U.S. COVID-19 Response Program

Public health departments around the U.S. are working daily to meet the threat of COVID-19—balancing the dual priorities of protecting public health while safely reopening communities and economies.

Our U.S. COVID-19 Response Program works with public health officials, health department staff and key stakeholder organizations to promote equitable and efficient vaccine rollout and advance prevention, testing, contact tracing, quarantine and isolation strategies to help end the pandemic.

Our Approach

We collaborate closely with health departments, including Franklin County Public Health (OH), Marion County Public Health Department (IN) and Wake County Health and Human Services (NC), to promote an evidence-based response through real-time analysis of quantitative and qualitative data (surveillance, epidemiological and programmatic) that guide and continuously improve program design and operations. We identify pragmatic, straightforward solutions that can be implemented quickly and at scale—and that can be adapted based on accumulated data. Through these engagements, we demonstrate, document and disseminate the core strategies and practical approaches needed to control COVID-19 in the U.S.

We apply an equity lens to all our work, prioritizing epidemiology, technology, communications and community engagement initiatives that improve and equalize outcomes for groups experiencing health disparities. Through epidemiological support, we work with health departments to design the best metrics for measuring program performance and outcomes. In providing technological assistance, we have supplemented case management platforms with simple, useful digital tools that make contact tracing easier and more efficient. Our communications and community engagement work focuses on partnering with public health and community leaders to effectively reach, build trust and inspire action among communities disproportionately affected by the pandemic.

About Us

Resolve to Save Lives, an initiative of the global health organization Vital Strategies, focuses on preventing deaths from cardiovascular disease and preventing epidemics. It is led by Dr. Tom Frieden, former director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
What We Offer

Our team offers expert consultation and a suite of tools to help health agencies and organizations develop, scale and optimize local COVID-19 response programs effectively. Key resources include:

1. Consultation and technical assistance in a wide range of areas, such as:
   - Epidemiology
   - Vaccine data, program development and uptake
   - Testing, isolation and quarantine
   - Contact tracing indicators, metrics and data collection
   - Cluster and outbreak investigation
   - Health equity
   - Communications strategies
   - Community engagement
   - Technology
   - Program evaluation

2. Guides to promote COVID-19 response strategies with communications and community engagement support:
   - Tracking COVID-19 in the United States
   - Case Investigation and Contact Tracing for COVID-19 in the Era of Vaccines
   - Box It In
   - Staying Alert: Navigating COVID-19 Risk Toward a New Normal

3. Embedded staff to support critical needs identified by jurisdictions, including:
   - Strategic planning
   - Program design and implementation
   - Project management
   - Epidemiological analysis
   - Digital technologies
   - Public education, risk communication and crisis response
   - Community and stakeholder engagement

4. Rapid response grants for a variety of needs, including:
   - Equitable vaccine distribution
   - Communications campaigns
   - Grassroots outreach and engagement

5. A suite of open-source digital tools to facilitate effective and efficient case investigation and contract tracing efforts

6. Opportunities to participate in a COVID-19 response learning community to connect with others, share information and problem-solve

For more information about our U.S. COVID-19 response, please visit: https://preventepidemics.org/covid19/us-response/.