

2021 Impact Report

BRIDGING THE GAP

Towards UHC and resilient
health systems

Financing Alliance
for **Health**



Message from our Leaders

Dear **Friends**,

As the penultimate year of our current Growth for Impact strategy, 2021 presented a strategic inflection point for the Financing Alliance for Health (FAH). In the midst of the continued and ravaging effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, we remained nimble and agile. Rather than expand to new geographies, we doubled down on in-country support through funding and advocacy efforts focused on leveraging Community Health Workers (CHWs) to deepen COVID-19 awareness and combat misinformation on the COVID-19 vaccine. Most importantly, we bolstered our efforts around influencing global funding flows.

Building upon the momentum garnered around strengthening investments in community health in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, we joined forces with Community Health Acceleration Partnership, Community Health Impact Coalition and Last Mile Health under the championship of H.E. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf to make notable progress on developing innovative financing mechanisms to significantly narrow the large and growing funding gap for community health.

Specifically, we made important advances towards getting the front-runner idea, the Africa Frontline First (AFF) Initiative, off

the ground. Leveraging existing funding mechanisms, we identified the Global Fund as the host for one of the financing pathways, the African Front-line First Catalytic Fund (AFF-CF) and kicked off efforts towards raising the target US\$ 60M.

Through FAH support, three county governments in Kenya collectively secured **~KES 230M (US\$ 2.3M)** for community health spending. In Togo, we supported the government develop the **user fee elimination program** for primary health maternal and child services and co-developed the **Integrated Action Plan 2021-2023**, which is a crucial step towards the country's ambition of realizing Universal Health Coverage. Additionally, the FAH also supported the Togolese government develop and submit its Global Fund CRM-19 application.

Regionally, we deepened our support to the Africa CDC in its goal to recruit 2 million community health workers across the continent. Throughout the course of 2021, we provided technical advisory, and proposal development support, in addition to co-convening the seminal webinar series: *Cross Country Learning on Community Health System Integration and Financing*, jointly hosted by H.E. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and Dr. John Nkengasong.

The webinar attracted **over 830 diverse participants**, resulting in a policy report outlining key recommendations.

In addition to the significant programmatic strides, 2021 also saw FAH strengthening its institutional capacity with tremendous progress around formalizing our independent entities in both Kenya and the US as well as growing our team to welcome new staff and board members.

Looking ahead, our focus remains singular - ensuring African governments can finance resilient, at scale health systems for all. We will build upon the gains made in 2021 around influencing global funding flows, supporting domestic resource mobilization efforts and accelerating advocacy efforts to bridge the community health funding gap and ultimately ensure health for all.

Onward to 2022!

“ **Now is the time for the world to think boldly. Now is the time to innovate and collaborate. It is a time to advocate for what is possible... is not about talking. It is about doing, and community health workers have made the way.** ”

- H.E. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf



Nan Chen
Board Co-Chair



Phyllis Heydt
Board Co-Chair



Angela Gichaga
CEO



Leadership

2021 At a Glance

Africa CDC Support

Financing Modalities

Country Engagement

Advocacy, Awareness and Education

Country Voices

Our Impact

Operations updates

Partners

Thank you

Engage with us

2021 At a Glance



3 community health strategies and
1 community health policy co-developed in a bid to support the recognition of 3,000 – 5,000 CHWs and focus \$3M –\$5M to community health



Partnered with the Global Fund on the Africa Frontline First Catalytic Fund, a **\$60M** fund that will target up to 10 African countries between 2022 & 2030 to narrow the community health funding gap



4 governments engaged across Togo and Kenya. In Kenya 3 sub-national level governments supported-Tharaka Nithi, Makueni and Laikipia **with KES 230M (USD 2.3M) earmarked for community health**



2 successful strategy costing validation workshops facilitated to validate the strategy costs and capacity build 60 government officials on domestic resource mobilization



FAH supported A-CDC, as a thought partner, across various work streams; including: scaling up CHWs under the Partnership to Accelerate **COVID-19** Testing (PACT) Initiative



~1300 Financing Community Health Programs for Scale and Sustainability course enrollees from across 90+ countries equipped with the tools they need to build robust and sustainable community health programs.



