

# Rapid Response Teams (RRT) Cooperative Agreement Program

## Program Description

- RRTs are multi-agency, multi-disciplinary teams that operate using Incident Command System (ICS)/National Incident Management System (NIMS) principles and a Unified Command structure to respond to human and animal food emergencies.
- Started in 2008, the RRT program has grown to include 23 states.
- The RRT program uses a mentorship model, where established RRTs take on a mentorship role for one or more new RRTs just beginning development.

## Intended Outcomes

- Minimize the time between agency notification of a human or animal food contamination event and implementation of effective control measures. To accomplish this, RRTs develop and maintain processes to:
  - Prepare for and effectively respond to foodborne illness outbreaks and other food emergencies.
  - Enhance intra-agency and inter-agency collaboration and communication.
  - Jointly train and exercise staff to be ready to respond to events when they occur.
  - Identify preventive practices to reduce foodborne illness and injury.
  - Establish national best practices and tools that can be shared with other states to improve their response to food emergencies.

## Program Metrics

- Current program funding (RRT Development & Maintenance Tracks): \$5.6M
- Current number of awards: 23
- RRT Awardees (FY2023)

Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia