A YEAR OF SOLIDARITY AGAINST THE VIRUS

MARCH 2020 – MARCH 2021
Extraordinary generosity

The whole world has been facing an unprecedented crisis for a year now. Despite the uncertainties weighing on the future, and despite financial and social difficulties, your heart-warming generosity never slackened, quite the opposite! Thousands of you expressed your solidarity by contributing to the “United against the virus” Alliance, which Fondation de France created together with Institut Pasteur and AP-HP. I am truly very grateful for your commitment. Knowing that you stood by us in these very difficult times was hugely helpful for us. Thanks to you, enormous amounts of work was carried out last year, which you can read about in this document.

Since March 2020, Fondation de France has been totally committed to all stakeholders in local communities throughout the country. We very quickly adapted our organization to respond to urgent issues and we set up specific channels to identify the most relevant projects in France and internationally. The entire Fondation de France network was called on, and I would also like to thank all the volunteers and donor-advised funds. To date, more than 850 projects have already been implemented.

We also planned for the long-term effects of this crisis and reviewed our priorities. A new program, “Inventing Tomorrow” (“Inventer Demain”) has been created to support the most innovative and effective collective initiatives, especially in the more deprived areas.

Without you, none of this would have been possible.

Un grand merci.

Axelle Davezac,
Executive Director,
Fondation de France

FACTS & FIGURES

€41m
RAISED

855
PROJECTS
IMPLEMENTED

7.1%
OPERATIONAL AND FUNDRAISING COSTS

Funds Allocated According to Target Groups in 2020

Karine Meaux, Head of Emergency Actions at Fondation de France

In just a few weeks, our organization was entirely redesigned: 13 core boards were set up: 10 came from Fondation de France committees and 3 were ad hoc. The mobilization of 150 volunteer-experts enabled us to assess around 1,350 projects and to support more than 850 of them in record time.

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One alliance, 5 action plans

Faced with this emergency, Fondation de France immediately adapted its work to provide practical and sustainable solutions. In March, it created the “United Against the Virus” Alliance, with Institut Pasteur and AP-HP. Donor mobilization meant that work was very quickly initiated around 3 priority action plans: assistance for hospitals and health workers, assistance for the most vulnerable as well support for medical research. Additional funds gave us the ability to support the renewal of the non-profit sector and also to bolster projects abroad.

1. Supporting health workers and carers

Right from the start of the Covid crisis, Fondation de France worked with care teams, providing medical equipment that included ventilators, oxygen therapy systems, syringe pumps and PPE. The problem of physical and mental burnout arose very quickly for health workers and carers and became critical. Fondation de France supported tailored solutions to help staff withstand the situation. Measures included: distance medicine, reinforced teams, psychological support schemes, counseling groups, support care and meal deliveries.

In the Lille University Teaching Hospital (CHU), psychological support was offered to workers and grieving families

Faced with the magnitude of the pandemic, the Lille CHU quickly made provision for psychological support. It was first offered to workers, thanks to psychologists being present in the same care units, and then to families, grieving after a Covid-related death. The health precautions in force often prevented families from being with their loved ones in the final moments, or to meet and support one another.

In Vaulx-en-Velin, helping particularly hard hit home helpers

Stress, exhaustion fear of transmitting the disease, all these factors meant that home helpers were particularly hard hit by the pandemic. Thanks to Fondation de France, the Centre communal d’action sociale (medical and social care) teams in Vaulx-en-Velin (France) benefited from training in non-violent communication, coaching, as well as weekly workshops. The objective was for helpers to relieve tensions in their body and to free themselves of the mental load, in other words, to take care of themselves, so as to be able to look after others!
2. Helping the most vulnerable

During the pandemic, conditions for many people who were already vulnerable became even tougher. Requests for food aid shot up by 30%, a sure sign of increased hardship.

For Fondation de France, the priority was to identify all vulnerable people and to assist them, be they children and young people struggling at school, women facing violence at home, isolated and elderly people, people with disabilities or mental health conditions, those that are sleeping rough, and so on. Throughout the country, projects mushroomed to meet urgent needs and many appropriate and sustainable solutions were designed.

Elderly people: maintaining social interactions with digital technologies

At the start of the pandemic, many elderly people found themselves confined to institutions and cut off from their loved ones. With the support of Fondation de France, nonprofit Old’Up distributed 12,000 digital tool kits in nursing homes, care homes and accommodation centers. The objective was for elderly people to use smart phones and tablets entirely by themselves, to stay in touch with their family and friends.

Isolated elderly people received tablets to stay in touch with their loved ones.

