

SAVING LIVES, PROTECTING PEOPLE

From this angle, the original and expanded areas of the CDC campus can be seen. The original six buildings that housed offices, laboratories, an audiovisual department, a small auditorium, and cafeteria are no longer standing. The last of these was demolished in 2011.

CDC marked its 50th anniversary in 1996 with offices in Hyattsville, MD, Research Triangle Park, NC, Cincinnati, OH, Morgantown, WV, Spokane, WA, Pittsburgh, PA, San Juan, Puerto Rico and Fort Collins, CO as well as quarantine offices throughout the country.

By the late 1990s, Congress approved a plan to construct world-class facilities for cutting-edge science research and approved the purchase of additional land along Clifton Road to the west. This acquisition increased the size of the Atlanta campus to about 47 acres. The campus also acquired a new name: the Edward R. Roybal campus, in honor of the California congressman who was one of CDC's most influential supporters. All of the original campus buildings were located between Houston Mill Road and Clifton Way, which is to the right. After the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the U.S. and the anthrax attacks that followed, CDC modified its construction plans to strengthen security measures addressing bio-terrorism threats.

The expanded Roybal campus opened in 2005 with the completion of a new headquarters building, new laboratories, and the Global Communications Center. The newer facilities reflect the needs of a highly technical and scientific agency tasked with tackling health security challenges of today and tomorrow.

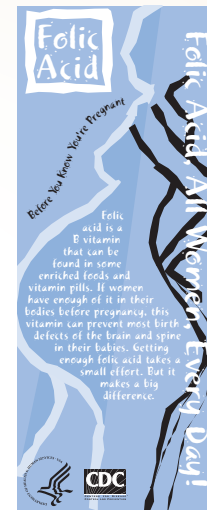


Laboratory Building, 2001

1990s



In 1993, CDC identified a mysterious illness in the southwestern U.S. as hantavirus transmitted by infected rodents through urine, droppings, and saliva.



In 1991, CDC released research recommending that women add extra folic acid to their diets before and during pregnancy to help prevent major birth defects of the baby's brain and spine.



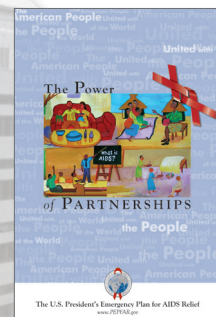
Photo credit: David Snyder

Since 1996, CDC PulseNet has tracked foodborne sickness and used DNA "fingerprinting" of the germs in foods making people sick to better control and protect against foodborne outbreaks, one of the most common forms of infectious disease.



To be more prepared to respond to emergencies, in 1999 CDC launched the National Pharmaceutical Stockpile, now known as the Strategic National Stockpile. These boxes and pallets contain drugs, vaccines, and other medical products that in an emergency can be sent across the U.S. within hours.

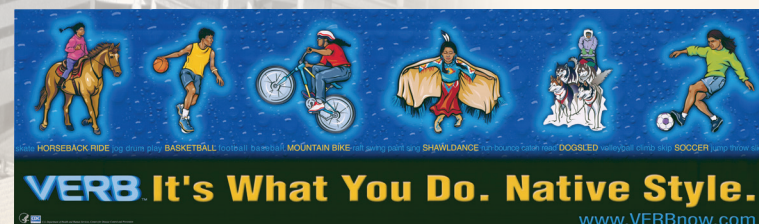
2000s



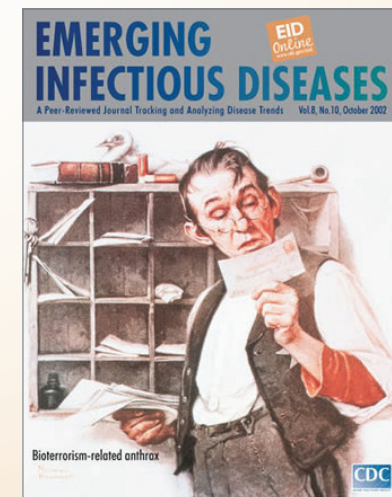
CDC is a key agency in implementing the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) that began in 2003, with a goal of creating an AIDS-free generation. This 2007 poster celebrates global connections in the fight against HIV/AIDS.



CDC was at Ground Zero within hours of the World Trade Center (WTC) attacks in New York on September 11, 2001, providing safety and health assistance to responders throughout the rescue and recovery periods.



In 2002, as part of an overall effort to respond to the growing problem of childhood obesity, CDC launched a national, multicultural, social marketing campaign. The campaign, VERB™ It's what you do, encouraged tweens, ages 9-13, to be more physically active.



In October 2001, CDC investigated the deliberate anthrax attacks in the U.S. in which deadly Anthrax spores were sent in letters through the U.S. Postal Service. CDC was at the forefront of the nation's response, working around the clock with state and local health officials to determine the source of the attacks, control the damage, and minimize the risk of exposure to the general public. A special issue of Emerging Infectious Diseases devoted to bioterrorism-related anthrax was published in 2002, in which investigators related their experiences and lessons learned.



CDC established its state-of-the-art Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in 2003. The EOC serves as a command center for coordinating CDC's emergency response activities to health threats in the U.S. and abroad. CDC's EOC has been activated for hurricanes, terrorist attacks, influenza outbreaks, new virus threats, and other contagious diseases.

To learn more about CDC's rich history, visit the David J. Sencer CDC Museum.
www.cdc.gov/museum