

# The Greatest Public Health Threat of Our Lives

A large, stylized virus particle with a circular body and numerous protruding spikes, rendered in a darker shade of red than the background.

**Project HOPE's Global  
COVID-19 Response**

MARCH 2021

# Foreword

In late 2019, word began to reach us from Project HOPE's office in Wuhan, China about a strange new virus that was causing people to fall ill. It didn't yet have a name, or even a fully traceable source. But as more people in Wuhan began to get sick, the stakes were clear and grave: the world was facing a threat none of us had seen before.

Little did we know the full cost of the virus to come. In a little more than a year, COVID-19 has changed nearly every aspect of life on this planet — for many of us, tragically. More than 100 million people have been infected and 2 million have died, while untold millions suffer the scars of tragedy, financial hardship, and tolls on their mental health.

Project HOPE's response to COVID-19 is unlike anything our organization has done before. We were there from the start, at the very epicenter of the virus in Wuhan, having trained many of the first responders at our own HOPE School of Nursing in China. And when COVID-19 grew to become a pandemic, we launched a unified global response to protect and empower health care workers around the world. Now, one year later, we reflect on this response, which continues today: To date, we have delivered more than 14 million pieces of personal protective equipment, trained 93,000 health workers and frontline personnel, and reached more than 150 countries worldwide, including the United States.

It was through our core value of partnership that Project HOPE's response was made possible. Thanks to the commitment from our supporters, donors, and local partners, together we helped deliver PPE, develop and roll out expert COVID-19 trainings, and provide the support local health care workers needed to keep their communities safe. From the hard-hit Navajo Nation to the farthest reaches of rural Africa, together we saved and transformed lives during the most daunting experience of our generation.

As we begin reckoning with how the world will look going forward, I want to say thank you for your partnership and support during this unprecedented year. This report underscores the importance of quick action by the private sector and the impact that's possible when we work together. Most importantly, it reflects the heart of humanitarian work: that when the world needed help, you joined us to save lives and keep communities safe. Because of your support, Project HOPE was able to live up to its mission and place power in the hands of health care workers wherever they needed it most, from Houston and Chicago to Jakarta and beyond.

Thank you.



**Rabih Torbay**

President and CEO, Project HOPE



# A Pandemic Emerges

**Project HOPE began actively monitoring the transmission of a new coronavirus reported in Wuhan, China in early January 2020. As transmission and the likelihood of a large-scale outbreak increased, Project HOPE mobilized our global emergency response team and our teams in Wuhan, Shanghai, and Beijing to begin coordinating with provincial health authorities and hospitals to determine needs.**

As one of the only international non-governmental organizations registered in China, Project HOPE leveraged its international network of partners in global health and its supply chain to import and distribute critically-needed personal protective equipment and other items as stocks in-country were rapidly depleted by overwhelmed hospitals and health facilities. Working in partnership with other INGOs, government agencies including the U.S. Department of State, corporations, and foundations, Project HOPE supported more than 27 hospitals in the Hubei, Yunnan, Jiangsu, Anhui, and Sichuan provinces with PPE, ventilators, defibrillators, and other lifesaving equipment critical to protecting frontline health workers and treating patients.

On January 30, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern. As the virus began to spread around the world, becoming classified as a global pandemic in March 2020, Project HOPE scaled up its response beyond China to provide critical support to countries dealing with rapidly increasing case numbers and hospitalizations, while also supporting its ongoing global health programs through risk mitigation and preparedness.

In line with its mission, Project HOPE has responded to the pandemic by prioritizing health care workers on the front lines of COVID-19 in coordination with ministries of health and a broad network of international and local partners. Response activities have largely focused on strengthening preparedness and resiliency among health care workers and frontline personnel responding to COVID-19. Project HOPE has delivered evidence-based training that follows WHO guidelines, as well as sourced and distributed PPE, medical supplies, medical equipment, and hygiene and sanitation items. Project HOPE also supports country partners as needed to scale-up localized response efforts like COVID-19 screening and triage, contact tracing, patient care, testing, hygiene promotion, and protocol implementation and adherence at the facility and community level.



This photo, taken on January 26, 2020, shows doctors in Wuhan care for a coronavirus patient. Project HOPE staff, 2020.

