



“ I launched Resolve to Save Lives in 2017 to try to save the most lives by addressing the world’s leading killers. In a short time, we’ve recruited a superb team and partners and developed programs and have already saved millions of lives. Our model is working. Now, we want to partner with even more countries to bring these life-saving programs to more people.”

TOM FRIEDEN, MD, MPH,
PRESIDENT AND CEO, RESOLVE TO SAVE LIVES

When Dr. Tom Frieden finished his tenure as Director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), he turned his attention to solving a unique problem in global public health: **the leading causes of death worldwide are drastically underfunded and ignored.** Tom created Resolve to Save Lives in 2017 to help prevent epidemics and to combat heart disease, the #1 killer around the world.



WE SUPPORT COMMUNITIES AND COUNTRIES TO:



Prevent 100 million deaths from heart disease.

We drive efforts to reduce global sodium intake, eliminate artificial *trans* fat from the food supply and improve blood pressure control, especially in low- and middle-income countries. These programs can save an estimated 100 million lives over the next 30 years.



Find, stop and prevent epidemics.

We help countries and communities improve rapid detection and early response to disease outbreaks, and we advance policy to support epidemic preparedness.

HOW WE WORK

Resolve to Save Lives has become widely trusted as a nimble partner and honest broker. We provide support where and how it's needed most, whether as a funder or co-implementer.

Our Values



Justice

We create and sustain a culture of justice and inclusion in our work and among our staff.



Data-driven

Our decisions are guided by timely, accurate, rigorously collected and analyzed data.



Partnership

We partner with integrity, compassion and humility. We deeply value our many partners worldwide and seek advice on how we can be more effective.

Our Approach



Simplicity

We promote and create simple, innovative, user-centered programs.



Speed

We work with agility, motivated by the fierce urgency of now.



Scale

We catalyze improvements, support policies and drive interventions that result in sustained progress at the national, regional and global scale.

STOPPING AND REVERSING HEART DISEASE

Heart disease is the leading cause of death worldwide.

High blood pressure alone kills more people than all major infectious diseases—including malaria, tuberculosis and HIV—combined.

Very few organizations work in cardiovascular health, and fewer still work on both prevention and treatment. There is a tremendous amount of work to be done — with limited political attention or global health funding. Resolve to Save Lives works to fill this gap.

By advancing three strategies,
the world can save 100 million lives over 30 years:

↑ 50%

Increase the number of individuals with high blood pressure who have it effectively managed from 14% today to 50%



↓ 30%

Reduce the amount of sodium that people consume by 30%



⊖ 0%

Eliminate artificial *trans* fat from the global food supply



Improving the management of high blood pressure

Lack of a standard treatment protocol, interruptions in drug supply, and lack of accurate and real-time information systems have been major obstacles to hypertension control.

We collaborated with the World Health Organization (WHO) to release a standard protocol for treating high blood pressure that uses fewer medications and fixed dosages — simplifying decision-making for care providers, expanding the number of patients who can benefit, and helping clinics better manage their workloads and maintain their drug inventory.

In four years, we have supported programs and policies in 31 countries and improved care of more than 7 million people living with hypertension.

Reducing sodium levels

Globally, the average person’s salt intake is nearly twice the recommended level. High salt consumption raises blood pressure, and high blood pressure is the leading risk factor for heart disease and stroke.

We supported the WHO to develop the first ever global sodium benchmarks — standards for appropriate levels of sodium in packaged foods. We funded research and development of low-sodium alternatives for everyday staples, including a low sodium fish sauce in Vietnam. We also supported research and advocacy for front-of-package nutrition, which help people choose healthier foods and encourage food manufacturers to reduce sodium levels.

Eliminating *trans* fat from the global food supply

Artificial *trans* fat is a toxic chemical that increases the risk of heart attack and stroke. It was estimated to cause more than 500,000 deaths every year before Resolve to Save Lives took action. *Trans* fat can be replaced with healthier fats and oils without changing the taste or increasing the cost of food. We partnered with WHO to develop and launch REPLACE, an initiative to eliminate artificial *trans* fat from the global food supply by providing governments with the tools to regulate *trans* fat in the food supply.

