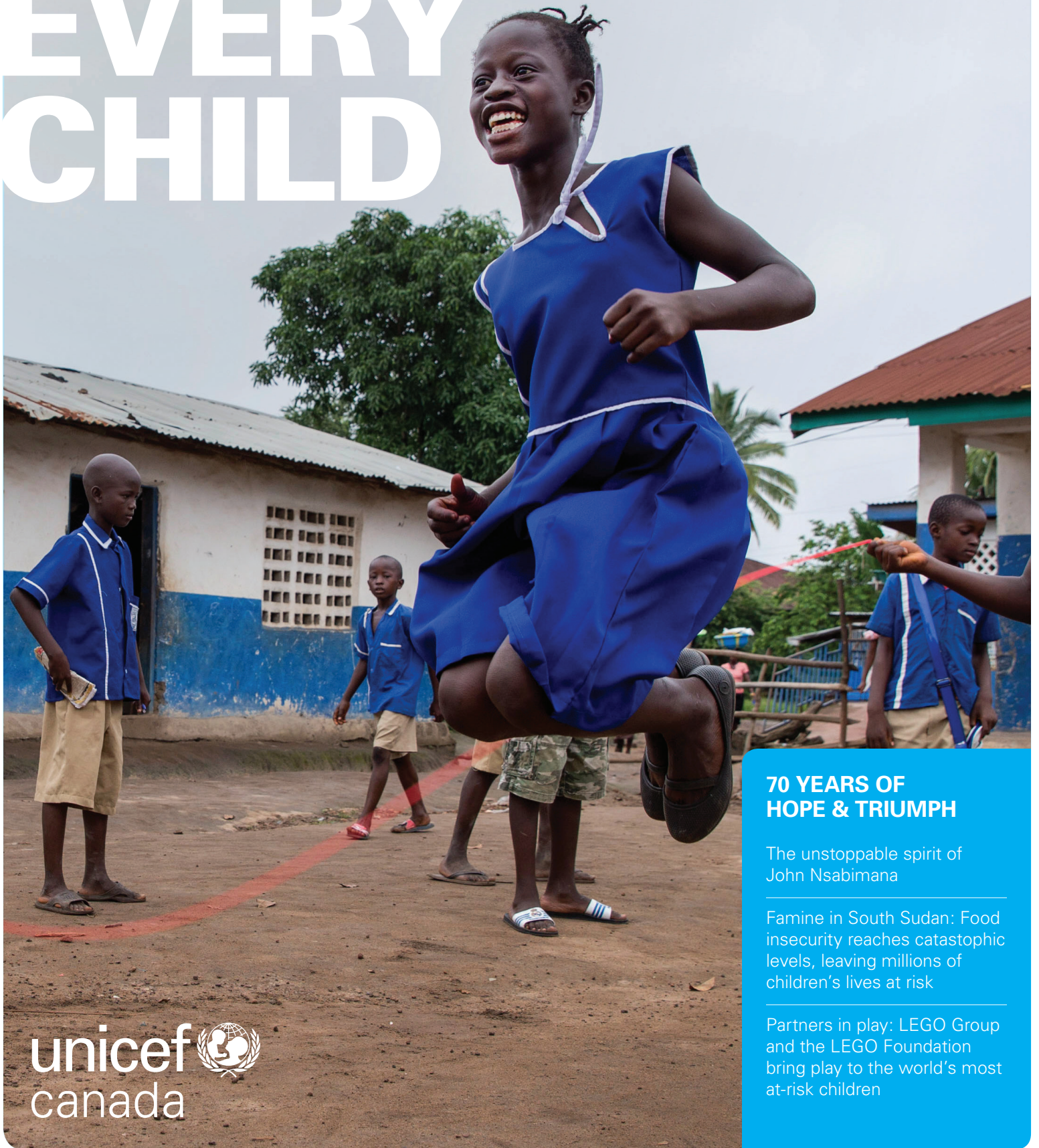


FOR EVERY CHILD

UNICEF Canada Magazine
Spring 2017



70 YEARS OF HOPE & TRIUMPH

The unstoppable spirit of
John Nsabimana

Famine in South Sudan: Food
insecurity reaches catastrophic
levels, leaving millions of
children's lives at risk

Partners in play: LEGO Group
and the LEGO Foundation
bring play to the world's most
at-risk children

unicef 
canada

A message from President & CEO, David Morley

ON December 11, 1946, world leaders created UNICEF to bring humanitarian aid to displaced and refugee children whose lives and futures were put at risk by World War II. In the decades since then, whenever the world's most vulnerable children have needed hope, UNICEF has been there. And so have you.

As we mark our 70th anniversary of working to save children's lives, I am so grateful to all of our donors and partners for making our life-saving work possible. To learn more about our history, our enormous reach and the great strides we have made in the fight for children's rights, be sure to read "UNICEF: 70 years for every child" (page 10).

While 2016 was a milestone year for UNICEF, it was a tumultuous year for millions of children whose lives were disrupted or nearly destroyed by conflict, natural disasters and fast-spreading epidemics. You can read about some of the ways UNICEF is responding to these emergencies in this issue of *For Every Child*.

In "Famine in South Sudan" (page 8), UNICEF and partners respond with massive relief efforts in a race to save children's lives as food insecurity reaches catastrophic levels. And in "Partners in play" (page 14), UNICEF and the LEGO® Group team up to bring opportunities to heal and learn through play to children who have been affected by conflict and poverty in Jordan and many other countries.

To understand the long-term impact of your support, be sure to read "The unstoppable spirit of John Nsabimana" (page 2). The support he received from UNICEF as a child has inspired the former Rwandan refugee to devote his life to helping others.

And, in "One is too many" (page 16), we share our concerns about the toll air pollution is taking on children's health and, ultimately, their survival.

After reading these stories, I hope you will see that the work we do together for disadvantaged, excluded and vulnerable children has never been more relevant, or more urgent.

With my sincerest thanks,



PRESIDENT & CEO,
UNICEF CANADA



UNICEF is the world's leading child-focused humanitarian and development agency. Through innovative programs and advocacy work, we save children's lives and secure their rights in virtually every country. Our global reach, unparalleled influence on policymakers, and diverse partnerships make us an instrumental force in shaping a world in which no child dies of a preventable cause. UNICEF is supported entirely by voluntary donations and helps all children, regardless of race, religion or politics.

FOR EVERY CHILD

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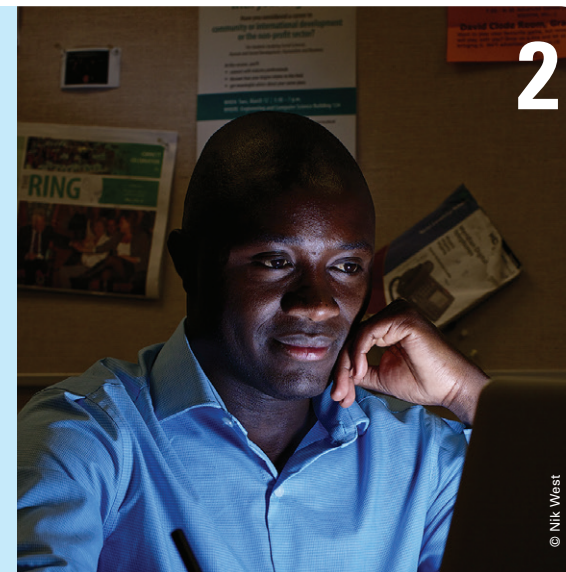
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Ten-year-old Ebola survivor, Salamatu Korsu plays in the courtyard of her school located in Kenema, Sierra Leone.

For more information about UNICEF Canada call 1 800 567 4483 or email info@unicef.ca.

Visit our website at unicef.ca.



2

2/ THE UNSTOPPABLE SPIRIT OF JOHN NSABIMANA

John Nsabimana grew up in a Ugandan refugee camp after fleeing the Rwandan genocide. Ten years after leaving the camp, John returned as a UNICEF Canada Ambassador to share his message of hope.

4/ Q&A: WHY WORRY ABOUT WASH?

UNICEF Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Advisor, Ann Thomas, talks about the impact sanitation and hygiene have on children, and especially girls, in Eastern and Southern Africa.

6/ WHY UNICEF?

A few of our dedicated supporters and field workers share their personal connections to UNICEF and why they continue to support our life-saving work.

8/ FAMINE IN SOUTH SUDAN

As food insecurity escalates and famine is declared across parts of South Sudan, more than 1 million children are at imminent risk of death from severe acute malnutrition.

10/ UNICEF: 70 YEARS FOR EVERY CHILD

A look back at the founding of the United Nations Children's Fund and the significant impact UNICEF Canada and our donors have had throughout the years.

14/ PARTNERS IN PLAY

The LEGO Group and the LEGO Foundation team up with UNICEF to bring opportunities for play to the world's most at-risk children.

16/ ONE IS TOO MANY

With your generosity, UNICEF is working to reach vulnerable children with pneumonia vaccines and calling on world leaders to reduce air pollution – a major cause of pneumonia.

18/ CHILDREN IN TIME OF WAR

The 50-year war in Colombia has left generations of children displaced, orphaned or recruited by armed groups. With a ceasefire in place, will Colombian children know peace at last?

20/ EVENTS

Read about Halifax's Chefs for UNICEF Water for Life Fundraising Gala, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year, supporting UNICEF's global water, sanitation and hygiene programs.



10



18



The unstoppable spirit of John Nsabimana



Victoria, British Columbia, Canada – John Nsabimana’s journey to the University of Victoria began in the most unimaginable way – orphaned at the age of seven during the bloody Rwandan genocide. John survived a 223 kilometer walk to the safety of a refugee camp where he was taken under the wing of Canadian aid workers.

John Nsabimana had just turned seven when the genocide in Rwanda began. In just 100 days in 1994, an estimated 800,000 Rwandans were killed. John’s parents were among them. John and his five-year-old brother fled with nothing but the clothes on their backs. Too young to fully understand what was happening, the boys followed thousands of other refugees on their 223 kilometer journey by foot from Kigali, Rwanda, to Oruchinga refugee camp in Uganda.

They walked at night and hid during the day—sometimes in mud and marshes.

After walking for many months John and his brother finally arrived at the Oruchinga refugee camp which would become their home for the next 11 years. “At first there was nothing,”

says John. The influx of refugees had depleted the resources at the camp. Many people died of cholera and other diseases. “All around me, people cried,” recalls John.

“Then the UNICEF trucks came,” he says. He remembers running to greet the trucks, which brought much needed food, water, shelter, medicine and educational supplies. The trucks also brought UNICEF field staff who took children like John under their wing.

A LESSON IN RESILIENCE

Miraculously, about a year after arriving at the camp, John was reunited with his youngest brother, aged two at the time. Now John had two brothers to take care of. He made sure they had a place to sleep, food to eat and clean water to drink. Even at his young age, John also endeavored to instill in his brothers a sense of hope.

“I tried to make them understand this is a situation we didn’t create ourselves. It just happened. Just try to each be a good person and maybe one day things will be better,” he says.

For John, that moment came when he finally got to go to school. He had been looking forward to starting school in Rwanda before the conflict began, but he never got the chance. He vividly remembers his first day of class at the camp, sitting on red soil under a large tree with hundreds of other children learning the alphabet song. He was so excited. Every morning he was keen to study.

That’s the power of your support. Thanks to caring donors like you, John received an education and grew up to be a healthy, hopeful man, who is determined to make a difference in the world.

“When I was a kid living in the camp, I never thought there was anybody outside the camp who cared about us. Now I understand that people worked so hard to make sure we got what we needed to grow to become who we are,” says John. “Thank you for helping kids like me.”

FINDING PURPOSE OUT OF TRAGEDY

With support from Canadian aid workers, John applied for, and received, a United World College Scholarship to attend Lester B. Pearson United World College of the Pacific in British Columbia. He went on to complete his Master of Public Administration at the University of Victoria. When asked about his plans for the future, John says he wants to work for UNICEF and be an advocate for children’s rights.

His dream is coming true. John volunteered with UNICEF in Malawi while completing his undergraduate degree and while pursuing his Master’s degree,

he worked with UNICEF’s Child Protection Program in New York, which focuses on protecting and promoting children’s rights. Today, John is serving as a Monitoring and Evaluation Officer for UNICEF, again in New York, while on secondment from the Government of British Columbia.

Seeing UNICEF in action and benefitting from the many life-saving services it provides had a huge impact on John. “UNICEF has been a big part of my life,” he says. “There are so many children out there who need the same support that was given to me.”

Recently, in his role as a UNICEF Canada Ambassador, John visited the Ugandan refugee camp he grew

up in. It’s the first time he’s been back since he left ten years ago. John wanted the children at the camp to know that there are people in far off places like Canada who care about them and their futures.

“I tried to make them understand this is a situation we didn’t create ourselves. It just happened. Just try to each be a good person and maybe one day things will be better.”

When the UNICEF truck he was travelling in arrived in the camp, children rushed to greet it – much like John did as a child. For children the world over, UNICEF means help. And hope.

To witness John’s moving journey back to the refugee camp he grew up in, visit unicef.ca/john.

Why worry about WASH?

