



8515 Georgia Avenue, Suite 700
Silver Spring, MD 20910

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

*Highlighting the real-world
impact of the association's
work in the United States
and around the world,
through the voices of
our members.*

<https://aphlannualreport.org>



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

INTRODUCTION

The COVID-19 pandemic defined the course of public health in 2020. On January 22, APHL established its Incident Command System to oversee organizational priorities, identify and respond to member needs, manage staffing and resources, and coordinate with the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other federal agencies and external partners.

APHL also made a wholesale pivot from in-person trainings, professional development and conferences to new virtual platforms. Fortunately, APHL's long-standing expertise with remote training opportunities and resources guided the transition of the remaining training programs—as well as six in-person conferences—to fully online platforms in just a few months.

But even as the pandemic continues, the critical day-to-day work of our members persists. Infectious disease samples continue to arrive in our laboratories. Babies continue to be born and screened. Natural and manmade disasters continue to occur with urgent implications for testing. Air, water and food quality continues to require monitoring. As we continue this critical work, we are profoundly grateful for the support of our members and federal partners—including (but not limited to) CDC, the US Food and Drug Administration, the Health Resources and Services Administration and the US Environmental Protection Agency—and all of our public and private collaborators.

We know that the days, weeks and months to come will be different from anything we have ever experienced as public health professionals. Our highest priority is still to do our jobs to the best of our ability, continue to educate our communities about what we do, and ensure a healthier world through quality laboratory systems.



2020 BY THE NUMBERS



45

Congressional committees and member offices to whom APHL served as a resource



1,135

media stories where APHL was quoted or mentioned in **a single day**



96

Lab Alerts distributed to members with COVID-19 updates

\$15.1
MILLION



awarded to APHL to bolster ongoing recovery efforts in **Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands**



39

direct funding awards to **newborn screening** programs to maintain essential system functions



13

APHL-CDC COVID-19 **Associates** were placed in laboratories



42

jurisdictions utilizing COVID-19 **Electronic Laboratory Reporting (ELR)**



430

Indonesian biosafety officers who participated in **virtual training** to implement COVID-19 testing capacity.

97,784



survey data points collected to support COVID-19 response

28,500+



informatics help desk tickets completed as of December 31, 2020



5,000+

attendees for **four webinars** developed around COVID-19 biosafety and biosecurity



\$31.7
MILLION

provided by FDA to state laboratories under a new **Laboratory Flexible Funding Model**



EDUCATE POLICY MAKERS



Even as the COVID-19 pandemic shut down in-person meetings, it bolstered APHL's presence on Capitol Hill.

APHL communicated with more than 45 committee and member offices in both the House and Senate and representing both sides of the aisle, roughly a four-fold increase over a typical year. The interactions, which centered around the COVID-19 response, took on a different tenor as well, with APHL serving as a resource more than an advocate. Legislative staff approached APHL with repeated requests for subject matter expertise and input on proposed legislation. APHL staff and members briefed staff from multiple House and Senate committees on COVID-19 testing, public health infrastructure and data management.



For the first time, federal funds designated for public health in each of the pandemic response bills can be used to construct, modify or renovate non-federal properties such as state and local public health laboratories, setting the stage for stronger public health systems for years to come.



COMMUNICATE CREDIBLE INFORMATION

Media numbers always rise for APHL when there is a public health emergency: Ebola, Zika, opioids, EVALI. But 2020 was one for the record books.



Laboratory testing has played a central role throughout the COVID-19 response like never before, pushing public health laboratories and their work into the spotlight. Media inquiries and interview requests flooded in from major US, local, regional and international media outlets as reporters increasingly recognized APHL as a trustworthy source of candid, evidence-based information about COVID-19 testing and the state of the pandemic response. APHL staff and member experts appeared in thousands of news articles and broadcasts, as well as network and independent documentaries. Weekly telebriefings gave reporters access to APHL members and staff, who very much remain in demand as the pandemic continues.

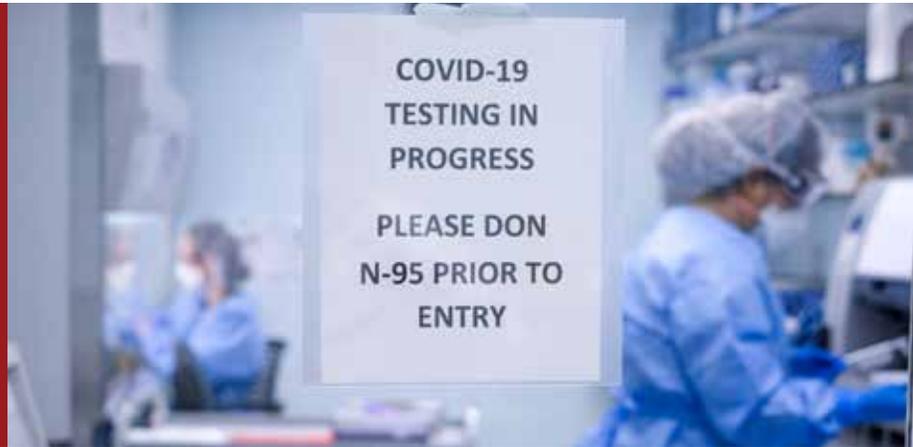
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COLLABORATE WITH PARTNERS

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W.R. Giedt Public Health Laboratories
State of Washington
Department of Health
1610 N.E. 150th St.