2 thought leadership pieces published on narrowing the community health financing gap in sub Saharan Africa as part of ongoing advocacy on community health funding



2 entities set up-the newly independent FAH entity in the US and its Kenyan subsidiary



7 New team members added in 2021
2 New members added to the board

Leadership

2021 At a Glance

Africa CDC Support

Financing Modalities

Country Engagement

Advocacy, Awareness and Education

Country Voices

Our Impact

Operations updates

Partners

Thank you

Engage with us

Africa CDC Support



FAH has been supporting A-CDC, as a thought partner, to strengthen national community health workforces across the African continent, during the pandemic and beyond. Thus far, FAH has:

- Provided its cross-country costing data to support A-CDC in costing the CHW component of the Partnership to Accelerate COVID-19 Testing (PACT) initiative, which has **deployed 18,154 community health workers across 27 member states** to 'test, trace, and treat' COVID-19
- Strengthened the role of CHWs in resilient health system building across Africa through our participation in the Community Health Technical Working Group, where we are a member of the Finance and Sustainability sub – committee
- Supported A-CDC in its multi-year proposal to MasterCard Foundation, as part of an ecosystem of partners



18,154
community health workers

- Co-convoked a webinar series 'Cross Country Learning on Community Health System Integration and Financing' with H.E Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Africa CDC, Last Mile Health, and Living Goods with **6** PACT countries for peer-to-peer learning on CHW optimization in COVID response. The two-day webinar series, attracted **830+** participants from diverse backgrounds. Find [here](#) the published policy report with key recommendations.



LAST MILE HEALTH



- Supported the co-development of an Op-Ed on the role of CHWs in Africa's COVID-19 response. Through the piece published on Devex, A-CDC Director Dr. John Nkengasong and H.E Ellen Johnson Sirleaf call for investing in the creation of a community health workforce that can help end the current pandemic and prevent the next one. Read it [here](#)



Leadership

2021 At a Glance

Africa CDC Support

Financing Modalities

Country Engagement

Advocacy, Awareness and Education

Country Voices

Our Impact

Operations updates

Partners

Thank you

Engage with us

Financing Modalities

Sub-Saharan Africa faces a massive and growing community health-financing gap, currently estimated at **USD 4.4 billion** annually. To close the gap, FAH has made significant strides in advancing the big ideas that we believe will be key to bringing this gap down to zero, particularly through our frontrunner idea, the **Africa Frontline First (AFF) initiative**. AFF is a continent-wide initiative that aims to significantly reduce the funding gap for community health and end millions of preventable deaths. The initiative is founded on the belief that a robust community health infrastructure is essential to delivery of effective, efficient and equitable care.

Thus far, we have:

- Refined the AFF road map and identified three distinct phases of country support for 2022-2030: Unlocking country Community Health program bottlenecks, scaling CHWs and country sustainability
- On-boarded champions for the initiative including Africa - CDC and the Office of H.E. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf to build momentum and political interest in investing in community health in Africa
- Successfully engaged the Global Fund to host one of AFF's financing pathways – the Africa Frontline First Catalytic Fund (AFF-CF). In collaboration with the Global Fund, FAH co-designed the AFF-CF, a USD 30-60M fund that will target up to 10 countries between 2022 and 2030
- Launched fundraising efforts for the AFF-CF with philanthropies, including ELMA Philanthropies, the Johnson & Johnson Foundation, Skoll Foundation, UBS Optimus Foundation and LGT Venture Philanthropy



\$60M
targeted for
10

African Countries between
2022 and 2030

[Click here for more information about the initiative](#)

Leadership

2021 At a Glance

Africa CDC Support

Financing Modalities

Country Engagement

Advocacy, Awareness and Education

Country Voices

Our Impact

Operations updates

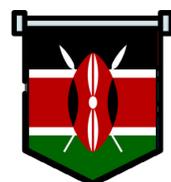
Partners

Thank you

Engage with us

Country Engagement 1/3

In an effort to support the recognition of CHWs and mobilize funding for community health to ensure health access for all, we supported Togo and engaged three sub-national level governments in Kenya.



Kenya has made a strong political commitment to achieve Universal Health Coverage by 2022, as expressed in the government's Big Four Agenda, which includes health care for all as a key development priority. As a result, significant strides have been made at both the national and subnational levels to ensure that this ambitious vision is realized and the last two years saw significant investment towards community health across the country.