An interview with Ann Thomas, UNICEF's Chief of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Somalia

Ann Thomas, a Canadian environmental engineer in public health, has been with UNICEF since 2007. She lives with her husband and three kids in Nairobi, the capital of Kenya, where she works with the UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office (ESARO). Ann's focus is on the coordination of UNICEF's water, sanitation and hygiene programs in 21 countries throughout the region. She is currently on assignment as Chief of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in Somalia.

What does a Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Advisor do?

My job is to find ways to provide communities with access to clean drinking water and sanitation. My team and I develop and implement programs that range from establishing new, sustainable water supplies, to constructing latrines, to trying to effect societal behavior changes.



Why is WASH so important?

In short, clean water saves lives. Every year, millions of children die from entirely preventable diseases. Cholera, polio and diarrhea can all be linked to a lack of safe drinking water and poor sanitation and hygiene. In fact, diarrhoea is the second leading cause of death in children under five in Sub-Saharan Africa. It may be unpleasant to talk about, but the reality is, when there is poor sanitation, fecal matter is getting into the drinking water. Besides the threat of disease, it can also affect a child's ability to absorb nutrients, which can lead to malnutrition, even stunting.

Do WASH issues disproportionately affect women and girls?

Yes, absolutely. Lack of private sanitation options mean many women and girls wait until nighttime to go to the bathroom, which puts them at risk of gender-based violence. We've also seen that poor wash facilities in schools is directly linked to a higher dropout rate of girls, especially once they reach menstruation age. Less than 50 percent of schools throughout Eastern and Southern Africa have latrines, so it's a big issue.

How would improving WASH conditions benefit girls?

Improved WASH conditions would mean more girls would stay in school. They'd get to pursue their dreams of an education, which could change the course of their entire lives. Better sanitation and hygiene practices will also positively impact their overall health. Plus, it's a basic human rights issue. Girls everywhere should have the right to privacy and dignity.

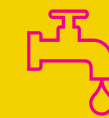
What can Canadians do to help?

As leaders on human rights issues, Canadians can play a key role in helping to shed light on water, sanitation and hygiene needs around the world. By making donations to help fund UNICEF's WASH programs, and by speaking out on behalf of girls whose human rights are all too often forgotten, you can help change the lives and futures of children everywhere.

What is your wish for children?

I wish that all girls and boys could grow up with dignity and a sense of security, and live long and healthy lives.

CLEAN WATER CHANGES EVERYTHING



Diseases from dirty water kill more people every year than all forms of violence, including war. Access to clean water could save **16,000** lives every week.



In Africa alone, girls and women spend **40 billion hours** a year walking for water. Access to clean water would give girls the opportunity to go to school and give women more time to grow food and earn an income.



Women and girls are responsible for **72%** of the water collected in Sub-Saharan Africa. When a community gets a local source of clean water, women and girls get their lives back.



Why UNICEF?

Barpak village, Nepal – On April 25, 2015, 1,400 homes in Barpak village were lost during the deadly earthquake that struck Nepal. Hundreds of earthquake victims, particularly children were affected by the lack of shelter and high altitudes. Thanks to your support and our ongoing progress the world's most vulnerable children, these children are able to take a moment to laugh.



BRIAN WOODLAND

As the Director of Communications and Community Relations for Ontario's Peel District School Board, Brian Woodland says that when global tragedies strike, he is besieged with calls from schools asking how they can help. "Support UNICEF" is always his answer.

"Our students, staff and community have raised an astonishing amount of money for UNICEF over the years," says Brian, who has been a loyal donor himself for 20 years. "One of the things we value is that we get to hear about how the money is used. Not only is that gratifying for those who fundraised, it also provides teachable moments about what happens when we put our values – like caring and responsibility – into action. From the 2010 Haiti Earthquake to the 2014 earthquake in Nepal, and so many other emergencies, our students feel a connection between their donation and the children helped by UNICEF."

"The impact is clear, real and immediate."



FONDS GABRIELLE-ROY

From her early years as a teacher in small-town Manitoba to her internationally renowned career as an author, Gabrielle Roy always had a special place in her heart for children. Many of her novels featured children – each more memorable than the last. As she often expressed through her writing, Gabrielle had deep concerns about the impact of discrimination and poverty on humanity, and children in particular.

Determined to make a difference and firm in her belief that each of us has a responsibility to help those who are less fortunate, Gabrielle named UNICEF as a beneficiary in her Will. Since her death in 1983, the Fonds Gabrielle-Roy manages her literary estate and makes, on her behalf, an important annual gift to UNICEF Canada, derived from the revenue from the sale of her books.

"It was Gabrielle's will to help children."



CHRIS TIDEY

In his role as a UNICEF Communications Specialist for Emergencies, Canadian, Chris Tidey has travelled the world and has witnessed firsthand the effects of hurricanes, famine, floods, wars and mass migrations on children. "I've experienced an awful lot of heartbreak," says Chris. "But every time I see the success stories, the kids who made it, my heart heals."

Now in his sixth year in the field, Chris truly believes that UNICEF is the best-placed organization to achieve the greatest results for children. "I feel good about the work we are doing. I know we are having an impact," he says. "But many a night I lie awake thinking about how much more needs to be done. Every day that we don't reach children ... lives are at risk. We can't let up, even for a moment."

"Lives are in the balance every day."



NATALIE HIGGINS

"Our involvement with UNICEF is largely driven by employees, most recently with the Syrian Refugee crisis," says Natalie Higgins, Vice President, Corporate Affairs and Communications for Intact Insurance. "Intact matches employee donations, making the value of their contributions even more meaningful."

Last spring, Natalie had the opportunity to see that support in action when she travelled with UNICEF to the Za'atari refugee camp in Jordan. For Natalie, who has proud childhood memories of carrying a UNICEF orange box with her every Halloween, the experience was life-changing. "I met families who shared the most inspiring stories of perseverance despite facing the most challenging obstacles. I saw children with incredible joy on their faces as they played in UNICEF-supported safe spaces. And in UNICEF classrooms, I met girls and boys who dream of becoming astronauts, doctors and teachers."

"UNICEF creates opportunities for children."

Famine in South Sudan:

FOOD AND TIME ARE RUNNING OUT



South Sudan isn't in the headlines as much these days as in times past, however, there is an escalating crisis happening there right now that demands our urgent attention. More than 1 million children across the country are acutely malnourished and more than 270,000 children are suffering from severe acute malnutrition – the deadliest form of the disease. “If we do not reach these children with urgent aid many of them will die,” says Jeremy Hopkins, UNICEF Representative in South Sudan.

FOOD INSECURITY AT LIFE-THREATENING LEVELS

An estimated 4.9 million people in South Sudan are severely food insecure—meaning they don't have access to enough nutritious food. This number is expected to rise to 5.5 million—nearly half of the country's entire population—by July, the height of the lean season. The magnitude of this crisis is severe.

