# LABORATORY FLEXIBLE FUNDING MODEL (LFFM) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT PROGRAM

# YEAR 2 ACCOMPLISHMENTS SUMMARY

#### **ABOUT LFFM**

THE LFFM PROGRAM is a comprehensive emergency response and surveillance cooperative agreement between FDA and Food Emergency Response Network (FERN) partner laboratories, supporting a wide range of analytical activities



LFFM supports an integrated national laboratory network that operationalizes domestic mutual reliance in support of an integrated food safety system (IFSS) There are a total of

**55** grantees in the program

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### **ISO 17025 ACCREDITATION**

**47 LFFM Laboratories** maintained **ISO 17025 accreditation** or enhanced their accreditation scope

### **PROCESS IMPROVEMENT**

LFFM Sample Guide v2.0 was released in January 2022

#### **PROJECT AREAS (TRACKS)**



FOOD DEFENSE

#### **41 laboratories** maintained readiness and capacity for the **analysis of foods involving intentional contamination** with microbiological, chemical,

and/or radiological contaminants of terrorist concern



CAPACITY/CAPABILITY DEVELOPMENT (MICROBIOLOGY)

**14 laboratories** implemented and demonstrated competency for **testing of deadend ultrafiltration (DEUF) filters** from agriculture water collections for E. coli 0157:H7 and other Shigatoxin producing E. coli

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WHOLE GENOME SEQUENCING (WGS)

## **31** laboratories

#### submitted sequences for 5,824 enteric pathogen isolates from food and environmental sources to NCBI

**HUMAN AND ANIMAL FOOD PRODUCT TESTING TRACKS** 



**MICROBIOLOGY** 

**25** laboratories analyzed **7,728 human food samples**,

and **16 laboratories** analyzed **3,058 animal food samples** 



CHEMISTRY 26 laboratories analyzed 6,134 human food samples,

and **15** laboratories analyzed **3,200 animal food samples** 

A total of **20** recalls resulted from positive samples

#### **SPECIAL PROJECT TRACKS**

SAMPLE COLLECTION TRACK

DATA EXCHANGE (DX) TRACK METHOD DEVELOPMENT/METHOD VALIDATION (MDV) TRACK GENOMETRAKR SARS-COV-2 VARIANT

**31** laboratories received funding to support **collection of samples** 

for the Product Testing Tracks **6 laboratories** received funding for **data system upgrades** that allow electronic submissions of **sample data to FDA** 

**12 laboratories** received funding to support **4 microbiology MDV projects** 

**15 laboratories** received funding to support **8 chemistry MDV projects**.

This included single and multi-laboratory validation and matrix extension studies; some projects are multi-year endeavors; 1 micro and 2 chem projects were postponed/not accomplished **SURVEILLANCE TRACK** 

**20** laboratories

monitored circulating

**SARS-CoV-2** variants

- of concern in wastewater,
- and the findings were
- shared with federal
- and state partners

#### STRENGTHENING LABORATORY AND STATE REGULATORY PROGRAM PARTNERSHIPS



**Expansion supplements** (funding opportunity announcements) were issued for **MFRPS and AFRPS cooperative agreements** to support **investigation** and **compliance** activities stemming from LFFM samples. Click the links to learn more!

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