Since the REPLACE initiative was announced in 2018, 3.1 billion people have gained the protection of best practice *trans* fat elimination policies.

Achieving the REPLACE goal of global *trans* fat elimination by 2023 will save an estimated 17 million lives over the next 25 years.



“Since Resolve to Save Lives began, we have seen a dramatic acceleration in cardiovascular disease prevention and have renewed hope for the future.”

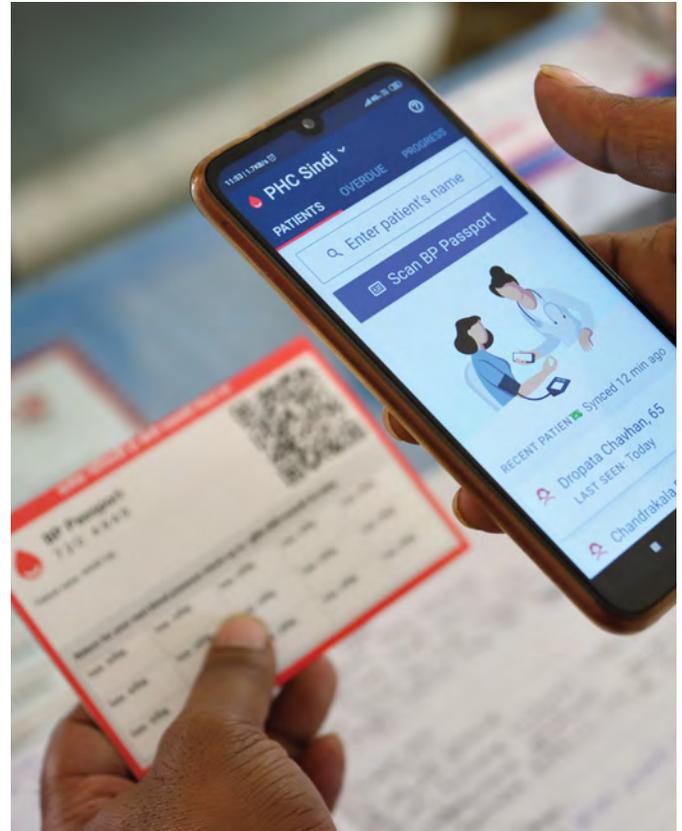
**CHERIAN VARGHESE, COORDINATOR,
MANAGEMENT OF NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES, WHO**

A “Simple” success

In India, one in four adults are estimated to have high blood pressure, and only about 10% have their blood pressure under control.

As part of our efforts to support the scaling of a country-wide hypertension control initiative, we worked with partners in India to develop the revolutionary Simple app.

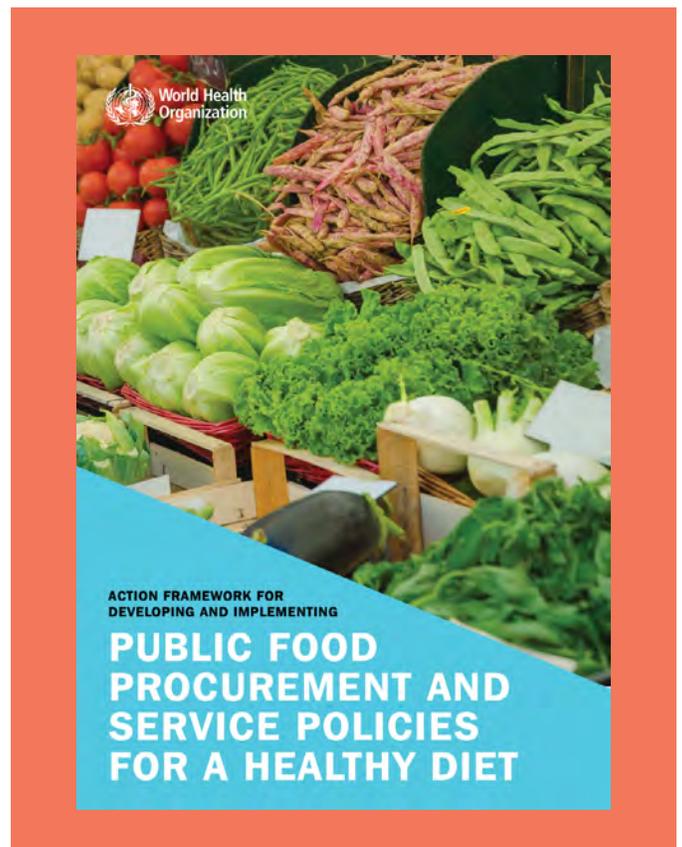
Simple is a free, fast, open-source electronic health record that replaces paper records, making it faster and easier for providers to track patients’ blood pressure and medications. By May 2022, Simple was being used in more than 10,000 public health facilities in India, Bangladesh, Ethiopia and Sri Lanka to manage more than 2 million patients, and its adoption continues to spread. Simple saves health care workers hours every week — taking just 16 seconds for providers to update each patient’s information — and empowers doctors and program managers to improve programs continuously.



