

Making an Impact

THE CDC FOUNDATION RESPONDS TO COVID-19

Response Update 13
August 28, 2020

This issue represents the thirteenth 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, nearly 24.5 million confirmed cases of coronavirus disease have been reported, including more than 832,000 deaths from nearly every country in the world. In the United States, there have been more than 5.8 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 latest report shows that minority populations, like American Indian, Black and Hispanic, continue to be hospitalized for COVID-19 at nearly five times the rate of their non-Hispanic white counterparts.

The agency recently updated the [Considerations for Schools](#) to help school administrators promote behaviors that reduce the spread of COVID-19, prepare for when someone gets sick, and maintain healthy environments and operations. A new [CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report](#) shows that mass testing in 16 U.S. prisons and jails identified 12 times more cases of COVID-19 than when testing was offered based on symptoms alone.

What the CDC Foundation is doing: We are pleased to report our donors have now committed \$145 million to bolster public health response efforts to COVID-19. Below we are sharing a few highlights from the past few weeks.

The Foundation recently launched a new campaign titled [You Will See Me](#), which is targeted to Black Americans and emphasizes the critical importance of wearing a mask to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The campaign was created in partnership with CDC and The Ad Council. To inspire others to wear masks, the campaign includes a number of celebrities, such as Academy Award winning actress Viola Davis, world champion gymnast Simone Biles, The Roots members Questlove and Black Thought, and many more.

The Foundation also released [a new article on our COVID-19 impact](#) working with local health authorities as they sought to protect the homeless population and the broader population in Cambridge, MA. By recognizing the unique threats posed by COVID-19 to the city's homeless population, Cambridge got ahead of the problem quickly, thanks in large-part to the timely support it received from the CDC Foundation and our donors.

Support from the CDC Foundation and our donors has been used to meet a wide variety challenges as part of the COVID-19 response, but there are many more urgent needs as the pandemic continues to rage across the globe. [Please join with us at give4cdf.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:

- **Providing funding for urgently needed software enhancements** to facilitate rapid detection and visualization of COVID-19 clusters in New York City.
- **Providing personal protective equipment (PPE)** to a food distribution center that serves vulnerable communities in Maryland.
- **Supporting a project to provide users with access to a technology solution** to assist in collecting information for contact tracing or in completing an incomplete case report form.
- **Providing funding to the African Society for Laboratory Medicine** in a project to strengthen the coordinating capacity of central laboratory levels to scale up COVID-19 diagnostics through a national lab network of 15 sub-Saharan African countries prioritized by the Africa CDC.
- **Funding an evaluation between different types of COVID-19 testing** by comparing self-collected versus healthcare personnel collected nasal swabs and saliva to swabs in diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 infection.
- **Supporting a project with the Africa CDC to assess COVID-19 infections and deaths** in Liberia and Chad. The country found to have the highest COVID infections and deaths will have a systematic review conducted of all COVID-19 cases, and data will be retrieved on demographics, disease progression and risk factors.

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