Bringing the values and voices of trial participants to the fight against infectious disease
1Day Sooner was launched by the urgency our volunteers felt to end COVID-19 by participating in challenge trials. 2021 saw the first COVID challenge studies, but they were too little too late. As I write this, the optimism of the early vaccine rollout has been replaced with a grinding acceptance of the inevitability of future strains, the difficulty of achieving global vaccination, and the longterm endemicity of COVID-19 disease.

These disappointments are the product of a vaccine development regime that is misaligned with our volunteers’ values. We had hoped COVID challenges could develop new vaccines to expand global supply, but the demand for new vaccines has stretched only up to countries' ability to pay. We had wanted COVID challenge to reveal new scientific insights into SARS-CoV-2, but the results remain unpublished due in part to a lack of urgency and transparency.

Vaccine development is stuck between a profit-motivated industry, nationalistic and short-sighted government, and underfunded academic research. Intranasal vaccines and pan-sarbecovirus vaccines are urgently needed, but their development is treated as an afterthought. COVID just echoes the experience of other deadly diseases like tuberculosis, malaria, shigella, and group a strep, where the uncertainty of research combines with callousness towards the poor to mire progress in defeatism.

Medical research needs a dose of effective altruism driven by a corps of challenge volunteers motivated to put our bodies on the line to save lives and expand the frontiers of science. It will be a long, uphill road to give research participants agency and collective representation as a force for the public interest. but controlled human infection studies provide an ideal front along which to advance these goals because of their nexus between volunteer risk and humanitarian value.

1Day Sooner recently received our largest grant to date. It will help us expand into challenge studies beyond COVID19, to advance the use of challenge for universal coronavirus vaccine development, to use challenge studies to prepare better for the next pandemic, and to expand our ability to support and organize volunteers.

We are proud of our achievements in 2021 and look forward to the fights to come.

Josh Morrison
OUR MISSION

Founded in April 2020, 1Day Sooner was born in the COVID-19 pandemic to represent challenge volunteers who wanted to rapidly accelerate the deployment of the most effective COVID-19 vaccines possible. Nearly 40,000 people signed up with us as potential challenge trial volunteers. In 2020, 1Day Sooner built a robust volunteer community and drew significant global public attention to the potential of human challenge trials, with the altruism of volunteers at the forefront of stories. Now, with COVID-19 challenge studies in progress in the UK, 1Day Sooner is expanding to work in other types of challenge studies and on other projects such as pandemic preparedness and vaccine equity. We are excited to continue building out from our earlier work on COVID-19 challenge trials.

OUR PRINCIPLES

Moral urgency. Vaccine development is morally urgent. More days we wait for a vaccine costs more lives.

Volunteer autonomy. Volunteer rights and agency are imperative in the success of any challenge trial.

Transparency. 1Day's actions should be maximally legible to the public and scientific community.

Cautious optimism. We’re optimistic about our ability to make an impact but careful to self-critically evaluate our ideas and proposals.

Scientifically informed. Our views are grounded in the latest science and liable to change in light of new evidence.

Historically aware. Given the troubled history of medical experimentation, this organization wants to be aware of our place in a long and complicated history.

Maximal benefit. Each increment of risk and burden our volunteers incur should yield the greatest possible scientific and social benefit.
Throughout 2021, 1Day Sooner worked to reach volunteers interested in participating in COVID-19 challenge trials, connect them with the trial teams, and support them along their journey from screening to quarantine to release.

- In December 2020, we launched a pre-screening survey to give ourselves and volunteers a sense of their potential eligibility for studies that would have stringent eligibility criteria.
- When trials officially launched their screening processes, we quickly updated our volunteers and directly contacted those likely to be eligible to make they knew how to sign up.
- We connected volunteers who were going through the screening process at the same time so they could compare notes and provide moral support.
- For two participants in the world’s first COVID-19 challenge study, our organizing team created a suite of support services tailored to the quarantine period, including regular check-ins, movie nights, and an on-call schedule to provide the option for round-the-clock socializing.
- We gathered volunteer feedback on their experiences to inform our recommendations to teams running future challenge studies.
- We connected participants to interested journalists for interviews and offered editing and feedback to those working on opinion pieces about their experiences.

1Day volunteers who were screened for or participated in COVID 1 challenge studies have met up for outings ranging from a home cooked meal to a virus themed escape room. From left to right: Jacob Hopkins, Amanda Woods, Roopesh Chavda, Lauren Thomas, Alastair Fraser, rquart
October 2020: The UK government announces plans to conduct the world's first COVID-19 human challenge study.

February 2021: UK regulators approve the proposed challenge study.

March 2021: UK study begins. 1Day volunteer Jacob Hopkins is the first volunteer to be inoculated, 1Day UK Chapter Manager Alastair Fraser-Urquart also participates.

April 2021: Oxford University announces their plans to run a challenge study re-exposing volunteers have previously been naturally infected with COVID-19.

May 2021: The Wellcome Trust and hVivo sign a contract to develop a strain of an emerging variant for potential challenge study use. Oxford’s challenge study begins.


1Day Sooner has commissioned a report and academic paper on the full history of the COVID-19 challenge trials, drawing on interviews with many of the key players. We expect they will become public in early 2022.
The communications department aims to explain and promote 1Day Sooner goals and projects. Our communication outlets include the website, Twitter account, newsletters, press releases, opinion articles, and public talking points. Although public communication is an ongoing effort for all aspects of 1Day Sooner’s work, some projects involve the communications department more than others, most notably:

**Boston Vaccine Day:** Boston Vaccine Day was a celebration of vaccines and community in Malcolm X Park, featuring live music, local arts vendors, activities for children, and clinics offering vaccines to attendants. (There is more detail later in the report on the day itself.) In the leadup to Boston Vaccine Day, the communications department promoted the event on social media and secured coverage of the event in the Boston Globe and local radio news.

**World Health Assembly Letter on Pandemic Preparedness and Vaccine Equity:** 1Day Africa chapter manager Zacharia Kafuko drafted a statement of vaccine equity principles and proposal for a pandemic insurance fund to be presented at the World Health Assembly. The communications department developed comprehensive talking points to streamline explanations of the project and wrote a press release that was published in Pan African Visions and Business Ghana. In addition, communications staff drafted notes for an opinion piece about the initiative, authored by Vardit Ravitsky and published in the Toronto Star. This is an ongoing project, as we are also taking the proposal to the next World Health Assembly meeting in May, and in the future we will seek increased media coverage for the proposal.

**Tuberculosis Challenge Trial Advocacy:** The communications department is researching and developing a report on the potential of tuberculosis challenge trials. As the first stage of the project, we published a commentary article in the journal Vaccine outlining how TB challenge trials could make TB vaccine research more economically viable and speed up vaccine development.

**Promoting Volunteer Voices and Engaging Interest Base:** The communications department connects volunteers to interested journalists for interviews, and also publishes long-form interviews with volunteers on the 1Day Sooner Medium page in order to promote more volunteers’ voices. The department also publishes a twice-monthly newsletter that is opened by an average of 5,500 recipients.

**1Day in the News**

*Media quoted 1Day staff and volunteers or referenced 1Day's work more than 40 times in 2021. 1Day appeared in stories by the Wall Street Journal, the New York Times, The Guardian, and Der Spiegel, among many others.*
COVID CHALLENGE IN THE NEWS

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Researchers Infect Volunteers With Coronavirus, Hoping to Conquer Covid-19

So-called challenge trials have long been used to study infections, but so far only the U.K. is doing them for Covid-19.

The Guardian

Human challenge: the people volunteering to be infected with Covid

Amid claims PM wanted to be infected with Covid on TV, volunteers tell of taking part in a human challenge trial

- Coronavirus - latest updates
- See all our coronavirus coverage

The Boston Globe

Faster vaccine trials could save lives without sacrificing ethics

The UK leads the way on human challenge trials.

The New York Times

Britain Infected Volunteers With the Coronavirus. Why Won’t the U.S.?


Names in bold indicate current or former 1Day Sooner employees and contractors.
Vaccine Equity

In 2021, 1Day Sooner led an open letter effort petitioning the World Health Organization to put to a vote ethical principles aimed at ensuring global vaccine equity during this current Covid-19 pandemic and putting in place mechanisms for future pandemic preparedness. The greatest drive for this initiative has been the inequality and disproportionate distribution of vaccines observed during this pandemic, which has seen LMICs vaccinating only less than 2% in some cases.