The pandemic has continuously evolved over the course of the last year, introducing new challenges and developments along the way and requiring frequent shifts in global response efforts. With multiple COVID-19 vaccines now approved and several more candidates under development, international and national health authorities are preparing for vaccine distribution and administration as supplies become available. Ensuring rapid, widespread vaccine distribution is even more critical as many countries continue to face surges in new cases and deaths while more transmissible variants of SARS-CoV-2 are being identified in an increasing number of countries.

As the world launches into its second year of fighting to contain COVID-19, Project HOPE remains strongly committed to supporting international and local partners throughout this next phase of the pandemic. While the COVID-19 vaccines represent a promising and significant step toward controlling the pandemic, much work needs to be done to ensure rapid and widespread roll out while also continuing to respond to the increasing number of cases and hospitalizations that many countries are experiencing.

Throughout 2021, Project HOPE is positioned to continue response efforts focused on COVID-19 prevention and treatment, including expansion of health care worker and frontline personnel training, scale-up of COVID-19 testing and contact tracing, PPE and supply distribution, infection prevention and control activities, and hygiene promotion. Project HOPE is already building on these activities with partners by beginning to support vaccination roll-out strategies — including vaccine administration with key partners in the United States — and preparing to implement new trainings and support for health care workers and frontline personnel on the various COVID-19 vaccines.

While continuing to fight the pandemic is critical, it is imperative not to ignore the negative ripple effect COVID-19 has had on global health. Disruptions in health services and humanitarian assistance are causing more people with chronic and infectious diseases to go without lifesaving medications. Disruptions are also leading to drastic declines in child immunizations, fewer women with access to basic and emergency obstetric care, and even greater strife for people living in the midst of ongoing crises and conflicts. These are just a few of the many negative consequences of the pandemic that Project HOPE has seen first-hand through its global health programs.



The arrival of nearly 2 million Venezuelan refugees and migrants has severely strained Colombia's health system, especially near the border. Project HOPE is providing surge support to help health care workers cope with the challenges of COVID-19 and ensuring continuity of care for vulnerable groups like mothers and children. Project HOPE staff, 2020.

The resulting impact on health and well-being — particularly on the most at-risk and vulnerable — will shape global health priorities for years to come. Project HOPE has collaborated with country and local partners throughout the last year to ensure that health services, global health programming, and humanitarian aid continues amidst the pandemic. The longer the pandemic persists, the more critical this work becomes. Project HOPE is committed to mitigating the pandemic's impact on health and addressing existing and emerging needs going forward.

# Project HOPE's COVID-19 Response

Project HOPE is proud to recognize the impact of our COVID-19 response, with generous thanks to the dedication and hard work of our teams in the field, and to our donors and partners around the world. Below are some of the key achievements of this response, along with plans for continued response efforts in 2021.

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## Preparing and Equipping Health Care Workers to Respond to COVID-19

### Virtual COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Curriculum

In February 2020, Project HOPE partnered with the *Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Studies* at the *Watson Institute of Brown University* to develop and implement a COVID-19 preparedness and response curriculum that supports rapid scale-up of response efforts in high-risk countries. The curriculum is delivered through a live, virtual platform and designed utilizing a training-of-trainers approach, focusing on eight core modules: COVID-19 Background; Infection Prevention and Control; Surveillance; Screening and Triage; Diagnosis and Management; Stabilization and Resuscitation; Medical Surge Operations Planning; and Risk Communication and Public Health Messaging. The curriculum is frequently updated based on best practices and evidence on COVID-19 in line with recommendations from the World Health Organization.

The curriculum was piloted in March 2020 in North Macedonia, delivered by experts from Brown University to the first cadre of 42 Master Trainers. With support from the *Center for Disaster Philanthropy*, Project HOPE further scaled up trainings in coordination with key regional partners including ministries of health, the *Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC)*, the *Brazilian Field Epidemiology Professionals Association*, leading medical universities, and others. To date, **more than 5,000 Master Trainers have completed the curriculum and have cascaded modules to more than 88,000 health care providers and frontline responders across 52 countries.**

In December 2020, Project HOPE began coordinating with Brown University to develop a supplemental module to educate clinicians and frontline personnel on COVID-19 vaccines. The module's content covers topics like vaccine science, trial results of the various COVID-19 vaccines, side effects, adverse events, priority populations for vaccination, supply chain logistics, and overall public health impact. The first training on this module launched at the end of February 2021, in partnership with the Africa CDC.