Throughout 2021, FAH continued to support the county governments of Laikipia, Tharaka Nithi and Makueni in laying the groundwork for robust resource mobilization efforts to bolster their community health programs.

As part of our multi-year support, below is the progress to date across the counties:

Tharaka Nithi



Tharaka Nithi has displayed a great political will towards the community health program, which has seen it committing to pay \$30 monthly stipend for its 1,265 Community Health Volunteers (CHVs) - the highest in the country. FAH continues to work with the county to strengthen other areas of their community health program and especially with regards to entrenching the program for sustainability. As such, in 2021 we:

- Supported the securing of a domestic budget line for community health of ~KES 112M (US\$ 1.12M)
- Supported the development of the **Community Health Strategy 2021-2025**, investment case and costed operation plan for community health services
- Trained ~40 diverse stakeholders on public financial management as a foundational step towards resource mobilization for community health



Leadership

2021 At a Glance

Africa CDC Support

Financing Modalities

Country Engagement

Advocacy, Awareness and Education

Country Voices

Our Impact

Operations updates

Partners

Thank you

Engage with us

Country Engagement 2/3

Laikipia



Laikipia is one of the counties with the highest National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF) enrollment rate nationally, with 64% of its population enrolled in the NHIF scheme as of 2020. Thanks to CHVs whose sensitization efforts have contributed to increased enrollment of the residents to the scheme. We continue to support the county on their plans to provide the CHVs with the requisite resources needed to perform their duties effectively to ensure health access for all. In 2021, FAH:

- Supported the securing of a domestic budget line for community health of KES 46M (US\$ 460K)
- Supported the development of the draft County Community Health Strategic Plan 2021-2025 and investment case. With the strategy, the county will plan better to provide the community health volunteers (CHVs) with the requisite tools



Makueni



Over the past few years, Makueni County has recorded positive progress in the health sector with the introduction of the UHC program. One of the major lessons derived from this success is the need for a sustainable and resilient healthcare system that will improve access to healthcare for all. FAH continues to work with the county to ensure establishment of a robust community health structure to achieve this. In the previous year, we:

- Supported the securing of a domestic budget line for community health of KES 72M (US\$ 720K)
- Supported the finalization of the County Community Health Policy
- Supported the development of the draft County Community Health Strategy



Leadership

2021 At a Glance

Africa CDC Support

Financing Modalities

Country Engagement

Advocacy, Awareness and Education

Country Voices

Our Impact

Operations updates

Partners

Thank you

Engage with us

Country Engagement 3/3



In Togo, FAH supported:

O>> User fee elimination for maternal healthcare services: FAH, through an ecosystem of partners, supported the Ministry of Health to co-develop a detailed road map on the user fee elimination program for maternal and child health services, named 'Wezou'. 'Wezou' was launched in August 2021, with an aim to reduce maternal and child mortality in Togo by reducing the financial impact related to access to appropriate health care during pregnancy, delivery and the early years. By the end of December 2021, **96%** of the health facilities were offering the program services and had enrolled **98,550** pregnant women. Additionally, **138,623** women had benefited from the program services.

O>> Resource mobilization: FAH provided technical advisory to the department of community health in the drafting and submission of the Global Fund C19RM Application



O>> Community health systems strengthening: FAH, together with its partners, worked with the Togolese government to evaluate existing community health models in the country, with a view to selecting the most optimal model. In order to help the Government of Togo in its analysis, the FAH conducted on-ground evaluations of existing models, benchmarked against global case studies covering five countries and developed a foundational costing analysis of the Community Health Strategy, 2022-2025

O>> Co-development and validation of the Government of Togo Integrated Action Plan for the Ministry of Health: FAH along with the other partners in Togo participated in the development of the Integrated Action Plan 2021-2023 for the Department of Health, in charge of Universal Health Coverage