The lead signatories of the letter are about 30 Ebola veterans of the 2014 outbreak as led by Dr. Mosoka Fallah who was recognized for leading the Liberia Ebola response in his capacity then as the Director General of the National Public Health Institute of Liberia and went on to be named one of Time Magazine’s person of the year for 2014. Beyond the Ebola veterans, there are about 89 world renowned scientists, researchers, public health experts and others that comprise the general signatories. 1Day Sooner also partnered with organizations including Refuge Place International, International Association of Bioethics, Focusing Initiatives International, Sudden Compass and Rutgers University.

From its initial launch on May 12, 2021 via an event hosted through a collaboration with Rutgers University: Center for Population Level Bioethics dubbed: The Ethical Imperative: Global Vaccine Equity, the open letter has gone on to be covered by various media outlets including an exclusive written by Clair MacDougall - a seasoned reporter who was also on the ground during the Ebola outbreak of 2014. Most recently, the Toronto Star published an op-ed on the open letter by Vardit Ravitsky - the President of the International Association of Bioethics.

Focus had now shifted to ensuring national governments’ support for the open letter aiming at the 74th Special Session of the WHA that was scheduled for the 29th of November, 2021. This pursuit of a national sponsor led us to a collaboration with the West African Health Organization (WAHO). WAHO is the health regulatory and policy body of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) which represents all 15 countries of West Africa. The open letter was discussed and after region specific suggestions were made, it was translated into Portuguese and French which are the other official languages of the region. The open letter was made available to all the health ministers from the 15 member countries. It was also agreed that the open letter would be discussed in the following Assembly of Health Ministers (AHM) of ECOWAS through which a decision would be made on whether the region would support and sign the letter. 1Day Sooner through its African chapter (1Day Africa) was invited to attend this AHM which was held in Abuja, Nigeria and also to make a presentation on the open letter.
The presentation focused on the objectives and goals of the open letter with specific emphasis on how it addresses both the vaccine inequity and the need for future pandemic preparedness via the pandemic insurance fund. The letter was also tabled in the high level closed door meeting of health ministers through which a unanimous decision to support and sign the letter was arrived at. Following that decision, in the following days, two signed copies of the letter were received in copy from the submission to the World Health Organization. These copies were received from Liberia and Sierra Leone while other countries like Nigeria, Senegal and The Gambia had also confirmed the signed copies which are yet to be received.

The open letter was sent and submitted to the WHO and WHA but was not captured on the agenda of the special session that focused its discussion on pandemic preparedness. The agreement that was reached during this special assembly included the activation of an Intergovernmental Negotiating Board tasked to work on country by country negotiations on the formulation of a legally binding pandemic preparedness and response instrument. Further, a committee was set up to create a draft report on WHO’s sustainable financing for pandemic response.

Given that the letter was submitted but not captured on the agenda, we are working on its inclusion for the upcoming May assembly. The creation of the committee on sustainable financing for WHO paved a unique window for our pandemic insurance fund initiative which we believe will tie in perfectly with the objective of this committee and remain in tandem with the goal of the WHO in terms funding for future pandemics.
University Freshers’ Fairs

At the beginning of the 2021/2022 academic year, UK chapter leadership attended 5 different freshers' fairs. Many interested students approached them to learn more about 1Day Sooner, human challenge trials, and how they can volunteer. The fairs increased student awareness about 1Day Sooner and added 180 new sign-ups to the 1Day UK email list.

Student Societies

In late 2021, the UK chapter has establishing student societies. The objectives are to build a diverse and inclusive community of passionate volunteers at universities across the UK who are interested in fighting disease, improving science, and participating in challenge trials or other medical studies.

By the end of the year, 1Day Sooner established societies at Strathclyde University and Queen Mary’s University, London. We will continue to grow our network of societies in 2022.
2021 BY THE NUMBERS

1,259 new volunteers

40 media mentions

22 events hosted

1,644 event attendees

10 op-eds from staff and volunteers

Speakers from 17 countries

30,000+ newsletter subscribers

Speakers from 24 universities

42,000+ visits to website

4,000 views on YouTube event recordings

1Day Sooner events featured speakers from all over the world:
9/18 Vaccine Day

A project that was nine months in the making, Boston Vaccine Day was the start of what we’re hoping will be a country-wide series of events focused on combating vaccine hesitancy and access. Boston Vaccine Day acted as a prototype for what these days could look like in different cities.

Boston Vaccine Day received the support of over 50 local public health leaders, as well as the Massachusetts Health Council, the Massachusetts General Hospital Institute of Health Professions, and the Harvard Medical School Center for Bioethics.

