

The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health
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PMNCH Call to Action: Protecting the Progress for Women, Children and Adolescents during COVID-19
Commitment Statement from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

To date, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has committed \$1.75 billion USD to support global COVID-19 response efforts, with the chief aim of protecting vulnerable communities.

To stop a pandemic, we believe working together with governments, global health organizations, and other sectors through the ACT-Accelerator, COVAX and other initiatives is our most effective tool. Our collective impact on the world depends on our partnerships and tireless commitment to improve the human condition.

As a private philanthropy, the foundation is in a unique position to help by investing in ideas, innovations and initiatives with the potential to save lives and reduce inequity. For instance:

- In collaboration with governments, philanthropies, and industry, we are accelerating the search for effective coronavirus vaccines and treatments to ensure that once available, they can be delivered quickly and affordably.
- We are helping to build capacity for overstretched health systems to detect, treat and isolate coronavirus cases, so they can minimize the virus's toll.
- Foundation partners are working to track and predict the virus's course so governments and health bodies can focus their resources and channel their actions to stop its spread.

In addition to these new response efforts, the foundation remains committed to protecting the health and wellbeing of women and children, including through strengthening primary healthcare systems and improving the quality of care provided through essential health services.