Leadership

2021 At a Glance

Africa CDC Support

Financing Modalities

Country Engagement

Advocacy, Awareness
and Education

Country Voices

Our Impact

Operations updates

Partners

Thank you

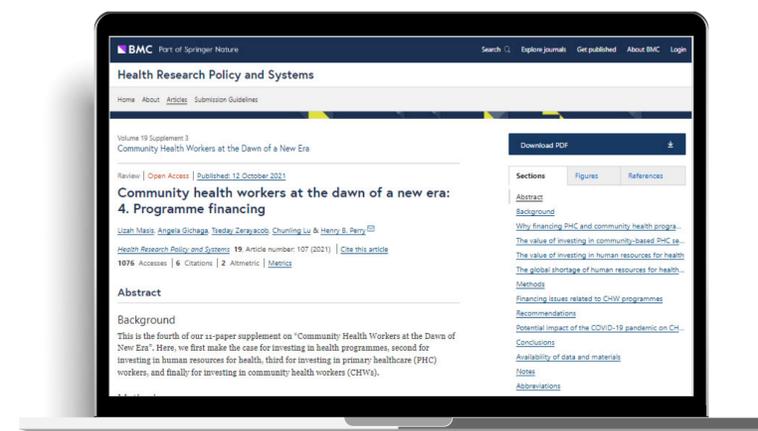
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Advocacy, Awareness and Education 1/2

To achieve our goal of being the go-to expert on community health (CH) financing, we re-launched our [Financing Community Health Programs for Scale and Sustainability course series](#), and published two knowledge pieces communicating the compelling case for investing in robust CH systems. Additionally, we disseminated a wide array of information and think pieces on the same through our [CHF hub](#), a one-stop shop for all community health financing matters.

FAH co-authored [‘Mind the Global Community Health Funding Gap’](#) on the Global Health: Science and Practice (GHSP) platform. The article outlines the key role CHWs play in bridging the huge human resources gap, the CH funding gap in sub-Saharan Africa, and the practical steps a diverse set of countries can adopt to close this gap and push towards a robust CH system.

FAH also co-authored the fourth part of the 11-paper supplement on “Community Health Workers at the Dawn of New Era”, making the case for investing in health programs, in human resources for health and in community health workers (CHWs). [See the full paper](#)