Community bakers in the northern suburbs of Marseille

Pain et Partage (Bread and Sharing) is both a workshop and a sheltered employment scheme. This network of bakeries, established in Marseille 25 years ago, employs more than 30 staff. In normal times, its products would be supplied to nonprofits, medical-educational institutions, companies, schools and kindergartens. At the start of the pandemic, Pain et Partage thought it would have to close its workshop. The nonprofit was swiftly contacted by Fondation de France and the Aix-Marseille local authority. In just a few days, it was able to switch to a charitable community-based project. Bread was produced and delivered to lower-income neighborhoods in Marseille, contributing to the fight against food poverty. Despite concerns linked to the pandemic, staff stepped up and distributed more than 70,000 loaves each day to over 13,000 people who benefited from them, over the course of eight weeks.

During the first lockdown period, a network of bakeries distributed bread to the most vulnerable people, for free.
La Cloche (The Bell): assisting homeless people

La Cloche fights against exclusion and extreme poverty in eight French cities, using an original strategy. The nonprofit organizes and promotes links between neighbors and homeless people. Faced with the pandemic, La Cloche launched several projects: regular calls to homeless people, an information campaign on the health situation, access to basic services via store owners, etc.

School and fun for children in specialized institutions

The Maisons des Enfants (Children’s Homes) on the North-western coast of France host more than 70 children who cannot live with their parents. They are entrusted to these homes by legal and administrative authorities. During lockdown, family visits were not allowed, nor was it possible to organize outings. With the support of Fondation de France, the homes were able to adapt and provide IT equipment to ensure schooling was maintained. They also organized more opportunities for cultural activities, fun and sport, so crucial to children’s development.
3. Supporting medical research

Thanks to the unique Alliance with AP-HP and Institut Pasteur, Fondation de France was able to support more than 40 medical research projects in every field, including better understanding of the virus, improving diagnosis, developing treatments and epidemiology. Fondation de France’s work was also backed by the expertise of the Agence nationale de recherche (National Research Agency). Projects were developed that addressed the pandemic’s impact on care protocols and health workers, and also on the effects of lockdown.

Better prevention against the risk of the pandemic spreading

The CovEhpad project focuses on the conditions in which the pandemic spreads in care homes for the elderly and long-term care units. The purpose of a study led by a team from the Hospices civils de Lyon (Lyons hospices) was to scrutinize the situation in 20 local institutions in the Rhône Alpes Auvergne region, to establish correlations between resident profiles, social distancing measures (contact among residents, staff, visitors, etc.) and the number of infections observed. The objective was to develop a simulation platform, in order to predict – and therefore prevent – the risk of the pandemic spreading, depending on various scenarios.
Patient monitoring at home thanks to Covidom

Most patients with Covid develop a mild form of it. Providing medical support at home for these patients is key to stopping emergency rooms from being swamped. Patients at home have their symptoms monitored and may be directed to hospital if necessary. That is the purpose of the Covidom app, developed by AP-HP with the support of Fondation de France, promptly launched in March 2020.

Being young in times of Covid – what impact does that have on mental health?

What is the psychological impact of lockdown on young people? The Institut Pierre-Louis (Inserm/Sorbonne) project is based on a cohort of 1,000 young people between the age of 22 and 35. Since March 24, 2020, participants have all been surveyed each week on their health, any mental health issues, relational isolation, tobacco, alcohol and cannabis consumption, as well as on their professional, financial and family situation, and their activities during the lockdown period and after it ended. The objective is to evaluate the impact of the pandemic and addictive behaviors in young adults, depending on their social situation.

Understanding, preventing and treating better the after-effects of intensive care

Many patients who have recovered after intensive care report chronic pain. The aim of the Doucovid study (led by Inserm Unit 9887 in Boulogne-Billancourt) is to measure the incidence of this phenomenon, to describe various types of pain and how they affect quality of life, to distinguish pain linked to after-effects of Covid infection from those linked to intensive care, and also to identify factors that predict the occurrence of pain. The study will help improve the recognition and alleviation of chronic pain in patients.
Close to community initiatives thanks to our

(Data as at December, 31 2020)

The North, a strong network
Laure Decouvelaere, General Manager, Fondation de France Nord

“ In the area served by the Fondation de France Nord, more than 96 projects were supported. The energy deployed by our nonprofit teams has never flagged since March. Our network of volunteers, as well as donors and companies in the North of France, stepped up to meet this challenge. This period will be remembered for its innovation and perseverance by all those who contributed to the wave of solidarity. ”

Marseille, home to very proactive “Fraternity”
For the past 140 years, Fraternité Belle de Mai has been carrying out a community-based education program with the residents of the 3rd arrondissement in Marseille, one of the poorest in the city. During lockdown, this nonprofit was completely reorganized and reached out to people who were living in very precarious conditions. The chain of mutual support was never interrupted and included a permanent phone service, the provision of basic supplies, help with shopping, homework, paperwork among other initiatives.

