

# Making an Impact

THE CDC FOUNDATION RESPONDS TO COVID-19

Response Update 19  
January 29, 2021

*This issue represents the nineteenth 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 101 million confirmed cases of coronavirus disease have been reported, including more than 2.19 million deaths. In the United States, there have been more than 25.7 million confirmed cases and more than 433,000 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 COVID-19-associated deaths hit its highest point so far during a third wave of activity just before the winter holidays.

The agency is emphasizing the COVID-19 vaccines as an important tool to help stop the pandemic. As of January 28, 2021, more than 21 million people had received their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. Of those, 4 million had received both doses and are fully vaccinated. Learn more from the [CDC COVID Data Tracker](#).

**What the CDC Foundation is doing:** To date, individuals, philanthropies, organizations, corporations and government funders have committed \$214 million for the CDC Foundation's COVID-19 response, and the Foundation has deployed those funds in over 83 U.S. states and territories and other countries.

On January 14, the [sixth season of the Contagious Conversations podcast](#) was launched. Topics included tackling the barriers to health equity and systemic racism during the COVID-19 pandemic, preventing unsafe injection practices and advocating for patient safety, and following the journey of a Nobel Prize winner in discovering hepatitis C.

In December, the 2020 CNN Heroes event featured the CDC Foundation, together with Courageous Studios, Warner Media and CNN, launching new mask-wearing public service announcements targeting Gen Z audiences. The PSAs highlight several Gen Z "Mask Entrepreneurs," who are developing masks and making mask-wearing cool. The PSAs have been featured on CNN News and will run through at least February on several Warner Media stations. [Learn more on the Show Up, Mask Up web page](#).

More than 1,300 participants tuned in to a [CDC Foundation webinar](#) on December 16 to learn about the critical role community-based organizations can and will play in the rollout of the new COVID-19 vaccines—especially when it comes to building trust and overcoming vaccine hesitancy within the communities that they serve.

One year ago this month, the first case of COVID-19 in the U.S. was reported to CDC. Today, cases continue to rise nationwide. The support from you, our donors and partners, is critical to provide essential resources and flexibility where government support is not available or available rapidly enough. [Please join with us to Crush COVID 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:

- **Providing one-time relief payment** to Baltimore immigrant families facing economic hardship who had a child in residence but were unable to work due to a positive COVID-19 diagnosis.
- Partnering with the Puerto Rico Department of Health and VOCES to **provide flu vaccines**.
- Developing guidance and supportive components with CDC **for workers in essential frontline, non-healthcare roles**, which are disproportionately comprised of individuals from Black and Brown communities.
- Supporting a study conducted in a densely populated, low-resource setting in Kibera, Kenya, **to measure the transmission dynamics, infection and mortality rates of COVID-19**.
- **Providing approximately 50,000 personal protective equipment (PPE) products** to the Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders Council, which serves 10 tribes on eight reservations in Montana and Wyoming.
- Partnering with the gaming community to launch the **"Don't be Sus" COVID messaging campaign**.
- **Providing over 13,000 PPE** for frontline workers in Trenton, NJ.
- **Supporting a communication network for Pacific Islander community members** who are disconnected from mainstream communication due to the lack of connection to the internet, social media and other networks.
- Working to **rapidly monitor and evaluate** the implementation of CDC-recommended COVID-19 mitigation strategies in K-12 schools.
- **Evaluating the effectiveness** of CPAP in combination with a helmet that helps to concentrate the oxygen and reduce the risk of spread of the COVID-19 virus among severe COVID-19 patients in Nigeria.

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

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