A health threat can appear at any moment, and the U.S. must be ready to respond. As America’s health protection agency, CDC is ready 24/7 and able to rapidly deploy disease detectives, lifesaving vaccines and medicines, and other support during a health emergency. Whether natural disasters, disease outbreaks, or deliberate attacks, CDC provides critical data, people, funds, and training to improve state and local preparedness capabilities.

27,000 INCOMING CALLS
CDC connected more than 27,000 callers with scientists and epidemiologists for emergency assistance, natural disasters, and many other threats.

722
Provided emergency deployment, transportation, and shipping support to over 722 workers who completed field deployments in the U.S. and abroad.

CDC operates an Emergency Operations Center 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to ensure America’s health security.
KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Tested and confirmed rapid communication responses among CDC, laboratories, and epidemiologists. 94% of the CDC-funded Public Health Emergency Preparedness award recipients responded within the required 45 minutes.
- Sent 131 CDC staff to 50 Public Health Emergency Preparedness locations to help with epidemiology and medical countermeasures.
- Participated in 585 emergency preparation activities in different scenarios worldwide, including 200 exercises and activations in 28 countries.

PARTNERING TO FIGHT EBOLA

In early 2014, CDC began monitoring what would become the largest Ebola outbreak in history. By July, CDC Director Tom Frieden ramped up efforts to stop the spread of Ebola by activating the agency’s Emergency Operations Center. Anticipating the possibility that Ebola would reach the U.S., CDC worked with state and local authorities and hospital representatives to establish a hospital network capable of treating Ebola patients. To establish this network, CDC deployed experts to assess hospital infection control and overall preparedness to safely care for Ebola patients.

By January 2015, 51 hospitals were designated as Ebola treatment centers, with bed capacity to treat 69 Ebola patients across 14 states and the District of Columbia. The network illustrates the commitment of so many partners in fighting this deadly disease.

Whether Ebola, a hurricane, or the next flu season threatens public health, mobilizing entire communities is vital to an effective response. CDC works with its public health partners to develop, practice, and implement strategic emergency response actions that save lives and protect people. Together, we will build a more resilient nation and communities for any public health threat.