governments and private citizens, I am proud to be able to continue to contribute even in my retirement by supporting the CDC Foundation. The Foundation not only allows me to target my support to specific interests such as supporting the needs of CDC’s frontline locally employed staff in other countries, but also provides me the flexibility to do so by using innovative donation modalities such as cryptocurrency.”

R. J. Simonds, MD, EIS ‘90, is a CDC Foundation donor and a former CDC Employee.

Program Highlights

Expanding the Public Health Workforce

In addition to the CDC Foundation’s successful initiatives to add more than 4,000 field employees to the understaffed public health workforce as part of the COVID-19 response, the State-Funded Projects team was established in 2021 to assist departments across the country in quickly mobilizing jurisdictional resources and support workforce capacity needs by recruiting, hiring, training and managing staff. As of June 2023, the Foundation had 700 field staff working in a variety of different roles within state public health departments, ranging from traditional public health positions like epidemiologists, disease investigators and emergency response specialists, to data scientists, legal professionals, health policy experts, school liaisons, overdose coordinators, vaccine demand strategists and many more across all departments. These additions to the workforce support critical, often emergency-based, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) programs worldwide.

Protecting Children from Rotavirus

Rotavirus is a highly contagious virus that causes acute gastroenteritis in children globally. It can be fatal if untreated. In the United States, western Europe and South America, rotavirus vaccines are 90 to 100 percent effective in preventing severe infection. However, their effectiveness is only moderate in low- and middle-income countries in Africa and Asia. This disparity may be related to a variety of factors, such as malnutrition or differences in exposure to other pathogens, and researchers are still evaluating causes for these differences. To address this, the CDC Foundation and CDC, in partnership with the World Health Organization (WHO); Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance; and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, are working with 11 priority countries to evaluate the effectiveness and safety of newer rotavirus vaccines, including two more cost-effective Indian-manufactured vaccines and an Indonesian-manufactured vaccine.

The CDC Foundation and Universitas Gadjah Mada are also conducting a post-licensure evaluation of a new oral rotavirus vaccine that can be used on a neonatal schedule. The vaccine is porcine-free, which may help remove a significant barrier to the uptake of the vaccine in Muslim populations. This vaccine has been proven safe and effective in clinical trials with thousands of infant participants in Indonesia, paving the way for wider acceptance and highlighting how public health adapts to the needs of different populations.

An estimated 58 million children do not have access to rotavirus vaccines due to high vaccine costs and a lack of access to health care.
Preventing Pregnancy-Related Deaths

Hear Her is a national communications campaign launched by CDC to support efforts to help prevent pregnancy-related deaths by sharing potentially lifesaving messages about urgent warning signs. The initiative amplifies the stories of women who have experienced pregnancy-related complications and encourages partners, friends, family and healthcare providers to listen when those concerns are raised and offer help. Supported through a partnership with the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Minority Health, as well as the CDC Foundation and funding from Merck through its Merck for Mothers program, the latest phase of the initiative focuses on American Indian and Alaska Native women, who are twice as likely to die of pregnancy-related causes than white women.

The Hear Her team recognized the importance of creating culturally appropriate resources for these audiences to reflect the strength and diversity of American Indian and Alaska Native communities. The communication materials were developed based on guidance and feedback from American Indian and Alaska Native communities and include testimonials from several American Indian women who experienced pregnancy-related complications, as well as conversation guides, palm cards and posters that help pregnant and postpartum women and their circles of care recognize these signs and get the help they need.

Using Public Health History to Impact the Future

Inspired by the writings of Dr. William “Bill” Foege—renowned American physician and epidemiologist and one of the key architects of the successful smallpox eradication effort in the 1970s—the Becoming Better Ancestors™ Fund was established in 2023 to support best in class, forward-thinking and strategic opportunities for improving public health. Made possible through the estate of Craig White, the Hilton Foundation and individual donors, the fund aims to explore how these lessons can be applied to evolving and complex public health issues. The Becoming Better Ancestors™ Fund is a reminder that learning from public health history can empower us all to become better ancestors—and leave the world better than we found it.

Jacquelyn Caglia, MPH

“Merck for Mothers is our company’s global initiative to help create a world where no woman has to die while giving life. We are focused on improving maternal health outcomes by increasing access to safe, high quality, equitable, respectful care around pregnancy and childbirth. In the United States, we have been grateful for a long-standing collaboration with the CDC Foundation to raise awareness of the urgent maternal warning signs during and after pregnancy and improve communication between patients and their health care providers through the CDC’s Hear Her campaign.”

Jacquelyn Caglia, MPH, is the director of U.S. programs with Merck for Mothers, which is a Merck & Co., Inc. global initiative. Merck & Co., Inc. supports the Hear Her Campaign at the CDC Foundation.
The CDC Foundation brings together partners to tackle our world’s most pressing health challenges. Thanks to all of our donors and partners for being by our side each step of the way. As we look back on the year, we are proud of what we have achieved together. It’s because of you that we are making a difference every day.

"The CDC Foundation has had a profound impact on advancing key public health issues that make our country a healthier and more equitable place for all. Through their partnerships at the state and community levels, they have helped to transform our public health systems to prioritize and better serve communities and dismantle the systemic barriers that many continue to face. We are proud to support their critical work to ensure everyone has a fair and just opportunity to thrive."

Julie Morita, MD, is the executive vice president of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, an ongoing donor with the CDC Foundation, including as a partner with the Hunger, Nutrition and Health Action Collaborative.

Supporting Young Leaders Raising Awareness for Climate and Health

Young people are keenly aware of the significant implications long-term, climate-related health issues have for their future, and they have become important contributors to efforts to find solutions.

To encourage these young leaders, the CDC Foundation—through the support of a private donor—provided funds, technical assistance and capacity building assets to 11 organizations across the United States focused on engaging young people in raising awareness about the connections between climate and health and helping their communities respond to environment-related health challenges. These groups are engaging their communities through student events, teacher trainings and more. The Foundation also established a Youth and Climate Council, a forum in which young adults from around the country come together to share experiences and ideas for building community resilience to the health impacts of climate change.

For the seventeenth year in a row, the CDC Foundation received a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator. Only 1 percent of charities rated have received 17 consecutive 4-star evaluations.

A Message from Our CEO

The CDC Foundation brings together partners to tackle our world’s most pressing health challenges. Thanks to all of our donors and partners for being by our side each step of the way. As we look back on the year, we are proud of what we have achieved together. It’s because of you that we are making a difference every day.

Julie Morita, MD
President and CEO, CDC Foundation

Thank you for making our work—and this impact—possible, and for helping us finish FY2023 strong. It’s because of you that public health is stronger across the globe.