**5,000+**  
Master Trainers



**88,000+**  
health care providers  
and frontline  
responders



**52**  
countries



## COVID-19 eLearning Modules

To further expand access to the COVID-19 Preparedness & Response curriculum developed with Brown University (referenced above), Project HOPE partnered with *DisasterReady* to convert the content into a free eLearning curriculum that includes all the same modules and information for people to view on their own devices. Since the eLearning platform launched at the end of June 2020, **more than 3,800 participants from 157 countries and territories have engaged in COVID-19 eLearning modules**, which are available in English and Spanish.

## COVID-19 ECHO Sessions

In April 2020, Project HOPE launched a partnership with the *Weitzman Institute* to expand access to clinical COVID-19 ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) sessions for health care providers in the United States. The ECHO platform connects groups of frontline health providers with specialists in real-time collaborative sessions, using didactic, case-based learning and interactive video technology. Project HOPE supported a COVID-19 ECHO series on 20 key COVID-19 topics. Sessions were held weekly, **reaching more than 4,500 health providers from all 50 states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico.**

Additionally, in collaboration with Project ECHO at the *University of New Mexico (UNM)*, Project HOPE launched weekly COVID-19 ECHO sessions in Spanish in June 2020 for health care providers across Latin America and the Caribbean. These ECHO sessions provided medical knowledge and developed specialty care capacity in underserved communities, with each weekly session addressing a different medical case management or public health topic related to COVID-19. The sessions featured a panel of experts and aimed to build a community of medical practitioners to share best practices and generate dialogue on critical issues. **More than 4,100 health care providers from 18 countries across the region participated** in weekly ECHO sessions in 2020. In 2021, Project HOPE is expanding on this initiative by launching a COVID-19 ECHO series specifically for nurses across Latin America and the Caribbean.

In late 2020, Project HOPE expanded its partnership with Project ECHO, UNM, and the *University of Chicago* to deliver clinical teleECHO sessions through the AHRQ ECHO National Nursing Home COVID-19 Action Network. This series is aimed toward helping nursing home and long-term care facility staff prevent and treat COVID-19. These sessions have **reached approximately 200 facilities**, the majority of which are from the Chicago and Cook County area, with **11 additional facilities reached** in nine other states. These sessions are expected to continue into 2021, expanding to new geographies and focusing on topics including vaccine hesitancy, distribution planning, and staff resilience.

## COVID-19 e-Consults for Complex Cases

In partnership with the Weitzman Institute, Project HOPE supported the expansion of its ConferMed electronic consultation platform to clinicians treating patients with COVID-19 in Ethiopia, North Macedonia, Kosovo, Indonesia, and Colombia. In June 2020, through collaborations with ministries of health and hospitals providing care to patients with COVID-19, Project HOPE and the Weitzman Institute trained providers with specialties in pulmonology, critical care, infectious disease, and emergency care on the e-Consult platform. These physicians could then share complex cases with experts in the United States who could provide further treatment support and guidance.

## Mental Health & Resiliency Training

With support from the *Abbott Fund* and in partnership with *New York City Health + Hospitals (NYC H+H)*, Project HOPE piloted a mental health and resiliency training for health care workers responding to COVID-19 in the Dominican Republic and Indonesia. The training modules were adapted from the NYC H+H program “HERO-NY,” which aims to provide health care workers and first responders with stress management and coping tools to ease the mental toll of the pandemic. The original HERO-NY material was translated and contextualized by local mental health experts to be more tailored to the local context. The implementation of the train-the-trainer sessions were **completed with 199 Master Trainers across both countries who are now actively cascading the training to colleagues.**

The mental health and resiliency training has since been expanded to a cadre of Master Trainers in the Philippines with the support of *Becton Dickinson*, in response to the typhoons that left the country with significant damage. Project HOPE will continue to expand access to this training for health care workers throughout 2021 as they face the increasing toll of the COVID-19 pandemic along with other health crises and disasters as they occur.

“Trainings like these can be a doorway to decrease stigmas and increase knowledge around mental health, which is the building block of mental health awareness and eventually better mental health service delivery.”

— **Rawan Hamadeh**

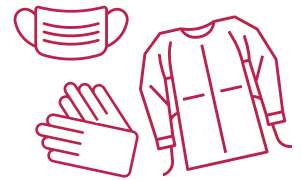
*Project HOPE's associate project coordinator  
for mental health programming*

## 2

## Distributing Lifesaving PPE, Medical Supplies, and Equipment

Project HOPE has been sourcing and distributing PPE, medical supplies, and equipment since January 2020, beginning at the epicenter of the virus in Wuhan. In the face of fluctuating global PPE stocks over the past year, Project HOPE has been able to maintain a stable supply chain through existing corporate and private partners while developing relationships with a globally diverse vendor network. This global network has allowed us to respond to constant changes in the freight market while leveraging regional relationships to decrease distance and shipping time between the vendor and the consignee, ensuring more cost-efficient and timely receipt of goods.