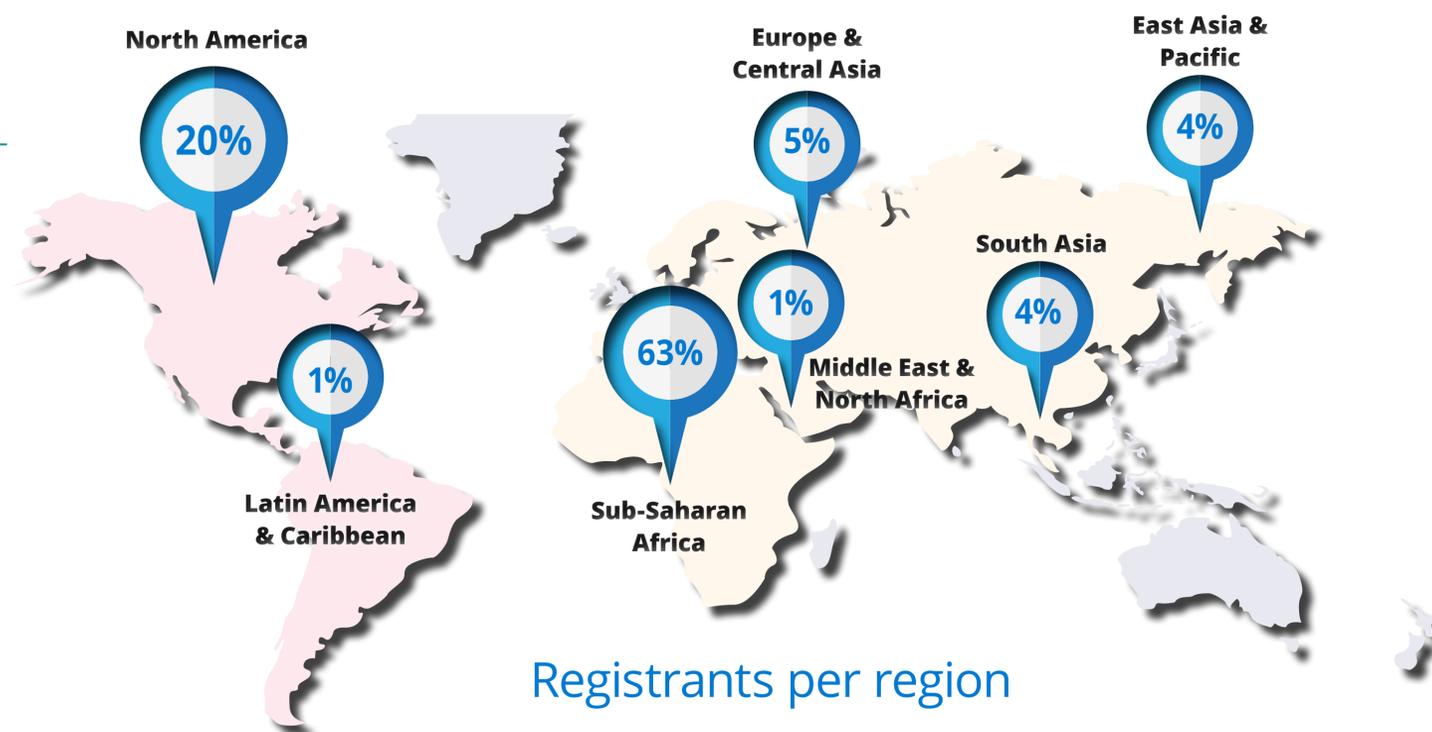


We have almost doubled enrollment numbers for our [Financing Community Health Programs for Scale and Sustainability course series!](#)

To date, close to 1,300 learners across 89+ countries have enrolled on the course, which is offered free of charge to equip community health champions with the tools they need to build robust and sustainable community health programs.



~1300
learners across
89+ countries



Leadership

2021 At a Glance

Africa CDC Support

Financing Modalities

Country Engagement

Advocacy, Awareness and Education

Country Voices

Our Impact

Operations updates

Partners

Thank you

Engage with us

Advocacy, Awareness and Education 2/2

FAH supported the Nairobi Metropolitan Services on the launch of the **Nairobi Community Health Services (CHS) Act, 2019**, a great step in ensuring Community Health Volunteers (CHVs), a vital component of the health workforce, are institutionalized. Nairobi is now among the eight leading counties to launch the CHS Act. [See the launch video](#)



FAH teamed up with members of the Community Health Impact Coalition, CHW Advocates and government leaders from Kenya and Uganda for a 60-minute virtual event about one of the most important, yet challenging, topics facing community health worker (CHW) programs: From Appreciation to Action: Achieving Fair Pay for CHWs. [Watch the highlights reel](#). We also presented [strategies for moving towards fair pay and tackling the challenges](#) commonly encountered along the way.



Leadership

2021 At a Glance

Africa CDC Support

Financing Modalities

Country Engagement

**Advocacy, Awareness
and Education**

Country Voices

Our Impact

Operations updates

Partners

Thank you

Engage with us

Country Voices: Celebrating Everyday Heroes

As the designated Year of Health and Care Workers (YHCW), 2021 has continued to illuminate the importance of investing in and protecting Community Health Workers who remain at the frontlines of health crises globally and the Financing Alliance for Health has remained steadfast in its mission to elevate their voices and ensure that governments prioritize them.

“Serving my community is the most fulfilling work I have done so far, though it comes with its own challenges, especially due to a shortage of CHVs in my area. ”

— Euridice Gatwiri, Community Health Volunteer (CHV), Gatua Community Health Unit, Tharaka Nithi, Kenya

Every month, Euridice visits about 20 households - offering among others, prenatal and postnatal advice to mothers, nutritional education, particularly for children under five and much needed information on hygiene and sanitation - in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Read more about her work here](#)



UHC is becoming a reality in Laikipia county Kenya, thanks to CHVs who have tirelessly contributed to enrolling households for the National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF). A feat that has seen increased medical insurance coverage from **17% in 2017 to 64% as of 2020**. In addition, they continue to play a significant role of providing preventive and promotive services at the community level and have greatly contributed to the containment of COVID-19 in the county hence effectively ‘insuring’ the health system and the county from the pandemic.

[Read more here](#)



Leadership

2021 At a Glance

Africa CDC Support

Financing Modalities

Country Engagement

Advocacy, Awareness and Education

Country Voices

Our Impact

Operations updates

Partners

Thank you

Engage with us

Our Impact

Since inception, FAH has, through an ecosystem of partners, supported 15 governments at the national and sub-national levels, across **12 countries to mobilize USD 360M+** and recognition of **455,000+ community health workers**.

