



For Immediate Release

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InterAction

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COVID-19 Aftershocks: Women & Children, New Facts & Figures, and the Importance of Mental Health

[InterAction](#) will be providing weekly tailored Media Alerts highlighting the work our Members are implementing around the world. If you would like to learn more about any of the following information, please feel free to reach out directly to the POC provided.

COVID-19 Effects on Women and Children

Addressing India's 'Shadow Pandemic' of Violence Against Women and Girls

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, women and girls face a heightened risk of domestic violence and exploitation. In two blocks of rural Jharkhand, India, PCI staff have been supporting women's self-help group members to discuss these vulnerabilities with their daughters and neighbors and help prevent violence in the home. Read more [HERE](#).

For more information, contact Maureen Simpson, msimpson@pciglobal.org, PCI, A Global Communities Partner.

Guatemalan Youths Cultivating Hope in the Face of COVID-19

For five consecutive years, farming families in the dry corridor of western Guatemala have watched their primary sources of income and food wither and die from severe drought. These persistent challenges have only intensified under the COVID-19 pandemic, as strict lockdown measures and movement restrictions further limit or prevent access to markets, consistent work opportunities, and affordable, healthy food products. Through ¡ÁNIMO! ("Encouragement" in Spanish), PCI has trained nearly 870 young women and men in health, hygiene, and agricultural practices to address food insecurity and promote resilience in four municipalities of Huehuetenango. Although not part of the initial plan, project staff added a youth component in response to a growing demand among teens and young adults to take on more active roles in their communities' revitalization. Read more [HERE](#).

For more information, contact Maureen Simpson, msimpson@pciglobal.org, PCI, A Global Communities Partner.

Report—Girls in Crisis: Adolescent Girls Disproportionately Impacted by COVID-19

Adolescent girls are disproportionately impacted during crises. As countries across Africa experience the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on health systems, economies, and communities, progress made in the last decade toward gender equality is being lost. This report highlights the [challenges girls are facing](#) through statistics and personal stories and includes recommendations for governments, health institutions, and others.

For more information, contact Maria Holsopple, maria.holsopple@planusa.org, Plan International USA.

Women-Led Community Leadership is Key to Slowing the COVID-19 Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic is impacting life in every part of our world, and we are seeing, first hand, how critical it is to leverage ingenuity and strength at the local level to mitigate the impact of this global health emergency. Community leaders—particularly women leaders—are arising as the "first responders" in this global crisis. The global community must pull together to ensure these local leaders have access to timely, accurate information and resources, as they are the only ones who can mobilize the awareness and often difficult changes in mindset and behavior required. Read more [HERE](#).

For more information, contact Sara Wilson, sara.wilson@thp.org, The Hunger Project.

How a Gender Equity Lens Can Help with COVID-19—and Everything Else

COVID-19 has highlighted the inequalities of the world's health systems and epidemic preparedness. To respond to COVID-19, we must understand what puts some people more at risk than others. Women are affected by the pandemic in specific ways, including caregiving burdens, economic impacts, risk of intimate partner violence, and reduced access to sexual and reproductive health services. As PATH is supporting countries to deploy testing, surveillance, mitigation strategies, and solutions to improve health system capacities to respond to urgent needs, we must maintain a focus on gender equity. Read more [HERE](#).

For more information, contact Lindsay Bosslet, lbosslet@path.org, PATH.

PCI Partners with San Diego County HHS to Enhance Contact Tracing Efforts

COVID-19 remains a threat to the health of San Diegans as the County reports an average of 400 new cases each day, 60% of which are disproportionately among Hispanic or Latino residents. Working closely with the County's COVID-19 response efforts, PCI will begin operations with a core team of nine contact tracers who represent the cultural and linguistic diversity of San Diego County and have experience delivering health services and information to local communities. Read more [HERE](#).

For more information, contact Maureen Simpson, msimpson@pciglobal.org, PCI, A Global Communities Partner.

Setting the Record Straight

Air Raids in Yemen Have Hit Hospitals, Clinics, Wells, and Water Tanks On Average Once Every Ten Days During Conflict While U.S. Arms Sales Continue

Medical and water infrastructure in Yemen has been hit during air raids almost 200 times since the conflict escalated more than five years ago. As the country battles with an ongoing COVID-19 outbreak, U.S. arms sales to the parties to the conflict have continued despite the damage. One air raid every ten days on average

during the conflict has affected hospitals, clinics, ambulances, and water drills, tanks, and trucks, according to an Oxfam analysis of information on airstrikes collected by the Yemen Data Project. Weapons manufacturers in arms exporting countries like the United States have profited from the sale of billions of dollars worth of munitions to Saudi Arabia and its coalition partners, despite clear evidence that they were using U.S.-made bombs in violations of international humanitarian law. Read more [HERE](#).

For more information, contact Lauren Hartnett, lauren.hartnett@oxfam.org, Oxfam America.

World Vision's Out of Time Report Warns That Global Predictions of Increased Child Hunger, Violence, and Poverty Due to the Economic Impact of COVID-19 are Already Starting to Come True

The report includes World Vision community-level data from 14,000 households in Asia, over 2,400 small business owners in Africa, and more than 360 Venezuelan migrants across Latin America. Key findings include: about 85 million families across Asia have little or no food stocks and 110 million children face hunger; 84% of Venezuelan migrants surveyed reported a significant drop in income; 69% of people surveyed in World Vision microfinance programs across Africa said they are currently earning less than half of pre-COVID-19 income. Read the report [HERE](#).

For more information, contact Nicole Harris, nharris@worldvision.org, World Vision.

Fact or Fiction: Navigating the Infodemic

COVID-19 has been plagued by rumors, half-truths, and hoaxes. False and misleading information is spreading uncontrolled like the coronavirus itself. In unpredictable times, we use information to regain our sense of certainty. Information can validate our decisions, aid our understanding, and offer reassurance—but only if that information is reliable and true. Where do we go for trustworthy information? Read more [HERE](#).

For more information, contact Lindsay Bosslet, lbosslet@path.org, PATH.

Connection and Mental Health Amid a Pandemic

Connecting in the Time of COVID-19


The COVID-19 pandemic has changed how we engage but has not changed our commitment to building with—and not for—communities. In a time of physical distancing, PATH is leaning on tools, both digital and analog, to keep these connections strong. Read more [HERE](#).

For more information, contact Lindsay Bosslet, lbosslet@path.org, PATH.

Mental Health Needs Expected to Rise Amid COVID-19

Latin America is at the global epicenter of the COVID-19 pandemic. Countries in the region are under some of the strictest lockdowns in the world and families are hard-hit by the loss of loved ones, social networks, and income. Health care providers are preparing to meet increased demand for mental health services.

Americares, a health-focused relief and development NGO responding to the COVID-19 pandemic in 15 countries, is expanding mental health services in El Salvador to meet the increased demand. In El Salvador, where Americares operates the only NGO-run health clinic continuing to provide primary care services during



the pandemic, AmeriCares is hiring community health workers to connect local residents exhibiting signs of stress and trauma to psychologists providing free telehealth consults. Read more [HERE](#).

For more information, contact Donna Porstner, dporstner@americares.org, AmeriCares.

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