Project HOPE ensures all procured and donated PPE and medical supplies go to locations where they are needed most in coordination with local governments and partners. Over the last year, Project HOPE has **procured or sourced more than 14.4 million pieces of PPE to 19 countries, including the U.S.**, in coordination with ministries of health, partner health facilities, and other key stakeholders. Items have included **more than 1.3 million respirator masks (including N95, KN95 and FFP2)**, **10.4 million procedural and surgical face masks**, **1.3 million isolation and surgical gowns**, and **1.2 million pairs of exam gloves**. Project HOPE has also supported the sourcing and distribution of **more than 5,400 pieces of medical equipment** including ventilators, defibrillators, patient monitors, catheters, and COVID-19 testing kits.



**1.3M+**  
respirator masks

**10.4M+**  
procedural and surgical  
face masks

**1.3M+**  
isolation and  
surgical gowns

**1.2M+**  
pairs of  
exam gloves

**5,400+**  
pieces of medical  
equipment

**Project HOPE will continue sourcing and distributing PPE to health facilities and high-risk populations throughout 2021, in addition to medical supplies and consumables that could support COVID-19 vaccine administration.**



PPE donations arriving to the COVID-19 isolation center at the Federal Medical Center (FMC) Ebute-Metta in Lagos, Nigeria. Project HOPE staff, 2021.



## Reaching High-Risk Communities in the United States

As the United States continues to grapple with the pandemic, with the highest number of cases worldwide and accounting for nearly 20% of global deaths attributed to COVID-19, the needs remain great. In coordination with state and local partners, Project HOPE has been responding to the needs of hard-hit areas as well as at-risk populations that continue to need support. Efforts to date have included the following.

### Delivering PPE to Hard-Hit Areas

When COVID-19 quickly began to escalate in areas of the U.S. in March 2020, Project HOPE rapidly coordinated with partners to respond to the increasingly dire need for PPE among health care workers. By mid-May, with support from and in coordination with partners including AmeriCares, Eli Lilly and Company, the Ricky Martin Foundation, and Charity Navigator, Project HOPE **mobilized more than 347,000 pieces of PPE to hospitals and health facilities** in New York City; Los Angeles; Houston; New Orleans; Chicago and Cook County, Illinois; Montgomery County, Maryland; Navajo Nation in Arizona and New Mexico; and Puerto Rico.

Our PPE distribution activities further scaled up when Project HOPE, *Business Roundtable*, and Healthcare Ready announced a partnership in April 2020 to deliver lifesaving protective gear and equipment to America's frontline health workers in areas hit hard by the virus. With the leadership of chief executive officers of America's leading companies through Business Roundtable, Project HOPE has **procured more than 5 million pieces of PPE**. This critically needed protective gear was then allocated to priority health facilities in coordination with Healthcare Ready, which works in partnership with the *Federal Emergency Management Agency* to determine final destinations. As of December 2020, supplies had been delivered to emergency management agencies, health departments, health facilities and health associations across California, Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Mississippi, Texas, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Florida, Georgia, Ohio, and Arizona.

### Providing Surge Staffing for COVID-19 Clinical Care in Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas

Project HOPE has a long history of providing surge medical support to overwhelmed health care systems in response to disasters and complex health crises. Since June 2020, in partnership with *Massachusetts General Hospital's Center for Global Disaster Response*, Project HOPE has deployed medical practitioners to Chinle, Arizona; Gallup, New Mexico; and Shiprock, New Mexico in response to clinical needs in Navajo Nation. Project HOPE also deployed volunteers to two of the largest hospitals in Houston, in coordination with *Harris Health System*.



Project HOPE volunteers have been providing surge support in Navajo Nation, which has been hit disproportionately hard by COVID-19. More than 29,000 people in Navajo Nation have contracted COVID-19, and over 1,100 have died. Project HOPE staff, 2020.

To date, **Project HOPE volunteers working across these facilities have provided care to more than 3,200 patients in intensive care, surge, and COVID-19 units, and reached more than 21,000 people with COVID-19 testing.**

Project HOPE is continuing to support Harris Health System and Navajo Nation with surge staff and other technical support into 2021 as needs evolve and the vaccine becomes more widely available. In Houston, Project HOPE is providing oversight and administrative support of 195 crisis nurses at Lyndon B. Johnson and Ben Taub Hospitals. In Navajo Nation, Project HOPE volunteers are providing patient care in

ICUs, MedSurge, and COVID-19 units in addition to supporting mobile testing clinics, contact tracing, and COVID-19 vaccine administration.

## Conducting Risk Mitigation and Contingency Planning for Long-term Care Facilities in Illinois

Working in partnership with the Cook County Department of Public Health and Chicago Department of Public Health, teams of Project HOPE medical volunteers have been providing ongoing technical mentorship and supporting long-term care facilities in an effort to mitigate risks around COVID-19 transmission. Project HOPE teams are providing on-site assessments at the facilities, developing tailored risk-mitigation plans, and providing supportive supervision throughout plan implementation at each facility. Since May 2020, Project HOPE has supported **more than 90 long-term care facilities that are home to more than 10,000 residents in Chicago, Cook County, and Will County.** Project HOPE's team also conducted COVID-19 tests for residents and staff when requested. Project HOPE is continuing its support to long-term care facilities in 2021 through risk mitigation support and other activities as needs arise.

## Increasing Access to COVID-19 Testing and Vaccination in Montgomery County, Maryland

Rotations of Project HOPE medical volunteers have been supporting mobile testing efforts, in coordination with Montgomery County Government in Maryland. Project HOPE teams have **provided screening and COVID-19 tests to more than 3,800 people** through pop-up testing sites since July 2020.

In December 2020, Project HOPE launched a partnership with University of Maryland School of Nursing to assist the Montgomery County Public Health System with COVID-19 vaccine administration in addition to testing. Project HOPE volunteers have already administered vaccines to more than 680 people. This work will continue into 2021 as vaccine availability and distribution scales up.

## Expanding Global COVID-19 Programming and Preparedness

Project HOPE is committed to responding to COVID-19 while also prioritizing the drastic need for global preparedness and surveillance of emerging health threats. Over the last several months, Project HOPE has expanded its global portfolio to include several projects that aim to support immediate COVID-19 relief efforts in addition to ongoing preparedness and support in line with the Global Health Security Agenda. The projects highlighted below are examples of our work in different regions around the world.

### Improving COVID-19 Prevention, Preparedness, and Case Management in the Somali Regional State and Dire Dawa City Administration of Ethiopia

In July 2020, Project HOPE began implementing a six-month project to strengthen COVID-19 prevention, preparedness, and case management for health systems in Somali Regional State and Dire Dawa city administration of Ethiopia with support from USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance. The project **supported 327 outpatient health facilities and 68 inpatient facilities** across the Farfan, Sitti, Jarar, and Erar Zones as well as Dire Dawa city. Project HOPE has **screened or triaged more than 25,150 people for COVID-19** at supported health facilities, **provided handwashing supplies for 28,482 internally displaced persons**, and **reached 13,316 people with risk communication and communication engagement activities**. Under the same project, Project HOPE has **trained 777 health care workers** on COVID-19 science, preparedness, and response measures.

### Increasing Access to COVID-19 Prevention and Response Efforts for Venezuelan Migrants and Host Communities in Colombia

Following confirmation of COVID-19 in Colombia, Project HOPE coordinated with the Departmental Health Institute of Norte de Santander, the Ministry of Health, and partner hospitals and health facilities to scale-up response efforts. Building on our ongoing programs to increase access to health services for Venezuelan migrants and refugees, and with support from the *Stabler Foundation* and other generous donors, Project HOPE was able to provide significant support through screening, infection prevention and control, testing, and training health care workers.

Project HOPE medical teams supported the institute and the Ministry of Health by **screening more than 5,600 migrants** passing through a transitory care center, **providing more than 2,200 free health consultations**, **supporting contact tracing of more than 8,000 people**, **providing COVID-19 information to more than 2,500 people through a crisis call center**, and **providing training to health care workers, laboratory staff, and psychologists in Norte de Santander and La Guajira**.

