



JUNE 9, 2026

Subject: Celebrating 30 years of PulseNet USA

Dear Partners,

Foodborne illnesses remain a significant public health challenge in the United States, affecting millions of people each year. Rapid detection and response are essential to preventing illnesses and deaths.

In 2026, we mark the 30th anniversary of [PulseNet](#) USA, CDC's national laboratory network for detecting foodborne disease outbreaks. For three decades, PulseNet has connected illnesses that might otherwise appear unrelated, enabling faster outbreak detection, timely public health action, and strong food safety systems.

This milestone is an opportunity to recognize the many partners whose collaboration has made PulseNet such a powerful public health resource. Since its launch in 1996, PulseNet has grown into a nationwide network that supports real-time enteric disease surveillance, identifies local and multistate outbreaks, and drives improvements in food safety practice and policy. Through CDC investments in food safety, every state has at least one PulseNet laboratory, and the network has supported recalls of more than 1 billion pounds of contaminated food.

Learn more about PulseNet's history and impact by checking out our [timeline](#) and [success stories](#).

To highlight PulseNet's impact and the importance of continued collaboration, we invite you to amplify anniversary messaging through your preferred communication channels using the attached social media toolkit and **#PulseNetUSA30** on **June 30**. You can use the included messages and/or:

- Share a short congratulatory message recognizing PulseNet's 30 years of impact
- Provide examples of how PulseNet has supported your work or strengthened public health response
- Highlight a successful collaboration, milestone, or example of PulseNet's impact

Thank you for your continued partnership and for your critical work. We look forward to celebrating this milestone with you and recognizing the shared achievements that have made PulseNet an enduring public health success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Megin Nichols".

Megin Nichols, DVM, MPH, DACVPM
Director, Division of Foodborne, Waterborne, and Environmental Diseases
National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases
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