What makes the situation even more heart wrenching is that it is human-made. Three years of conflict are at the heart of South Sudan's famine. The upsurge in violence in

“In these situations of course it is the most vulnerable who suffer most...”

2016 disrupted both planting seasons and displaced more than half a million people. With no end to the violence in sight, many farmers will not be able to safely return to their land in time for the 2017 planting seasons. Add to this the country's soaring inflation—up to 800 percent—and millions of people have been left without access to nutritious food.

“This [conflict] is devastating for the lives of children, for innocent civilians,” said Tom Irvin, UNICEF South Sudan staff person from Juba, the capital. “In these situations of course it is the most vulnerable who suffer most – and here that's particularly women and children.”

Our resources are stretched to the limit as the situation in South Sudan is compounded by the nearly 1.4 million children who are at imminent risk of death as famine looms in Nigeria, Somalia and Yemen. UNICEF is working with partners to provide treatment for severely malnourished children; 220,000 children in Nigeria, more than 200,000 children in Somalia, and 320,000 children in Yemen – but your support is still needed to reach the children who need us most.

SCALING UP OUR RESPONSE

In South Sudan, UNICEF and the World Food Programme (WFP), together with other partners, have been conducting massive relief operations since the conflict began and we intensified those efforts throughout 2016 and into 2017.

Through Rapid Response Missions, UNICEF and WFP are working to reach the most vulnerable children. WFP

delivers food, while UNICEF screens for malnutrition, treats severely malnourished children, provides basic health services and vaccination, provides expertise and supplies for safe water and sanitation, registers unaccompanied children for reunification with their families, and supports basic education activities.

In 2016, more than 180,000 severely malnourished children under the age of five were admitted to UNICEF-supported Outpatient Therapeutic Program sites. With 11,539 children admitted for severe acute malnutrition treatment in January alone, we expect the total number in 2017 to reach well over 200,000.

BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE

The humanitarian community is desperately working to help children and their families facing catastrophe in South Sudan – and in Nigeria, Somalia and Yemen. And yet, more needs to be done as the situation continues to deteriorate. With stores of ready-to-use therapeutic food and other emergency supplies stretched to the limit, urgent action is needed to ensure there is a steady supply of resources in place before it's too late. We must act now to prevent more children from dying of hunger.

Here's how you can help:



You can deliver packets of Plumpy'Nut – a therapeutic, peanut-based food – to help restore undernourished children to health.



You can send a survival food kit filled with enough Plumpy'Nut and nutrient-packed therapeutic milk, biscuits and more to treat children who are suffering from malnutrition.



You can help stock a malnutrition treatment centre with nutritious food supplements and treatments to save as many as malnourished children.

To learn more, visit survivalgifts.ca

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UNICEF: 70 years for every child

“The hope of the world rests in the coming generations.”

With these words in 1946, the United Nations General Assembly announced the creation of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, UNICEF, to safeguard the lives of children struggling to survive in the aftermath of World War II, and in doing so, help restore hope for a better future.

Seventy years on, UNICEF continues to work diligently to live up to the trust that was placed in us to promote the rights and protect the well-being of children everywhere, regardless of gender, religion, race or economic background.



HUMANITARIAN ACTION FOR CHILDREN AFFECTED BY WAR

When World War II ended, millions of children suffered daily deprivation. UNICEF responded with food, clothing, water and healthcare.

“If it weren't for the people of UNICEF, I don't think I would be here today.”

-World War II survivor who was 12 when the war ended

In the decades that followed, UNICEF continued to respond to children affected by armed conflict in places like Cambodia, Nigeria, South Sudan and most recently, Syria. Lessons learned along the way have enabled us to take quick and effective actions in war zones and use our influence to negotiate temporary ceasefires so children can receive life-saving interventions.

A CHAMPION FOR CHILDREN CAUGHT IN EMERGENCIES

Emergency response has always been a key aspect of UNICEF's work—from our unprecedented response to famine in Bihar, India, in the 1960s to our far-reaching response to the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami that touched the lives of 6 million children. And when devastating natural disasters struck Haiti in 2010 and again last fall, UNICEF led the international response.

UNICEF is also among the first to take action whenever and wherever outbreaks occur. Indeed, nearly 70 years of responding to epidemics prepared us for one of the biggest health emergencies of our time, when Ebola spread through West Africa in 2014/2015. Our protection, prevention and social mobilization efforts helped to halt a massive outbreak of this highly contagious, lethal disease.

“UNICEF saved us,” says 10-year-old Salamatu from Sierra Leone.

A REVOLUTION IN CHILD SURVIVAL AND HEALTH

UNICEF's commitment to child survival goes far beyond providing emergency aid. Since the 1950s, we've also aimed to improve the overall long-term health of the world's most disadvantaged children through immunization, nutrition, sanitation and other preventive programs. Thanks to these interventions, UNICEF has helped to slash infant and child mortality rates: between 1990 and 2015, the number of children who died before their fifth birthday decreased by more than half worldwide.

THE NEXT 70 YEARS AND BEYOND

While enormous progress has been made, there is still so much to do. Until children no longer have to endure or flee from conflict, abuse, natural disasters and exploitation, until children are no longer excluded from healthcare or denied an education, UNICEF's work on child protection and survival will continue. With loyal donors like you by our side, we remain committed to doing everything we can to ensure every child has a fair chance in life.



MILESTONES IN UNICEF'S HISTORY

Seventy years of progress on behalf of the world's children

As an emergency responder, a champion of child rights and a force for equitable development, UNICEF has a long record of success. The following are just a few milestones from our first 70 years.



1946

From the smoke and ashes of World War II, a refugee crisis emerged unlike any the world had seen. Out of this destruction, UNICEF was created to ease the burden of the world's most vulnerable children. The governments of Canada and the United States were the first to make substantial financial contributions to UNICEF.



1952

Kids all across Canada started carrying orange trick-or-treat boxes on Halloween to raise money for UNICEF's life-saving work around the world.



1953

UNICEF became a permanent United Nations agency. The words 'International' and 'Emergency' were removed from the official name but the acronym remained. UNICEF's projects in water, sanitation and hygiene seek to reduce preventable childhood diseases and death. Our initial campaigns to eradicate yaws and leprosy were highly effective.



1954

Entertainer Danny Kaye became UNICEF's first Ambassador at Large. Many notable individuals have followed in his footsteps including Audrey Hepburn, David Beckham and Ewan McGregor.



1959

The United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child began to define children's rights to protection, education, healthcare, shelter and good nutrition.



1964

UNICEF pivoted from being a relief fund to an international development agency and expanded its works to address the short-term and long-term needs of the whole child. This expansion ultimately led to a fundamental shift, not just in the work of UNICEF, but international development at large.