## Training COVID-19 Community Health Workers in Ecuador

In Ecuador, Project HOPE is partnering with the Catholic University of Cuenca to establish a cadre of community health workers trained in disease prevention and health promotion with an emphasis on COVID-19. Through the project, Project HOPE and the university have developed an academic community health worker curriculum that was reviewed and approved by the Ministry of Health. It will be delivered as a live, virtual training through the university's virtual training platform that can also be downloaded and completed offline in low bandwidth areas. The goal is to train 500 new community health workers on COVID-19.

The university and the community health workers will coordinate with local decentralized autonomous governments to identify community leaders in at-risk communities, with a focus on indigenous populations including the Shuar and Kichwa, which have been largely unreached by government initiatives throughout the pandemic. Within these communities, community health workers will aim to train up to 2,500 community leaders on COVID-19 prevention and risk communication in addition to implementing mass media campaigns. Training text will be in Spanish; however, audio recordings of the training will be available in Spanish, Kichwa, and Shuar to expand availability to low literacy populations.

The project also involves "health brigades" to provide community-based health education and strengthen primary health care services in the target communities. Project HOPE is also **donating 120,000 KN95 masks** to the university to help protect the team and beneficiaries during this and other university-driven community-based outreach programs taking place during the ongoing pandemic.

## Protecting Frontline Health Workers in Indonesia and the Philippines

Project HOPE, with support from the *UBS Optimus Foundation*, is working to protect frontline health care workers in response to COVID-19 by ensuring the safety of health care workers with equipment, capacity building, and training on infection prevention and control in Indonesia and the Philippines. In Indonesia, Project HOPE is partnering with *PERDALIN* and the *Indonesia Society of Infection and Control*, while in the Philippines we are partnering with the *Asia Society for Social Improvement and Sustainable Transformation, Inc.*

Since the program was launched last June, **more than 44,000 pieces of PPE have been distributed to 56 hospitals across both countries. More than 1,300 health care workers have been trained as Master Trainers in infection prevention and control, which have reached an additional 32,700 health care professionals.** Additionally, Project HOPE and partners have **conducted infection prevention and control assessments** at hospitals across four regions of Indonesia. Activities will continue in Indonesia and be further scaled up in the Philippines during 2021.

## Managing COVID-19 During Natural Disasters and Humanitarian Crises

While COVID-19 was an overarching global crisis in 2020, countries around the world continued to face other dire and complex challenges posed by sudden natural disasters, humanitarian emergencies, and conflicts. These crises alone cause significant disruption and often overwhelm health systems, even without a global pandemic and COVID-19 further exacerbated the challenges. The co-occurrence of COVID-19, natural disasters, and humanitarian crises forced Project HOPE and emergency responders around the world to reevaluate how they deploy to impacted regions, how to safely house communities impacted by disaster, and how to support health systems already strained by COVID-19. Our teams regularly witnessed spikes in confirmed COVID-19 cases not long after disasters as immediate priorities shifted from containing COVID-19 to addressing the immediate threat.



COVID-19, economic turmoil, and the devastating port explosion on August 4 have left Lebanon's health system on the brink of collapse. Project HOPE has supported more than 70,000 survivors and health care workers across Lebanon since the explosion. "The COVID-19 pandemic and the port explosion have taken a severe toll on frontline health care workers," says Rabih Torbay, CEO and President of Project HOPE. Firas Atani for Project HOPE, 2020.

Over the last year, Project HOPE responded to the needs of people affected by hurricanes and typhoons in the United States, Central America, the Philippines, and Bangladesh; the port explosion in Beirut, Lebanon; displacement in Armenia caused by the conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh; and an earthquake in Indonesia. Each of these crises required Project HOPE to evaluate how best to identify the greatest needs and deliver immediate care while global travel remained limited. Project HOPE forged new relationships with local responders and organizations, providing resources and materials to guide their efforts in their own communities.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene services and social distancing took on new importance in shelters, many of

which lacked sufficient PPE for the displaced population they sheltered. To reduce the spread of infection in these crises, Project HOPE **delivered more than 480,000 pieces of PPE** to areas impacted by sudden onset and longer-term humanitarian crises.

In some cases, COVID-19 was already impeding the delivery of routine health services even before the addition of a new crisis. For example, prior to a recent earthquake in West Sulawesi, one local hospital went into lockdown after 75 staff at the hospital contracted COVID-19. In Honduras, some of the populations most impacted by the hurricanes Eta and Iota had limited access to local health services and information on reducing the spread of COVID-19 before the storms. As a result, Project HOPE integrated community level COVID-19 training into the emergency response, focused on mask wearing and social distancing.