HEROES
WORK HERE

DELIVER TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS

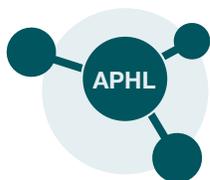


Over the past 12 years, APHL has built up the APHL Informatics Messaging Services (AIMS) Platform into a crucial data exchange platform for public health data. When COVID-19 hit, the APHL informatics team was able to build on the existing infrastructure and relationships to quickly accommodate new reporting partners and testing data. Terminologists developed a new standardized vocabulary for COVID-19 information. The Public Health Laboratory Interoperability Project (PHLIP) was reconfigured to handle COVID-19 data, and in a matter of weeks public health laboratories were in production and sending coronavirus testing data to CDC.

“ With nearly all US public health laboratory COVID-19 testing data routed through AIMS, message volume in PHLIP between January and November was 9500% higher in 2020 than during the same period in 2019. ”

PROVIDE CONNECTION OPPORTUNITIES

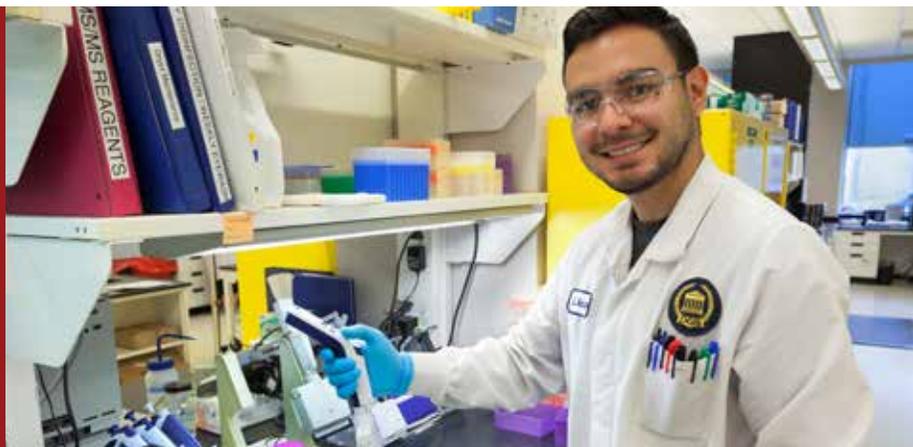
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ENSURE ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

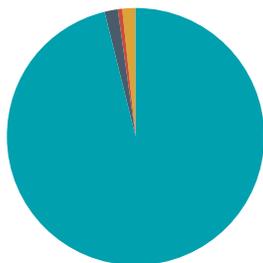
Even as laboratories grappled with the overwhelming demands of COVID-19 testing, other public health needs continued



To maintain the national newborn screening program, which saves thousands of lives every year in the U.S., APHL coordinated efforts with member laboratories to identify challenges and needs associated with adapting screening practices to pandemic conditions and compiled strategies on a COVID-19 newborn screening website and in a series of webinars. APHL also developed creative approaches to maintain testing capabilities for infectious diseases other than COVID-19. Staff developed processes for home collection of samples to test for sexually transmitted diseases and worked around supply chain disruptions for tuberculosis reagents by routing those samples to a handful of designated laboratories able to continue tuberculosis testing.

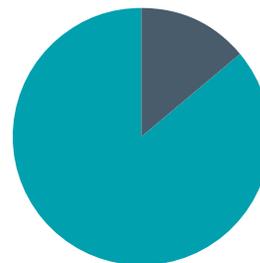
2020 Financials (unaudited figures)

TOTAL REVENUE (unaudited figure by category)



Grants and Contracts	62,360,902
Membership Dues	1,088,171
Conferences and Exhibits	393,787
Other	1,033,268
Total	64,876,128

TOTAL EXPENSES (unaudited figure by category)



Domestic Programs	52,959,937
Global Programs	8,722,875
Total	61,682,812

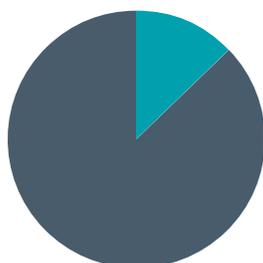
DOMESTIC PROGRAMS

Informatics	12,814,894
Infectious Diseases	11,920,787
Public Health Preparedness	7,642,282
Newborn Screening	5,998,833
APHL Consulting/Services	4,614,976
Food Safety	2,627,462
Lab Strengthening/Leadership	2,285,928
Environmental Health	1,504,672
Workshops	1,280,429
Leadership Dev	787,096
Member Services	621,868
Laboratory Systems and Standards	498,974
Conferences	361,736
Domestic Programs Total	52,959,937

GLOBAL PROGRAMS

Angola	12,288
Ethiopia	187,488
Ghana	491,870
India	274,472
Indonesia	362,919
Kazakhstan	13,902
Kenya	553,424
Mozambique	1,622,578
Other Global Health	1,173,948
Program Management	116,589
Senegal	96,935
Tanzania	540,505
Thailand	18,628
Ukraine	248,366
Vietnam	1,158,982
Zambia	1,833,593
Zimbabwe	16,388
Global Programs Total	8,722,875

CY20 OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY RATIO



General & Administration	12.96%
Program Services	87.04%
Total	100%