Hosted at Malcolm X Park in Boston’s Roxbury neighborhood, Boston Vaccine Day linked the act of vaccination to joyful events and community restoration. Over 30 local artists performed on-stage throughout the day, showcasing talented musicians from the Boston area. The stage also hosted a memorial service honoring the people we’ve lost to COVID as well as victims of police brutality. A basketball tournament, aptly named “Taking Good Shots,” encouraged players to be vaccinated prior to registering. Children’s science activities, run by local organizations Extreme Science Kid and the Museum of Science, gave kids of all ages the opportunity to participate in science experiments and discussions.

We estimate that 600 to 1,100 people attended the event over the course of the day. We had two vaccine providers administering Johnson & Johnson and Pfizer vaccines and we administered between 11 and 13 vaccines. For comparison, a similar event in the Greater Boston area with 2,000 attendees administered 8 vaccinations. We consider this event to be a great first step and are already looking at a potential cross-national Vaccine Day in El Paso, TX and Ciudad Juarez.
9/30 1Day Africa Mentorship Event
The 1Day African chapter is dedicated to building support networks for both students and professionals. This event - this first in a series - focused on giving a clear picture of the realities of practicing medicine on the African continent. Patrick Maila, Dr. Mosoka P. Fallah, and Dr. Swebby Macha detailed their experiences post-graduation and answered student questions about their paths. Students inquired about the best ways to select a specialty, how to balance passion and talent, and ways to cope with the stress of medical school.

This event also launched two online spaces for students and mentors to connect outside of the session. Between Facebook and Google groups, over 40 students and professionals have joined to further conversations about the field of medicine.

12/16 The Use of Challenge Trials for New Variants
This event centered around a paper, The Ethics of Human Challenge Trials Using Emerging SARS-CoV-2 Virus Variants, authored by Abie Rohrig and Nir Eyal, which focuses on the use and ethics of human challenge trials for emergent COVID-19 strains. On December 16, 2021, we brought together moderator Nadine Rouphael with Emory Vaccine Center, co-author Nir Eyal with Rutgers University, Helen McShane with the University of Oxford, and Matt Memoli with the U.S. NIH to expand on this paper and link it to the circulating Omicron variant.

This virtual event was hosted in a Zoom meeting format, which encouraged face to face engagement and discussion between panelists and the audience, which was largely made up of challenge trial and vaccinology experts from across the globe. The enthusiasm of both the speakers and attendees was apparent in the large number of questions they asked and generated discussion around.

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Virtual Event: Publishing in Africa vs. Publishing Internationally

From top to bottom:
Dr. Stephen Manchishi MSc, PhD, Ejemai Eboreime MD, PMP, DLSHTM, MSc, PhD, and Dr. Catherine Kyobutungi MS, PhD - moderated by 1Day Africa Research Lead Devon Jarvis
# 2021 Financials

## Statement of Activity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Year-Open Reserves</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 2,202,994.00</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Revenue</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Profit Revenue</td>
<td><strong>191,518.50</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Refunds/Returned Deposit</td>
<td><strong>37,558.10</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pledged Commitments</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Expenditures</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising/Promotional</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contractors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deposits</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dues &amp; Subscriptions</td>
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<td>Honoraria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legal &amp; Professional Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Business Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Payroll and Taxes</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Payroll Management Fees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenditures</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 1,018,666.89</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Year-End Reserves and Commitments</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 3,221,660.89</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Pledged commitments: In fall 2021, Open Philanthropy recommended a $2 million grant of unrestricted funds, which was received in January 2022.
About 1Day Sooner

As the leading public advocate of COVID-19 challenge studies, we demonstrated an ability to drive positive public attention to those studies, make a strong ethical case, recruit and empower sympathetic champions, and engage with stakeholders in the field. In 2022 and beyond, we'll apply the same strengths to challenge studies beyond COVID-19, fighting to accelerate vaccines for existing and future diseases.

Support 1Day

1Day Sooner is a 501(c)3 non-profit.

Support 1Day Sooner today:
https://www.1daysooner.org/donate

Many companies have “matching” gifts programs where they will match some portion of an employee’s contribution. Complete and send us your company’s matching gift form to double your impact!

To discuss large gifts, please reach out to us at development@1daysooner.org

"I think they changed the conversation about human challenge trials, and I think they played a major role in the fact that eventually human challenge trials were approved ... gosh, I liked the grant."

-Holden Karnofsky of Open Philanthropy on the 80,000 Hours podcast, August 26, 2021

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