## Looking Forward: Project HOPE's 2021 Strategy

Project HOPE is committed to continuing to provide support to health care facilities and personnel on the front lines of COVID-19, while also working to mitigate the pandemic's impact on global health priorities and health crises around the world. Project HOPE will continue to adjust its activities based on need and new developments in the world's response to COVID-19. Over the course of the next year, Project HOPE will continue many of the efforts highlighted in this report while integrating new activities and shifts in programming to support vaccination efforts.

### Our strategy over the course of 2021 will focus on:

- Expanding evidence-based training for health care workers and frontline personnel on essential COVID-19 topics, including vaccines and evolving science, to strengthen the health workforce as the pandemic continues.
- Supporting country partners and agencies in vaccine distribution, particularly to high-risk and hard-to-reach populations, and strengthening cold chains as needed to ensure safe vaccine storage.
- Increasing access to COVID-19 health services including inpatient care, outpatient care, testing, and vaccinations by coordinating with government authorities, health facilities, and local and national NGOs.
- Implementing risk communication and community engagement on COVID-19 preventive behaviors like handwashing, social distancing, and vaccine hesitancy among at-risk populations.
- Sourcing and distributing the essential PPE, equipment, consumables, and supplies that health workers need to fight COVID-19.
- Ensuring continuity of primary and specialized health services in order to ensure access to medication and care for priority groups including pregnant and lactating women, children under 5, people living with HIV/AIDS, people with chronic diseases, and populations affected by natural disasters and humanitarian crises.



"I watched that virus take a lot: from individuals, from families, from a community, and I am forever grateful that I never became sick. But this experience also gave me something precious: respect. [...] I had so much respect for patients who were so extremely sick and so immeasurably alone, and who still found the will to fight and to smile. It really is an incredible thing to be part of. It's what made me eager to get on the floor every morning and be there not only for the patients but for the staff as well. [...] That fight, and those smiles, are what made the unbearable moments bearable," says Project HOPE volunteer Lisa Bartleson about the six weeks she supported the medical team at Northern Navajo Medical Center in Shiprock, New Mexico. Lisa Bartleson/Project HOPE, 2021.

## Project HOPE's Global COVID-19 Response

- **Delivered 14.4 million+ pieces of PPE to 19 countries**, including the U.S. This included 1.3 million+ respirator masks (N95, KN95, and FFP2), 10.4 million+ masks, 1.3 million+ gowns, and 1.2 million+ pairs of gloves
- **Trained 93,000+ health care workers and frontline personnel** across 52 countries through the Brown/Project HOPE training
- **Reached 3,800+ people** with the eLearning curriculum
- **Trained 199 Master Trainers** for the Mental Health and Resiliency Training program in the Dominican Republic and Indonesia
- **Supported 150+ countries** overall

## Project HOPE's U.S. COVID-19 Response

- **Deployed medical teams** to Illinois, Maryland, Texas, Arizona, and New Mexico
- **Provided care to 3,200+ patients** in ICUs, surge units, and COVID-19 units in Houston and Navajo Nation
- **Tested 21,800+ people** for COVID-19 across Houston, Montgomery County, Navajo Nation, and Chicago/Cook County
- **Reached 1,150+ people** through contact tracing in Navajo Nation
- **Administered 1,690+ COVID-19 vaccines** in Navajo Nation and Montgomery County

## Featured Donors

Special thanks to donors who supported our response with gifts of \$1,000,000 or more.



UBS Optimus  
Foundation



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We're grateful to the following donors who generously supported our response with gifts of \$10,000 or more.

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- Catalent Corporation
- Center for Disaster Philanthropy
- Charity Stars
- Chubb Charitable Foundation
- Cogan Family Foundation
- Cornerstone OnDemand Inc.
- Eli Lilly
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- Major League Baseball
- Major League Baseball Players Association
- Medtronic Foundation
- Merck & Co., Inc.
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## About Project HOPE

**We empower health care workers facing the world's greatest health crises to build resilient communities and a healthier, more equitable world.**

We are a leader in global health and humanitarian aid who partners with local health systems to solve the world's most pressing health challenges. In disaster, crisis, and beyond, Project HOPE is there: providing direct health care services, equipping clinics and hospitals, training local health care workers, and delivering solutions that help people access the health care services they need. Because everyone deserves access to the health care they need to reach their full potential.



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