



Developing Health

Developing Health: Highlights

The GE Foundation's signature programs, Developing Health Globally™ (DHG) and Developing Health U.S. (DH), aim to increase access to quality healthcare in underserved communities around the world. These programs are funded and managed by the GE Foundation in collaboration with national ministries of health, public and private health facilities, non-governmental organization, and academia.

Substance Use Disorder and the Opioid Crisis

In 2016, the GE Foundation announced a \$15 million commitment to community health in Boston and greater Massachusetts, to expand care in behavioral health and addiction medicine with a focus on the opioid crisis. The Developing Health initiatives in Massachusetts focus on expanding access to evidence-based treatment through primary care provider capacity building and reskilling, and on driving awareness and advocacy to combat the stigma associated with the disease of substance use disorder. Learn more [here](#).

Project ECHO

Access to specialty health care in rural and medically underserved areas around the world is limited. [Project ECHO \(Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes\)](#) is an innovative model that builds the capacity of and reskills primary care providers to treat more patients with chronic, complex conditions, exponentially expanding access to care. Through a \$14 million, multi-year commitment, the GE Foundation as the largest funder of Project ECHO, is supporting global replication and scale of this innovation. By leveraging technology, primary care providers are linked with multi-disciplinary teams of specialists who share their expertise. As the primary care providers expand their knowledge and skills, they can begin to treat more patients. With GE Foundation's support, Project ECHO is operating in 48 US states, 38 countries, with 378 replicating partners training in over 800 ECHO programs.

Safe Surgery 2020


The GE Foundation is leading a multi-sector effort to improve surgical capacity and training with its Safe Surgery 2020 initiative. Access to safe, affordable surgical and anesthetic care is a pressing issue in global health. There are currently five billion people across the world who lack access to the safe surgical care they need, 90% of whom are in low- and middle-income countries.

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In 2016, the GE Foundation announced a \$15 million, multi-year commitment addressing the opioid crisis in Boston and greater Massachusetts

\$14 million multi-year commitment to support the broad replication and scale of Project ECHO announced in 2015.

\$25 million commitment over three years for the Safe Surgery 2020 initiative globally

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Developing Health (Cont'd)

The \$25 million commitment supports a five year initiative funded over three years that focuses on transforming the accessibility, quality and safety of surgical care in low- and middle- income countries, leading to reductions in maternal and trauma-related mortality and to stronger health systems. Through this initiative, we are also scaling skills training and social entrepreneurship programs such as surgical leadership training, biomedical training and oxygen delivery under the Safe Surgery 2020 umbrella.

Beginning in 2016, Safe Surgery 2020 launched in Ethiopia and Tanzania in partnership with their Ministries of Health, global organizations as well as local partners from the Surgical Society, local teaching institutions and district hospitals. In 2018, the initiative expanded to South East Asia, with programs starting in Cambodia and Myanmar. Our focus has been to help transform the health system to ensure that every individual – including mothers and children – is able to access the surgical care they need quickly, safely, and affordably.

You can learn more about the initiative and its impact at www.safesurgery2020.org.