Below is a snapshot of some of the 2021 numbers:

15
Governments

\$360M+
Funding Mobilized

455K+
Recognized CHWs

| Funding Mobilized (Million Dollars) | Kenya | Liberia | Rwanda | Sierra Leone | Uganda | Zimbabwe | Others |
|--|--------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| | 2021* | 120.35M | 41.60M | 11.07M | 18.34M | 4.01M | 16.03M |
| 2020 | 2.5M | 23.79M | 10.09M | 17.82M | 2.17M | 15.89M | 18.0M |

| Recognized* CHWs | Kenya | Liberia | Rwanda | Uganda | Zambia | Zimbabwe |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| | Actual | 91,653 | 8,311 | 60,000 | 179,175 | 42,140 |
| Target | 114,162 | 4,368 | 60,000 | 179,175 | 45,000 | 22,200 |

Recognized* includes both government recognized and government-paid CHWs
2021* figures are cumulative
*For Kenya, the figure is cumulative for all 47 counties.

Leadership

2021 At a Glance

Africa CDC Support

Financing Modalities

Country Engagement

Advocacy, Awareness
and Education

Country Voices

Our Impact

Operations updates

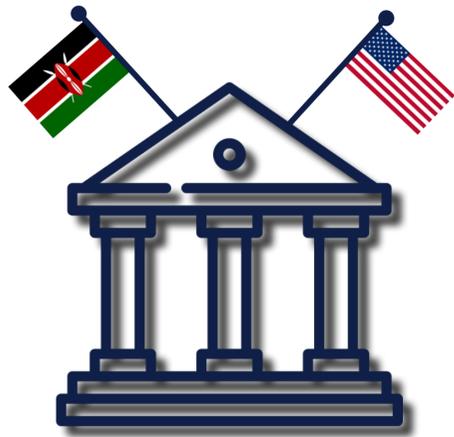
Partners

Thank you

Engage with us

Operational Updates

As part of strengthening our institutional governance and capacity to effectively deepen our impact, we continue to operationalize our newly independent entity in the United States and its Kenyan subsidiary and growing our team with members who bring a wealth of knowledge, rich experience and diverse skills, enriching the vision and focus of the FAH.



Governance Transition:

FAH recently transitioned out of fiscal sponsorship to an independent 501c3 registered in the US and a subsidiary entity in Kenya - the Advisory Alliance for Health (AAH). We have made significant strides around formalizing both entities.

We have completed:

- The requisite statutory registrations
- The US entity inaugural audit and effected the inaugural audit exercise for AAH
- Developing policies and standard operating procedures to ensure compliance with both US and Kenyan country laws

Team Growth:

FAH has grown tremendously in the last 12 months! We added:

- o» 4 Fellows
- o» 3 core team members
- o» 2 new board members.

Learn more about our new team members [here](#).



Leadership

2021 At a Glance

Africa CDC Support

Financing Modalities

Country Engagement

Advocacy, Awareness
and Education

Country Voices

Our Impact

Operations updates

Partners

Thank you

Engage with us

We could not have done this without support from our funding and collaborative partners

Funding Partners

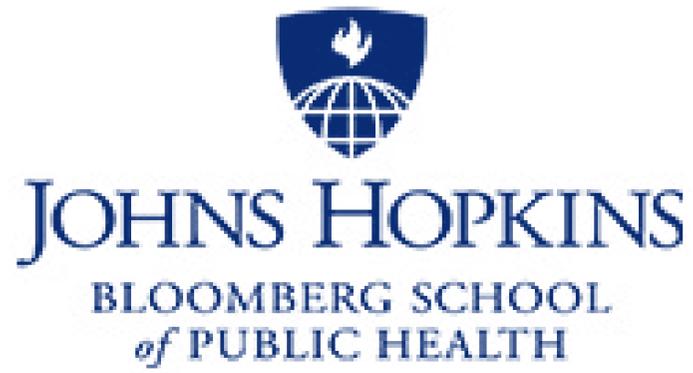
The Horace W. Goldsmith
Foundation



Venture
Philanthropy



Collaborative Partners



**LAST
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 **Community Health Impact Coalition**



Thank You

