

# AR Solutions *In Action*

CDC's Investments to Combat Antibiotic Resistance Threats

FISCAL YEAR

2021



## MINNESOTA

### \$5,310,927

Funding for AR Activities  
Fiscal Year 2021

Two local CDC fellows &  
One local CDC AR expert

Regional Lab for the AR Lab  
Network (Central)

One of 10 sites for the Emerging  
Infections Program

HIGHLIGHTS

## FUNDING TO STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENTS



\$2,377,776

**AR LABORATORY NETWORK REGIONAL LAB:** Regional labs boost state and local testing capacity and technology to detect, support response to, and prevent AR threats across the nation—and inform new innovations to detect AR.

In 2021, Minnesota provided testing surge capacity for AR outbreaks from other AR Lab Network regional labs overwhelmed by SARS-CoV-2 testing or other issues brought on by the pandemic, such as supply and personnel shortages in the labs. Some states have seen increased transmission of AR pathogens in COVID-19 wards, requiring screening support to identify transmission and inform public health response. By performing AR testing for states outside of their region, Minnesota ensured outbreaks were identified and responded to swiftly, maintaining national AR testing capacity. These collaborations further display the flexibility of the AR Lab Network and how CDC's investments can be adapted during a crisis.



\$856,971

**RAPID DETECTION & RESPONSE:** State, territory, and local public health partners fight AR in healthcare, the community, and food.

Programs use the AR Lab Network to rapidly detect threats and then implement prevention, response, and antibiotic stewardship to stop the spread of resistant germs. Additional resources, appropriated to CDC to fight COVID-19, will also help in the fight against AR by improving infection prevention and control in healthcare facilities.



\$521,345

**FOOD SAFETY** projects protect communities by rapidly identifying drug-resistant foodborne bacteria to stop and solve outbreaks and improve prevention.

Minnesota uses whole genome sequencing to track and monitor local outbreaks of *Listeria*, *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, and *Escherichia coli* and uploads sequence data into PulseNet for nationwide monitoring of outbreaks and trends. In Fiscal Year 2021, Minnesota continued monitoring these isolates for resistance genes. When outbreaks are detected, local CDC-supported epidemiologists investigate the cases to stop spread. CDC also funds Minnesota's Food Safety Center for Excellence, which provides assistance and training to other health departments to build capacity to track and investigate foodborne disease.



\$100,153

**FUNGAL DISEASE** projects improve our ability to track antifungal resistance and stop it from spreading.

With funding for fungal disease surveillance, Minnesota increased their ability to identify fungal diseases, monitor for new and emerging resistance, and implement strategies to prevent its spread in high-risk areas. Improving detection for fungal diseases, like *Candida auris*, means patients receive appropriate treatment and while reducing unnecessary antibiotic use.

CDC provides critical support in the U.S. and abroad to  
protect people from antibiotic resistance.

[ARinvestments.cdc.gov](https://ARinvestments.cdc.gov)



U.S. Department of  
Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease  
Control and Prevention

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## MINNESOTA AR Investments (cont.)



\$10,957

**GONORRHEA RAPID DETECTION & RESPONSE** works with state and local epidemiology and laboratory partners to test for and quickly respond to resistant gonorrhea to stop its spread in high-risk communities. Only one treatment option remains for gonorrhea and resistance continues to grow.

The Gonococcal Isolate Surveillance Project (GISP) informs national treatment guidelines and monitors how well antibiotics work on laboratory samples collected from sentinel sexually transmitted disease (STD) clinics, which often are the first to detect the threat. Select STD clinics also enhance surveillance by collecting additional gonococcal isolates from women and from extragenital sites.



\$1,443,725

**EMERGING INFECTIONS PROGRAM (EIP)** sites improve public health by translating population-based surveillance and research activities into informed policy and public health practice. This work is also funded in part by resources appropriated to CDC to support its response to coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

The Minnesota EIP performs population-based surveillance for candidemia, *Clostridium difficile*, invasive *Staphylococcus aureus*, and resistant Gram-negative bacteria; conducts HAI and antibiotic use prevalence surveys; develops and standardizes surveillance and outbreak response for foodborne infections; develops surveillance for non-tuberculous mycobacteria; participates in a collaboration with CDC Prevention Epicenters; and supports special projects. [Learn more: www.cdc.gov/hai/eip](https://www.cdc.gov/hai/eip).

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