A total of 120 projects were supported in the area served by Fondation de France Méditerranée.

Looking after health workers in Mulhouse

Mulhouse Hospital was in the front line just as the pandemic broke out in France. In addition to problems with equipment and organization, it quickly became apparent that the question of health workers’ burnout was a critical one. With the support of Fondation de France, the hospital was able to set up a psychological counseling team and a therapy area, which offered sessions in osteopathy, physical therapy, reflexology, sophrology and hypnosis. These services proved invaluable to address the psychological and also physical impact of hugely stressful situations.

A total of 81 projects were implemented in the area served by Fondation de France Grand Est.

During lockdown, the nonprofit had to reorganize, to come to the aid of the most vulnerable.

Health workers can come and find some renewed energy in individual and collective workshops held at Mulhouse Hospital.
6 regional foundations

Center-East: everyone a stakeholder in solidarity
Delphine Allarousse – General Manager, Fondation de France Centre-Est

"The Alliance’s call to be “United Against the Virus” was heard loud and clear in our region. Our team, staff and volunteers alike, sprang into action, and proved its agility. Our motto was to be proactive and offer support. Thousands of individual donors joined in. 180 local companies involved their staff and clients in supporting fundraising. Regional media outlets covered campaign at no cost to us. This how we were able to support 86 projects in 16 local authorities."

Bordeaux: young people training health workers

In Bordeaux, nonprofit Le Nom Lieu cares for young people with mental health disorders. Many of them are expert at handling digital technology. During lockdown, many professionals in healthcare and social and medical institutions were left struggling with the need to provide socially distant care, to ensure continuity of treatment. The nonprofit developed an entire support system to train health workers: tutorial videos, help line, chat groups and so on. Young people drove the project every step of the way!

A total of 63 projects were supported in the area served by Fondation de France Sud-Ouest.

Grand-Ouest, la Maison des “aidants” (Helpers’ Home) preserves interactions

The pandemic has revealed the importance of mutual help across generations, especially for elderly or dependent people. However, it has also highlighted the pressure weighing down on France’s eight million “helpers”. In Caudan (Brittany) they are welcomed in a place where they can chat and take part in “respite” activities such as a support group, gentle exercise and sophrology. During lockdown, the nonprofit has set up various methods to ensure contacts are maintained between helpers and those they help, with phone calls, home visits, board game loans, etc. It has since adapted its operations in accordance with health protocols, so that it can once again welcome helpers and ‘helpees’.

A total of 63 projects were supported in the area served by Fondation de France Grand-Ouest.

Click on this link for a map of the projects carried out in France: http://bit.ly/Projets-Covid19
4. Assisting a challenged nonprofit sector

Some of the small and medium-sized nonprofits, who are key players in the solidarity sector, were badly affected. They had to face a massive increase in requests for help when their financial situation was already in the balance. They also had to provide urgent solutions that needed to be appropriate, inventive and effective. This network remains critical today, and in the future, to face the economic and social crisis. Fondation de France believes that it is vital to support these partners, by helping them overcome the effects of the pandemic and building sustainable operational models.

Working with France Active

Together with the JM Bruneau and the Daniel & Nina Carasso donor-advised funds, Fondation de France supported the work of France Active in two key areas:

- The Solidarity Recovery Program – advice and guidance on zero interest-rate loans for 500 organizations in sectors such as nonprofits, culture and sustainable food;
- The Small Nonprofit recovery Plan provided around 800 nonprofits with flat-rate grants of 5,000 euros and preserved 1,600 full-time equivalent jobs.

5. Working abroad with our historic partners

Western and Central Africa, Bangladesh, Haiti, Philippines and India: Fondation de France quickly decided to support its historic partners in countries badly hit by the pandemic. Its work centered around three priority action plans: food safety and living conditions; prevention and access to healthcare; access to water, sanitation and hygiene.

Eau & Vie (Water & Life): improving access to running water in shanty towns (Bangladesh, the Philippines and Côte-d’Ivoire)

During the pandemic, families living in the shanty towns of Bangladesh, the Philippines and Côte d’Ivoire found themselves in very precarious situations. Access to running water in the home was a vital necessity to limit the number of trips outside and was also essential in maintaining good hygiene practices. The Eau & Vie nonprofit supported particularly vulnerable people by adapting its work and providing free access to secure latrines and sanitation blocks, waste disposal services and the distribution of hygiene packs. It also raised awareness of the Covid protection measures.

