In today’s interconnected world, a disease threat anywhere is a disease threat everywhere.

Disease knows no borders. With the ease and speed of global travel, along with rapidly expanding commerce and trade, the need to shut down the expressways to infectious disease into the U.S. is more important today than ever before.

Global health security is national and economic security for the U.S. As the nation’s health security agency, CDC protects our nation against dangerous and expensive health threats such as Ebola, Zika, and pandemic flu, and responds when and where they arise.

CDC works to protect Americans at home, those living and working abroad, and our armed service personnel deployed overseas.

CDC also helps countries around the world to be better prepared to prevent, detect, and respond to disease outbreaks.

CDC Protects Americans, Saves Lives, and Safeguards Economies

- Protects Americans and stops health threats at their source before they spread to our shores
- Saves lives and creates a safer world
- Reduces economic impact from disease outbreaks

WHAT WE DO

CDC has more than 70 years of public health excellence, a record of trail blazing science, and evidence-based decision making. Led by the world’s experts in disease detection, outbreak investigation, laboratory systems and emergency response, CDC provides critical services to keep Americans safe, healthy, and secure.

LABORATORY EXPERTISE

Our labs have developed gold standard tests used during emergencies, and serve as reference centers across the globe

PUBLIC HEALTH SURVEILLANCE

We track and monitor diseases to stop and eliminate their spread

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

We build in-country public health preparedness, including training a ready global workforce

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

We provide expertise to other nations to develop emergency operations centers and stop outbreaks faster

REAL TIME EVALUATION AND RESEARCH

We conduct on-the-ground evaluation of what works to optimize life-saving programs and services
IMPACT OF CDC GLOBAL HEALTH WORK

OUTBREAKS AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Since 2005, our 10 Global Disease Detection Centers have discovered 12 pathogens and organisms identified for the first time anywhere in the world.

Since 2006, CDC has responded to over 1,900 international disease outbreaks and health emergencies, including Ebola, Zika, MERS-CoV, and avian influenza, with daily monitoring of 30-40 global threats.

HIV/TB

By the end of 2016, 6.4 million patients were on life-saving HIV treatment. 30 million new infections have been averted and 7 million deaths prevented since 2000.

49 million lives have been saved thanks to TB interventions.

IMMUNIZATIONS

Smallpox has been eradicated, and we are moving closer to eradicating polio with cases dropping more than 99% since 1988.

Measles, though still one of the leading causes of death in children outside of the U.S., has fallen 79% globally between 2000–2015.

MALARIA AND PARASITIC DISEASES

CDC saved 6.8 million lives from 2001–2015 as a result proven malaria interventions like vector control, use of treated bed nets, and strategic use of antimalarial drugs.

In Haiti, CDC helped make progress in wiping out lymphatic filariasis, commonly known as elephantiasis, which can lead to abnormal swelling or enlargement of body parts causing severe disability. 5 million people in Haiti (50% of the population) no longer need preventive treatment drugs.

CDC SAVES lives, PROTECTS Americans, and IMPROVES global health preparedness.