Setting the standard with healthy food choices

A major source of salt in people’s food comes from meals provided by the government, such as in schools and nursing homes.

In collaboration with the WHO, Resolve to Save Lives developed an action plan encouraging governments to only buy, sell and serve foods that meet nutrition standards. We have supported 14 governments shaping healthy public food procurement initiatives, including model policies in Ethiopia and Quezon City, Philippines.



What can your support accomplish?

Heart health hasn't benefitted from the focused global action that has slowed down deaths from infectious diseases.

Global philanthropy is slower to tackle the health issues that don't make headlines. It's time to put heart health front and center.

There are many opportunities, at different funding levels, to make a meaningful difference. The following examples illustrate what can be accomplished:

- \$3 million over 3 years to support the scaling of the Simple app across one country, enabling improved management of hypertension
- \$1 million over 3 years to provide specialized expertise and technical assistance to a national Ministry of Health as it works to implement best practices in hypertension prevention and management
- \$500,000 over 2 years to fund advocacy for and implementation of new city-wide or national policy requiring governments to purchase and sell healthy foods in public settings
- \$200,000 per country to support advocacy for policies banning artificial *trans* fats and to assist with the successful implementation of new policies



PREVENT EPIDEMICS

The COVID-19 pandemic laid bare a lack of preparedness on a global scale and its human and economic costs

Three years before the the emergence of SARS-CoV-2, Resolve to Save Lives had already set out to strengthen epidemic preparedness and prevention around the world.

Many of the countries we worked with before the pandemic were better prepared for COVID-19, and many governments and NGOs turned to us for guidance during the pandemic. This is the moment — when political motivation is high — to improve how countries identify and respond to epidemics.

“Resolve to Save Lives has been a great partner for Uganda and has helped us improve preparedness, an effort that’s saving money, lives, and building systems to protect our people.”

HONORABLE DR. JANE RUTH ACENG,
UGANDA MINISTER OF HEALTH

Strengthening preparedness for the next epidemic

We partner with low- and middle-income countries to strengthen health security systems, improving countries’ ability to find, stop and prevent epidemic threats.



In 2018, we created PreventEpidemics.org, a website that sheds light on more than 7,000 preparedness gaps in 114 countries. We then partnered with countries to fill these gaps. The 15 countries in Africa where we focused much of our direct support improved their preparedness by 27% — including four countries covering more than a quarter of Africa’s population.



We simplify and improve processes to accelerate implementation. One example is our collaboration with WHO on benchmarks.org. Benchmarks.org enables countries to quickly develop detailed action plans and gain access to international funding earmarked for epidemic preparedness. The website is currently being tested, and more than 15 countries across Africa and Asia have begun using it to accelerate their progress.



We loan our epidemiology experts to global institutions — including the World Bank, Global Fund and the Asian Development Bank — to help shape strong public health programs and advise on the allocation of billions in epidemic preparedness and response funds.

Responding to COVID-19

When COVID-19 began spreading worldwide, we quickly shifted to support the global response, adding staff and extending assistance to more than 60 countries.