Residents of shanty towns in Bangladesh receiving running water at home.
**What next?**

The impact of the pandemic over several years means that we need to think in terms of “rebuilding” and “long term”. That is the purpose of the new Fondation de France program: “Inventing The Future”. The program aims to support community stakeholders, who lead sustainable change in all sectors and locations, to build a fairer society and a more resilient one in the face of crisis.

**Over 2.3 millions euros, raised in particular by the Staying United campaign launched in May 2020, were allocated to two key areas:**

→ **A regional approach: targeted support**

Experience of the crisis has shown the virtue of combining local expertise with thematic expertise. Decisive and quick action, together with long-term transformation, require detailed understanding of issues and the ability to work at grass-roots level. In that context, Fondation de France is reinforcing its engagement with local communities:

- by getting involved in **specific areas**;
- by **coordinating collaborations** and alliances among nonprofits and other key players in regions;
- by **supporting experiments** to promote new types of work.

→ **Support for “change makers”**

Fondation de France wishes to draw on non profits and collectives who are skilled in designing and implementing sustainable solutions.

The people involved have a vision, they aim for change, and they also know how to multiply and build partnerships. Their project might be at the experimental stage or it can imply a change in scale. In any event, they promote participation, the idea being to invent programs “with” and not “for” vulnerable people.

**Towards a fairer society**

Experts agree with this diagnosis: further crises - affecting health, the economy and the climate - are yet to come. In order to address them and better equip the most vulnerable, the “Inventing the Future” program aims to move towards a more inclusive society and one that is more mindful of the environment. To do so, it supports the emergence of new models of organization, housing, production, consumer habits, social life, education and healthcare. Around 20 projects have already been supported, special attention being paid to four themes: digital technologies (opportunities – and risks!), “taking care” (protecting the most vulnerable and assisting health workers and carers), the development of new and more inclusive models and the place of humans in their environment.

**Re-examining and adapting each grant program**

**Fondation de France’s challenge**

The aim is to be agile and proactive. Teams of staff and volunteers, thanks to their knowledge of local communities and the issues specific to each area, have stepped up throughout the year, and across France, to take part in the fight against Covid and its consequences. The vast majority of Fondation de France’s programs have also been reviewed in the light of this new context.
We would like to thank all the donor-advised funds who joined the “All United Against the Virus” Alliance collective:

- Fondation La Ferthé
- Fondation Les Combles Hautes
- Fondation Anaïak Tsalupa
- Fondation Groupe Primonial
- Fondation Montpensier
- Fondation Jacques et Raymonde Henry
- Fondation Dina Surdin
- Fondation Jeanne Meslait-Dagot
- Fondation JM Bruneau
- Fondation Daniel & Nina Carasso
- Fondation Linktogether
- Fondation Lemarchand pour l’Équilibre entre les Hommes et la Terre
- Fondation Gerondeau
- Fondation Andrée-Paul Beauplet-Rollinat
- Fondation Kiwanis France-Entraide
- Fondation Arsène
- Fondation Scaler
- Fondation Neuvoies
- Fondation Emma
- Fondation JMV
- Fondation Casovier
- Fondation Anne-Marie Moreau
- Fondation Onyx
- Fondation Le Mascaret
- Fondation EGP
- Fondation BNP Paribas
- Fondation Constance et Andrei Rhoe
- Fondation Picard
- Fondation Selectour
- Fondation Georges Besse
- Fondation Eres
- Fondation Cetelem
- Fondation de Marseille
- Fondation Jeanne Wolff

Our thanks also go to the more than 116,000 donors who already stand by us, by supporting our work for the benefit of health workers, researchers and the most vulnerable in society.

We are incredibly touched by this huge wave of generosity.

- More than 113,000 people joined us as donors;
- more than 3,200 collectives and companies stepped up
- 67 personalized fundraising pages were created to collate gifts from workers in companies and collectives;
- many artists and sports people were keen to take part in the work, by encouraging their community to make a gift;
- companies and individuals alike helped us in unique ways to make themselves useful during this unprecedented situation. Operations such as round-up donations, bring and share sales, auction sales, sports and solidarity challenges all contributed to the fight against Covid.

And finally, we would like to address a special thank you to our American donors for their generosity, and in particular the following corporations and foundations:

Advent International Corporation • Datadog • eBay Foundation • Intuitive Foundation
- Lam Research Foundation • Morgan Stanley • Prologis • Viola Foundation • Virtu Financial

Thank you for your contribution towards a fairer society

Fondation de France’s work continues.
Together, let’s stay united against the virus!

www.fondationdefrance.org