

# Making an Impact

THE CDC FOUNDATION RESPONDS TO COVID-19

Response Update 11  
July 31, 2020

*This issue represents the eleventh 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:** The coronavirus pandemic continues its march. Globally, more than 17.3 million confirmed cases of coronavirus disease have been reported, including more than 674,000 deaths from nearly every country in the world. In the United States, there have been more than 4.4 million confirmed cases.

**CDC Update:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) weekly surveillance summary of U.S. COVID-19 activity is available [through the COVIDView report](#). The July 18 report indicates that while COVID-19-like illnesses are starting to decline in the Southeast, South Central, and South West/Coast regions, cases are still at higher levels compared to March/April. The report also indicates that COVID-19-like illnesses are on the rise in the Midwest, Central and Mountain regions of the country.

CDC also released [science-based resources and tools to support opening schools](#) for school administrators, teachers, parents, guardians and caregivers. CDC Director Dr. Robert Redfield continues to advocate that all Americans wear masks as a way to end the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Redfield also stated that CDC expects both flu and COVID-19 to be spreading in the fall and winter, and that getting a flu vaccine before the end of October will be more important than ever as we work to reduce the impact on our healthcare system.

**What the CDC Foundation is doing:** We are pleased to report our donors have now committed \$133 million to bolster public health response efforts to COVID-19.

On July 22, the CDC Foundation released the fifth season of our [Contagious Conversations podcast](#), which features three in-depth conversations with experts who share their perspectives related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Topics include the social and political determinants of health, the disproportionate impact of coronavirus on people of color and our tribal nations, and the role of public health in communities across the country. The Foundation also recently put out a [short-form video](#) on our TikTok channel emphasizing the importance of wearing a mask. The video features a number of CDC Foundation summer interns, as well as Foundation staff and their children.

Support from the CDC Foundation and our donors has met a variety of essential COVID-19 needs. While our response together continues to have real impact, much work remains to crush COVID. At present, three areas of critical need include investing in the work of those on the frontlines, health campaigns focused on promoting protective behaviors, and research and projects to understand and address health equity issues. [Please join with us 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:

- Supporting the COVID-19 response in Imperial Valley, CA—one of the counties with the highest rates of COVID-19 in California—through a partnership with local nonprofits that primarily serve vulnerable communities disproportionately impacted by unemployment and other economic hardships during COVID-19.
- Providing staffing support, equipment and PPE for staff at a New Jersey rehabilitation clinic that serves vulnerable populations.
- Supporting the development and introduction of a new guide titled "Thriving Together: A Springboard for Equitable Recovery & Resilience in Communities Across America," released by the Well Being Trust. The guide features more than 100 contributors and highlights actions that communities, organizations, businesses, governments and funders can turn to in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic.
- Supporting the operation of two isolation shelter facilities, including shower and toilet truck units and PPE, for the homeless population in Trenton, NJ.
- Purchasing PPE for the Latinx community at the epicenter of the COVID-19 outbreak in Prince George's County, MD, as many in this community are unable to access federal assistance programs or other relief efforts.
- Supporting the School of Nursing at Brazil's University of Sao Paulo to enhance infection prevention and control in response to COVID-19.
- Supporting the University of Washington in a clinical research network that will investigate the standards of care for COVID-19 patients. The findings will inform the development of COVID-19 clinical treatment protocols.
- Supporting the purchase of COVID-19 testing swabs in Minneapolis, MN.

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

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