1965

The Nobel Peace Prize is awarded to UNICEF. Upon receiving the award, UNICEF's Executive Director, Henry Labouisse said, "The welfare of today's children is inseparably linked with the peace of tomorrow's world."



1982

The Child Survival and Development Revolution was launched by Jim Grant, former Executive Director for UNICEF. His undaunted approach pushed the organization to its limits and saved millions of children in the process.



1985

UNICEF negotiated a ceasefire during a civil war in El Salvador to allow for three days of mass immunization of children. Known as "Days of Tranquility," this practice was later applied in Lebanon in 1987, Sudan in 1989, Iraq in 1991 and Syria in 2016 to save children's lives during wartime.



1989-1990

159 United Nations Member States adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1989. UNICEF is listed as the lead organization responsible for the promotion of children's rights globally.



1994

In the aftermath of the genocide in Rwanda, UNICEF and UNESCO invented and distributed the first School-in-a-Box, a complete classroom set of educational supplies to support uninterrupted education for children during humanitarian crises.



2005-2010

UNICEF launched the Unite for Children, Unite against AIDS campaign to put children at the centre of the of the HIV and AIDS discourse, to mobilized resources and accelerated our goal of achieving an AIDS-free generation.



2015-2030

With UNICEF's vital input, world leaders adopt the Sustainable Development Goals which introduce a clear, powerful and sweeping set of targets to improve the lives all children, everywhere, over the next 15 years.



Building happy moments together

PARTNERS IN PLAY BRING LEGO® DUPLO® TO VULNERABLE CHILDREN

Nothing is more uplifting than seeing a child playing. Happy, engaged and creative; it's exactly how childhood should look.

More than just fun, play is a fundamental aspect of children's learning and development. Play helps children develop important skills like problem solving, sharing, negotiating and communicating.

But for far too many children around the world, play is not part of their lives.

With our shared belief that all children have a right to play, UNICEF partnered with the LEGO Group and the LEGO Foundation to bring opportunities for play to some of the world's most vulnerable and at-risk children.



HELPING CHILDREN AFFECTED BY CONFLICT TO BE KIDS AGAIN

Due to the ongoing Syrian humanitarian crisis, an estimated **220,000** Syrian children are now living in refugee camps in neighbouring Jordan. Their childhoods have been deeply disrupted by violence, fear and displacement. Too many are plunged into an adult life long before they are ready—forced to find work or marry far too early. Too many are deprived of their right to learn and play.

In 2016, as part of our Partners in Play initiative, UNICEF, the LEGO Group and the LEGO Foundation brought LEGO® DUPLO® bricks to 73,000 children in 365 Early Childhood Development Centres and Child Friendly Spaces in Jordan.

Bringing play to these children helps them re-establish routines and build resilience. An important psychosocial tool, play gives at-risk children a coping mechanism in the face of chaos, a space to release negative emotions in a safe way and a chance to just be kids again, even if only for a little while.

In addition to donating play materials to children affected by conflict in places like Iraq, Jordan and Ukraine, the LEGO Foundation also trains practitioners and staff to use play as a strategy to alleviate trauma and stress and to help children realize their full potential.



Nabi Yunis Internally Displaced Persons Camp, near Baghdad, Iraq – UNICEF staff persons play and brings smiles to Iraqi internally displaced children at a Child Friendly Space.

UNLOCKING THE POWER OF PLAY FOR CHILDREN LIVING IN POVERTY

In 2015, LEGO® DUPLO® fans, together with UNICEF supporters, helped unlock the power of play for underprivileged children in South Africa. A total of 110,000 LEGO® DUPLO® bricks, along with other learning materials, were donated to Early Childhood Development Centres throughout South Africa, benefiting thousands of children.

“I love LEGO DUPLO bricks!” says five-year-old Dominic, at the Kids For Success Center in the South African city of Kimberly. “I like the way we learn numbers and how to count,” adds his friend Dudu.

Poverty has a profoundly negative impact on early childhood development. That's why the LEGO Foundation and UNICEF are investing in early childhood development programs throughout South Africa, where poverty levels

are as high as 55 percent among children under 18. We're also working with the South African government to ensure that play is an integral part of government policies and early childhood curricula.

BUILDING BLOCKS FOR A BETTER FUTURE

Children not only have a right to play, they have a need to play. It helps them to learn and to grow in ways that last a lifetime. Play gives children the best possible chance of developing fully and learning effectively, enabling them to contribute to their economies and societies and build strong and safe communities when they reach adulthood.

UNICEF is thrilled to be working with the LEGO Group and the LEGO Foundation to give more children a chance to play. Like each LEGO brick, this partnership is a building block to a better future for children everywhere.



The LEGO Foundation





One is too many

Ending child deaths from pneumonia

For most children in Canada, pneumonia is an easily prevented and managed illness. It is rarely life threatening. However, not all children are so fortunate.

Shockingly, in many parts of the world a child dies of pneumonia every 35 seconds. The overwhelming majority of these children live in lower and middle-income countries.

Pneumonia remains the leading infectious killer of children under five, claiming the lives of nearly 1 million children in 2015. That's more than malaria, tuberculosis and measles combined.

What makes it even more heartbreaking is that we have the means and the know-how to protect children from contracting pneumonia and to treat those who are already sick. With your support, UNICEF will continue to do everything we can to reach children everywhere with life-saving pneumonia vaccines and antibiotics.

We must also work to address the root causes of this disease. Poverty-related factors play a critical role. Undernutrition and lack of health care, safe water and adequate sanitation can lower children's natural defenses and make them more susceptible to infection. The other major factor is climate change.

HALF OF ALL CHILDHOOD PNEUMONIA DEATHS ARE LINKED TO AIR POLLUTION

Children breathe twice as fast as adults. As their lungs and immune system are still developing, children are most at risk from air pollution. With every breath, millions of children are inhaling toxic air.

"We have seen clearly that air pollution linked to climate change is damaging the health and development of children by causing pneumonia and other respiratory infections," says UNICEF Deputy Executive Director Fatoumata Ndiaye. "Two billion children live in areas where outdoor air pollution exceeds international guidelines, with many falling ill and dying as a result."

920,000 children
died from pneumonia in 2015

Adds UNICEF Executive Director Anthony Lake, "Air pollution is a major contributing factor in the deaths of around

600,000 children under five every year—and it threatens the lives and futures of millions more every day. Pollutants not only harm children's developing lungs—they can actually cross the blood-brain barrier and permanently damage their developing brains—and, thus, their futures. No society can afford to ignore air pollution."

UNICEF is calling on world leaders to take urgent action now to cut air pollution in their countries. "We protect our children when we protect the quality of our air," says Lake.

