

## PUERTO RICO

**\$2,955,541**

Funding for AR Activities  
Fiscal Year 2019

### FUNDING TO STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENTS



\$212,270

**RAPID DETECTION & RESPONSE:** State, territory, and local public health partners fight antibiotic resistance in healthcare, the community, and food. Programs use the AR Lab Network to rapidly detect threats and implement prevention, response, and antibiotic stewardship to stop the spread of resistant germs.

With 2018 funds, Puerto Rico implemented antibiotic stewardship programs at more than 65% of hospitals. Using community AR surveillance data, Puerto Rico identified populations at increased risk for infection due to incorrect use of antibiotics and piloted an educational program to prevent inappropriate antibiotic use in outpatient settings. As of July 2019, Puerto Rico has engaged 60% of the ambulatory care centers selected to participate in the pilot program.



\$2,711,578

**NATURAL DISASTERS** can increase the risk for injuries and infections.

With 2019 funds, the Puerto Rico Department of Health hired nurses to support healthcare-associated infection activities in hurricane-damaged hospitals, safety officers to conduct facility infrastructure assessments, and regional nurses to support facilities. CDC provided training and assessment materials to newly hired nurses. Twenty-two facility assessments were completed, eleven training plans were developed, and twenty staff were trained for Certification of Infection Control.



\$31,693

**FOOD SAFETY** projects protect communities by rapidly identifying drug-resistant foodborne bacteria to stop and solve outbreaks and improve prevention.

Puerto Rico uses whole genome sequencing to track and monitor local outbreaks of *Listeria*, *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, and *E. coli* and uploads sequence data into PulseNet for nationwide monitoring of outbreaks and trends. In Fiscal Year 2020, Puerto Rico will continue monitoring these isolates for resistance genes. When outbreaks are detected, local CDC-supported epidemiologists investigate the cases to stop spread.