- We advocated for broader access to COVID-19 vaccines, diagnostics, treatments, protections for health care workers and other policies that strengthen the systems needed to find and stop health threats.
- We provided \$6.1 million in rapid response grants to 34 countries. These timely, small grants allowed governments to surge support where needed — from training, to contact tracing, to fuel for the transport of investigation teams and lab samples.
- We trained more than 42,000 health care workers across more than 8,400 health centers in 22 countries to safely treat COVID-19 patients.
- We provided support to turn on an additional 280 COVID-19 molecular testing labs in Africa.
- We produced more than 750 communication products in 25 languages, including technical guidance, communication campaigns and editorials. Many of our resources were adopted by the WHO, Africa CDC and governments around the world.



A new target for preparedness: 7-1-7

Prevailing global standards for measuring preparedness focus on individual components of health systems without considering how these components work together to catalyze rapid response.

To drive global progress, we recently announced a new target for accountability and acceleration:

- Identify suspected outbreaks within 7 days
- Report to public health authorities and start to investigate and respond within 1 day
- Mount an effective response within 7 days

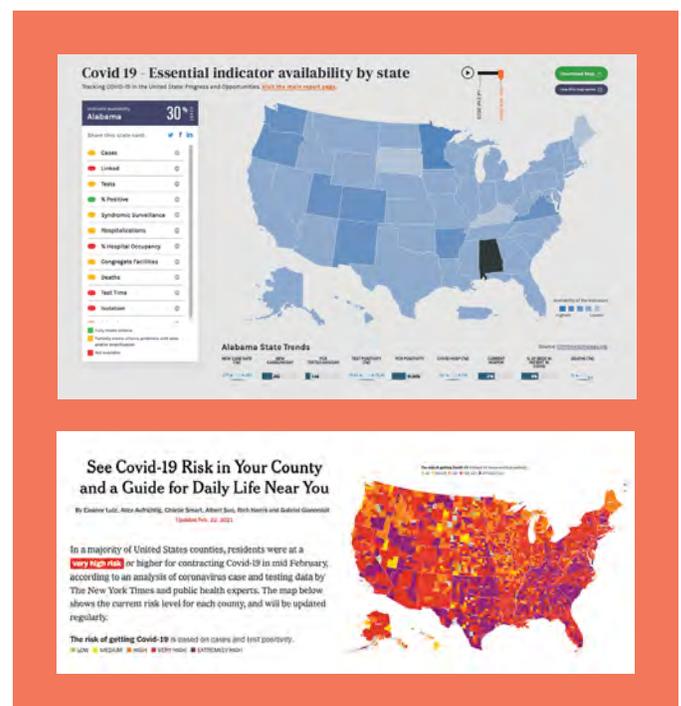
If countries can meet this target, we can stop the next pandemic threat before it gets out of control. Country pilots have shown that the 7-1-7 target can lead to rapid and continuous quality improvement in epidemic detection and response. Resolve to Save Lives is promoting 7-1-7 as we partner with WHO and governments around the world to strengthen preparedness.



The power of data

Data infrastructure emerged as a major point of failure during the COVID-19 pandemic. Resolve to Save Lives has played a critical role helping decision-makers understand what data should be collected and how to use it.

Our public health experts defined alert levels which were adopted by municipalities across the U.S. and beyond, and we advised the New York Times on the design of their COVID-19 dashboard. Our digital team created dashboards for 40+ U.S. municipalities, developed a continent-wide dashboard for the Africa CDC, and built data pipelines to connect systems and enable data aggregation.



What can your support accomplish?

The world is vulnerable to the next health threat because most people live in countries that are not well prepared to find, stop and prevent dangerous infectious diseases.

Resolve to Save Lives is partnering with countries and global organizations to maximize the impact of investments in epidemic preparedness. There are many opportunities, at different funding levels, to make a meaningful difference. The following examples illustrate what can be accomplished:

- \$1 million–\$3 million per country per year to protect health care workers so they can better respond to outbreaks.
- \$500,000 to embed a public health specialist in a global financial organization for a two-year term to help mobilize and advise on the allocation of billions of dollars for preparedness.
- \$300,000 to introduce the 7-1-7 program in a new country and provide one year of support to quickly find and fix gaps in detection and response systems, reducing the risk that a disease will spread out of control.
- \$300,000 to equip managers charged with overseeing implementation of national epidemic preparedness plans with the practical training to translate plans into real-time action.





resolvetosavelives.org



Resolve to Save Lives earned a Gold Seal from Candid in 2022.