INDOOR AIR POLLUTION IS JUST AS DEADLY

Outdoor air pollution is only part of the problem. More than 40 percent of the world's population rely on wood, coal, animal dung or crop waste to cook and heat their homes. These fuels expose children to household air pollution that doubles their risk of pneumonia. The use of chimney stoves can cut household air pollution by half, reducing severe pneumonia by almost 30 percent.

Progress is being made. With your support, in Bangladesh for example, 40,000 households have been equipped with fuel-efficient cook stoves which have improved children's and mothers'

health, reduced greenhouse gas emissions and decreased local environmental deforestation. In Burundi, the use of safer lighting in rural households has lowered carbon emissions and reduced air pollution. But there is still a long way to go.

2 billion children

live in areas where outdoor air pollution exceeds international guidelines

The reality is, climate change and environmental degradation, such as air pollution, impact the health of every child, especially the most disadvantaged.

CHILD DEATHS DUE TO PNEUMONIA MUST BE STOPPED

In order for all children to have the same opportunity to survive and reach their full potential, we must reduce child mortality rates. Loyal donors like you are at the heart of this vital work. With your support, UNICEF will continue to tackle the causes of pneumonia—such as poverty and toxic air—and invest in interventions like vaccines and access to antibiotics and quality health care. Together we can save lives.



JUST BREATHE...

You will have taken about 24 breaths while reading this article. A child with pneumonia will have taken at least 120 short, painful gasps.

For children with pneumonia, every day is a struggle. But nights are worse. At night, their ragged breathing becomes even more rapid and shallow and rasping coughs wake them up. Again. And again. There's nothing that strikes more fear into a parent's heart more than the sound of a child struggling for breath.

Lagos, Nigeria – Smog covers Makoko, a fishing community mostly made up of homes on stilts above Lagos Lagoon in Nigeria. Vehicle emissions, diesel generators, burning of biomass, trash and other environmental waste greatly affect the water and air quality in the community.

Childhood in the time of war

Will the children of Colombia know peace at last?

The day Willinton Leyder Ortiz turned 10, armed men came to his village, took away his mother and killed her. It was not the first time Colombia's war came knocking on Leyder's door. His father was killed the previous year and his grandmother disappeared a few years before that.

"Why are people so violent? Why was my mother murdered? Why did they take the person I loved the most?" These are the questions that have haunted Leyder every night since the day his mother was killed in 2011. Beyond the grief of losing his mom, Leyder also lost his home. Now an orphan, he had to move to another town to live with his aunt.

Like every other child in Colombia over the past 50 years, Leyder has only known life ravaged by war. Violence has robbed thousands of children of their childhood.

Over the five decades of armed conflict more than 2 million children have been displaced and as many as 8,000 boys and girls disappeared. Thousands have been killed, injured by landmines, orphaned, sexually abused and recruited into armed groups. In the last three years alone, an estimated 1,000 children were recruited by armed groups and militias.

Narino, Colombia – Willinton Leyder Ortiz sits perched along the riverbank at Awa indigenous reserve.



IN THE PAST 5 DECADES,

2 million children
have been displaced

8,000 children
have disappeared

IN THE PAST 3 YEARS,

1,000 children
have been recruited as
child soldiers

"Sometimes I would cry and pray... to give me strength to carry on," says Angelina.

Women like Angelina* in Colombia represent a significant portion of child soldiers. Fleeing poverty and other problems at home, Angelina ran away when she was 12, became pregnant at 15, and then left her baby behind to become a guerrillero. She soon discovered that life on the frontline was hard. Many of her friends died and she came close to losing her life as well. "A bullet flew right over my head. I still have a scar," she says. Fortunately, Angelina managed to escape and return home to her family. Today, she is raising her daughter and moving forward with her life.



Angelina met with UNICEF in an undisclosed location in Colombia for an interview regarding her experience with an armed group. Her image is obscured to protect her identity.

In Colombia and around the world, UNICEF urges governments to recognize that child soldiers like Angelina are victims not perpetrators. They need to be protected, reunited with their families and given support to help them re-integrate into society. As well, UNICEF provides programs to prevent children from joining armed groups and criminal bands. In the last five years, 180,000 children in Colombia have benefitted from these programs.

A FRAGILE PEACE OFFERS HOPE

This past June, the Government of Colombia and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC-EP) — Colombia's main armed opposition group — signed a bilateral ceasefire and disarmament agreement to end the conflict. While UNICEF is hopeful that this dark chapter in Colombia's history is finally over, improving the lives of children and their families will require long-term efforts.

It took more than three years to negotiate the agreement and FARC-EP is by no means the only armed group in Colombia. Other groups remain active and drug-related

violence continues to put children's lives at risks. The peace is fragile at best. But our commitment to helping children affected by conflict is as strong as ever.

UNICEF is on the ground right now working with the Colombian government to ensure children have access to justice, medical care and psychosocial support. We offer mine-risk education and provide assistance to landmine survivors. We support reconciliation and peace building initiatives in schools and communities. And we are assisting in the development of a national education curriculum that includes the principles of peace, equality and inclusiveness.

PAVING THE WAY TO A BRIGHTER FUTURE

With your support, UNICEF will continue to do all that we can to help children like Leyder survive and thrive. Now 15, Leyder is doing well in school and hopes to get a university scholarship. He still cries whenever he thinks about his mom, but he is hopeful that peace will pave the way to a future defined not by nightmares but by dreams.

*Name changed to protect child's identity



ELEMENTS ON HOLLIS
THE WESTIN



Chefs for UNICEF Water for Life Gala

25th anniversary event in Halifax

This year will mark the 25th anniversary of the Chefs for UNICEF, Water for Life Gala in Halifax. The unique fundraising event features international culinary delights prepared by local chefs, a silent auction and a guest speaker who has benefitted from UNICEF’s work in the field.

The goal of the gala is to raise funds for UNICEF’s global water, sanitation and hygiene programs. In the 24 years the event has been held so far, more than 2.6 million children have been reached by initiatives funded through the gala.

“Children are our greatest treasure and the key to our future,” says Colin MacDonald, Founder and CEO of Clearwater Seafoods, now in his fifth year as Honorary Chair. “As individuals, and as a society, we have a responsibility to improve the world for all.” It’s a belief that Colin has instilled in his two sons, Luke and Nicholas, who join him as Honorary Chairs this year.

Event chair, Melanie Nadeau of Nova Scotia Power says they hope to sell 550 tickets for this year’s gala which will be held on April 26th at Halifax’s World Trade and

Convention Centre. “We have great silent auction items lined up, including a WestJet Getaway and a dinner for 10 with a private chef,” says Melanie. “We will also hold a live auction for UNICEF Water for Life Bundles – we hope to exceed the 179 bundles sold last year.” The bundles, which contain a hygiene kit, a bucket and 7,421 water treatment tablets, are delivered to communities in need around the world.

