

Making an Impact

THE CDC FOUNDATION RESPONDS TO COVID-19

Response Update 15
September 25, 2020

This issue represents the fifteenth 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 32.3 million confirmed cases of coronavirus disease have been reported, including more than 984,000 deaths from nearly every country in the world. In the United States, there have been more than 6.9 million confirmed cases and more than 203,000 deaths.

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 the percentage of people testing positive for COVID-19 and of medical visits for symptoms similar to COVID-19 are decreasing or remaining stable nationally. However, some regions are reporting an increase in the percentage of specimens testing positive for SARS-CoV-2.

A new CDC [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report](#) shows that contact tracing in two North Carolina counties found many people with COVID-19 didn't report contacts, and many contacts reported couldn't be reached. In one county, a third of people didn't report contacts and half the contacts reported couldn't be reached. [Another recent MMWR](#) looking at almost 600 hospitalized pregnant women with COVID-19 found that pregnant women can have severe illness and poor birth outcomes, such as the mother requiring intensive care, pregnancy loss and preterm birth.

What the CDC Foundation is doing: We are pleased to report our donors have committed \$153.7 million to bolster public health response efforts to COVID-19. Below are a few highlights from the past few weeks.

This week, the Foundation launched the [Community COVID Coalition](#) to support state communication efforts for the COVID-19 response. The coalition, which includes the National Governors Association and the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, will support efforts to educate diverse communities about effective interventions for slowing the spread of COVID-19. The Foundation also [announced a partnership](#) with Lysol to create Welcome Back Packs designed to help teachers encourage healthy habits in their classrooms in fun and engaging ways. These Welcome Back Packs will be provided for Title I schools across the United States as part of Lysol's HERE for Healthy Schools initiative.

The CDC Foundation recently published a number of stories highlighting the work across the nation as part of the COVID-19 response. [Read more about our work with our partners](#), ranging from hiring surge staffing to test people for COVID-19 infections in Houston, to supporting the homeless population in Cambridge, MA, to meeting the needs of the Latinx population brought about by COVID-19 in central Virginia.

Support from the CDC Foundation and our donors has been used to meet a wide variety of 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 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 Pasteur Institute of Dakar, Senegal, in **establishing an external quality assurance program** for SARS-CoV-2 molecular testing laboratories strengthening its preparedness, evaluation and continuous quality improvement.
- Developing a **flu vaccination campaign that prioritizes Hispanic and African American audiences**. The campaign will include the creation of a fully integrated public service advertising campaign in English and Spanish, to be used across a variety of media channels to promote flu vaccination.
- Providing public health support with staffing for Santa Clara, CA, to **prepare public health lab capacity for surge testing** for COVID-19.
- **Supporting the physical and mental well-being of older adults** during times of public health emergencies like COVID-19.
- Supporting the development of a **virtual care platform to reduce the health risk and social economic impact** on those most vulnerable to the current risks of COVID-19. This new platform will enable technology readiness for future surges and emerging threats of new pandemics.
- **Ensuring the continuity of maternal and newborn health services with quality, equity and dignity** during COVID-19 through strengthening health facility water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and infection prevention and control in certain districts in India.

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

bit.ly/CDCFimpact