“I am so grateful to the event organizers, partners and generous donors who participate in the Chefs for UNICEF Water for Life Gala,” says Holly Davidson, UNICEF Canada’s National Events Manager. “Your support transforms lives.”

2.6 million children

have been reached by initiatives funded through the gala.



water for
life gala

CHEFS FOR UNICEF

THANK YOU FOR 25 YEARS OF SUPPORT

UNICEF Canada would like to thank everyone – donors, attendees, chefs and volunteers who have been part of the Halifax gala over the years – for all that they do for the world’s children.

Special thanks to this year’s team:

HONORARY CHAIRS

Colin MacDonald
Luke Hansen-MacDonald
Nicholas Hansen-MacDonald

EVENT CHAIR

Melanie Nadeau

PATRONS COUNCIL

Jeannine Bakeeff
Jamie Berryman
Steve Bird
Mark James
Jonathan Lewis
Ian MacInnis
Melanie Nadeau
Rick Piper
Christine Pound
Keith Skiffington
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Jeannine Bakeeff
Bill Carr
Daisy Cobden
Diane Davidson
Alannah Delahunty-Pike
Natalie Irwin
Nicole Langille
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Cyril Lunney
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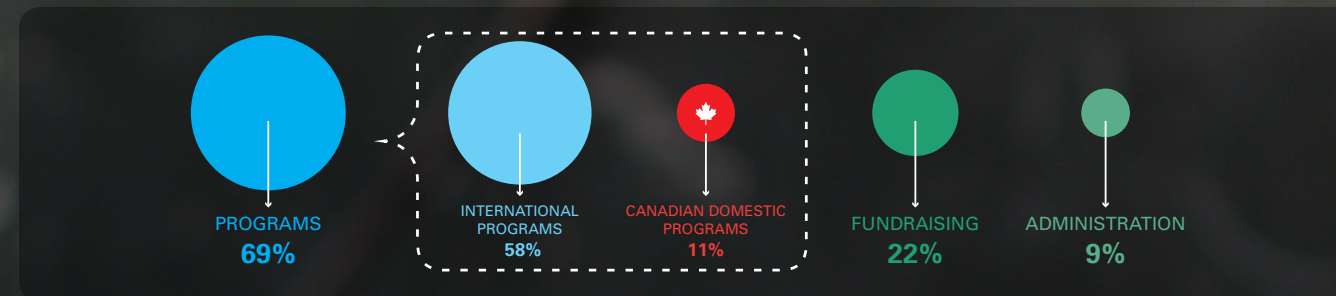
For gala tickets contact:
Holly Davidson
hdavidson@unicef.ca
1 800 819 0889 ext. 8204



Achieving Results For Every Child

Every child has the potential to provide unique value to this world. I'm proud that at UNICEF, we get to be a part of helping children fulfill that potential. Through our commitment to providing life-saving support to the most vulnerable children around the world, we are able to continue saving more children's lives than any other humanitarian organization. And it's all thanks to you, our generous supporters.

Last year, we lived up to our pledge to direct your donations to the best possible use.



Your contribution allowed us to reach children caught in crisis, conflict and poverty with the essentials they need to survive and thrive. Thanks to you, we were able to provide three-year-old Jackok, caught in the fighting in South Sudan, with therapeutic food. In Iraq, Noor, nine, is excited to be back in school after conflict closed it down. And in Syria, seven-year-old Omar received treatment for diarrhea, giving him a second chance at life.

These are just three of the children among the millions that UNICEF was able to help last year thanks to your support.

UNICEF works in virtually every country in the world and relies entirely on voluntary donations. No other organization has the potential to reach and to help every child, everywhere, as we've been doing for more than 70 years.

HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR EFFORTS IN 2016

In 2016, UNICEF responded to 344 humanitarian emergencies in 108 countries. We reached the most vulnerable children and their families affected by war and natural disasters with access to clean drinking water, sanitation and hygiene, nutritious food, education, psychosocial support and a safe place to play and deal with the trauma they experienced.

Last year, we provided 9.2 million children with basic education, 19.3 million people with safe water, 8.3 million with measles vaccinations and psychosocial support for 2.4 million children, and that was only for those children who were caught in emergencies.

Your support not only allows us to respond to and protect children and families caught in crises, but also to help communities become stronger in the long term and address the underlying causes of vulnerability, making sure our solutions are sustainable.

OUR COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE

Once again, UNICEF Canada has met the Imagine Canada Standards Accreditation for charities in Canada. The Imagine Canada Standards Program establishes guidelines for charities, based on five areas:

- Board Governance
- Financial Accountability and Transparency
- Fundraising
- Staff Management
- Volunteer Involvement

UNICEF Canada was one of the first 100 charities across Canada to meet their strict guidelines. We are one of just 220 recognized recipients of this trusted mark. We're proud that through this commitment to excellence, we're able to channel your support into brighter futures for so many children.

It may be hard to see the impact of your donation from where you sit. But dedicated UNICEF staff around the world see it every day – in the smiles of the children they meet, in the inspiring stories of recovery they hear and in the remarkable things the children we've helped go on to accomplish.

Thank you for helping us achieve results for every child.

Dave Spedding
Chief Operating Officer
UNICEF Canada

NO CHILD
TOO FAR



Akello Filder with her daughter Lakica Jemimah at Kitgum hospital. They are among many beneficiaries of the UNICEF-supported maternal and newborn health program. The program aims to strengthen the continuum of care for maternal and child health services in the Acholi region of northern Uganda.

Entirely supported by voluntary donations from supporters like you, UNICEF works tirelessly to save children's lives. Donor investments in children benefit not only children, but society at large.

On behalf of children everywhere, thank you.

The following list recognizes gifts to UNICEF Canada between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2016. UNICEF Canada apologizes for any omissions or errors. Please contact UNICEF Canada at 1 800 567 4483 if you have any questions or changes.

INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILY FOUNDATIONS

The following individuals, families and private foundations have generously contributed \$10,000 or more to UNICEF Canada.

- | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|
| Anonymous (21) | N. Murray Edwards Charitable Foundation | Iqbal & Yasmin Kassam | North Star Foundation | Jennifer Spezza |
| Appleyard Foundation | The Fairmount Foundation | The Dianne and Irving Kipnes Foundation | Ghulam & Mehrunnissa Pardhan | George Stein |
| Edward Assh Foundation | Fernwood Foundation | Karen Kirker | Otto and Marie Pick Charitable Foundation | Marc Thériault |
| Jeannine Bakeeff | Arlene & Don Fox | Dr. Ruth Kurdyak Memorial Fund at The Canadian Medical Foundation | Ali Pourghasemi | Trottier Family Foundation |
| Allen W. Bell & Dr. Ola Dunin-Bell | Robert Furber & Jeanette Funke Furber | Scott Lake & Jessica Thomas Lake | Ptarmigan Fund at The Calgary Foundation | Suzanne West |
| Avie Bennett, C.C., O. Ont. | Fonds Gabrielle-Roy | Nancy & Carey Garrett | Chitra Ramaswami | Maggie Williamson |
| Joan Berger | Maddy Gibson | Megan Lawrence | Sue Riddell Rose & Michael Rose | Jennifer Wolfe Fund at Edmonton Community Foundation |
| Mike & Pat Broderick | Harman Gill | Cristina Linden | Mirella & Lino Saputo Foundation | Mabel Wong |
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| Alzheimer's Research Foundation | Shirley Grant | Anne Mahon | Axel & Stasia Schmidt | Dr. Chidam Yegappan |
| Christopher Burton | Sarah Hamhuis | S. Marshall | Robbin B Shandel | Christy Young |
| Caroline Cathcart | Linda Heathcott | Melanie McLean | Karim Shariff | Beth Zaitz |
| Nancy Choi | Vivien Ho | Holly Miklas | Dale Sheard | |
| Drs. Sean & Ravneet Comstock | Dr. Carin Holroyd & Ken Coates | Chris & Noella Milne | Drs. Phillip Shin & Angie Hong | |
| Rosemary Cooke & Michael Hilliard | Horton Family Fund | Hugh & Helen Mogensen Fund through the Victoria Foundation | Hanita & Christopher Simard | |
| Kristine Delkus | Houssian Foundation | Rebecca Morley | Marnie Smith | |
| Edward & Daphne Dodig | Robin Howlings | Dr. Liza Murrell | | |
| Claude Dussault | James Family Foundation | Karen Nordlinger | | |



CORPORATE GIVING

Through sponsorships and partnerships, the following corporations, employee groups and corporate foundations have supported UNICEF with a gift of \$10,000 or more.

- | | | | | |
|--|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| Anonymous (2) | Desjardins Capital Markets | Kouros Alamian Harandi | Overlap Associates Inc. | TELUS and TELUS Team Members |
| Annapolis Capital | EverydayHappy | Medical Corporation | Pier 1 Imports® | The Steven Chambers Foundation |
| Avenue Living, Avondale | FlightHub | Loblaw Companies Limited | RBC Capital Markets | Victory Majors Investments Corporation |
| Real Estate Capital, AgriSelect Land Capital | Gildan Activewear | Macquarie Capital Markets Canada Ltd | RBC Royal Bank | |
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| | International Graphics ULC | | | |

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

UNICEF Canada is grateful to its community partners for their generous investment of time and resources. The following schools, clubs and groups have each contributed \$5,000 or more towards UNICEF's work.

- | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|--|
| BC Children's Hospital Foundation | Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada | Manitoba Council for International Cooperation | Queen's University UNICEF Club | University of Calgary UNICEF Club |
| Branton Junior High School | Crofton House School | Merit Education's 2016 Canadian Chinese Student Charity Night | Ronald McDonald House Charities Canada | University of Saskatchewan Employees |
| Canadian Libyans for Relief and Prosperity | DAC Jet #WhyBear #UNICEF | Peel District School Board | Saskatchewan Council for International Cooperation | University of Toronto St. George - UNICEF Club |
| Club Trofeo | I Boost Immunity | Population Health Research Institute and its Employees | The 4th Youth World Cup Live Painting Competition | UTChinese Network New Year's Concert |
| Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy | Key Club of Vancouver Westside Fundraiser | | UNICEF Pembroke | |
| | Kiwanis Foundation of Canada | | | |

LEGACIES

Many supporters honour UNICEF's work and invest in the future of children through legacy planning. The following individuals have informed us that they have included UNICEF Canada in their estate plans. Their commitment ensures a brighter future for countless children.

- | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Anonymous (179) | Élizabeth Dallaire | Bernard Heneman | Hugh Mogensen | John W. & Carol Somerset |
| Zahra Akbar Rabiei | Gerry Daly | Santosh Kadel | Thérèse Morin | Mary Stevens |
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| Orval Kenneth Chapman | Laurie Hammond | Gary Markotich | Jean Shafto | |
| | Mona Harper | Pat Martin & Peter Varty | James Sikora | |
| | Sadiq Hasan | Daphne McMullen | Alain Sirard | |



UNICEF Canada is an accredited member of Imagine Canada's Standards Program – one of only 210 charities with this designation in the country. Imagine Canada is the national umbrella for the Canadian charitable sector. With this accreditation you can be assured that UNICEF Canada has met the highest standards for charities in five key areas: fundraising, financial accountability and transparency, board governance and staff management, and volunteer involvement.

The 25th Team

The 25th Team is a group of 60 women who are dedicated to saving the lives of mothers and children. Together, in partnership with the Government of Canada, The Garrett Family Foundation, Teck and founding partner Canada Soccer, The 25th Team has made a collective investment of \$12 million over four years in life-saving programs in five countries. UNICEF Canada is grateful for the generous support of The 25th Team. Most recently, members of The 25th Team travelled to Indonesia and Peru to see UNICEF's initiatives in action.



WE ARE GRATEFUL TO THE COMMITMENT OF THE FOLLOWING PARTNERS AND INDIVIDUALS

Canada

Teck



THE GARRETT FAMILY FOUNDATION

Jeannine Bakeeff	Shirley Grant	Karina LeBlanc	Geeta Sankappanavar
Heidi Balsillie	Lisa Grogan	Cristina Linden	Mirella Saputo
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Maddy Gibson	Lynda Kuhn	Chitra Ramaswami	Joanna Wright
L. Britt Giuffre	Megan Lawrence	Sue Riddell Rose	Christy Young

Canada

UNICEF and Canada have a long history of partnering to advance the rights and well-being of children around the world. The Government of Canada is consistently one of the top ten government donors to UNICEF. From September 2015 to February 2016, the Government of Canada generously matched every dollar donated by individual Canadians to the Syrian sub-regional and refugee crisis response through the Syrian Relief Fund. The resulting \$31.8 million supported UNICEF's work to ensure that vulnerable Syrian children access education and healthcare in Jordan and Syria. In September 2016, Canada committed a further \$78 million to UNICEF's No Lost Generation initiative, so that many more Syrian children will be able to go to school and gain the skills they need to achieve their dreams.

NO CHILD TOO FAR

THANK YOU

On January 23rd 2017, Sujood, 7, poses for a photograph as she returns to school in eastern Mosul, Iraq. "She can go back to school now. Today for me it's like I'm born again," said Sujood's father.

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"I feel that the most rewarding thing I have ever done in my life is to be associated with UNICEF."

- DANNY KAYE, UNICEF'S FIRST GOODWILL AMBASSADOR