

# FOR EVERY CHILD

UNICEF Canada Magazine  
Fall 2017

unicef   
CANADA

## A BETTER FUTURE

UNICEF report busts myths  
about Canada's children  
and youth

If you want to change the  
world, educate a girl

UNICEF donors save lives  
during famine

Your life and legacy



A message from President & CEO, David Morley

As Canadians, it's hard to imagine a world in which girls are denied an education simply because they're girls. Yet that's the reality in many places. When I think of my granddaughter and what her future would be like if she couldn't go to school, it breaks my heart.

In this issue of *For Every Child*, we expose some of the barriers to girls' education and what UNICEF is doing to overcome them thanks to generous donors like you. "If you want to change the world, educate a girl" (page 4), tells the story of Manar, a Syrian teen determined to return to school and finish her education despite a four-year absence.

One of the harshest consequences of the war in Syria and other conflicts around the world is the sheer number of children who are out of school. In "Bayan Yammout's incredible journey" (page 18), our UNICEF Canada Ambassador visits a UNICEF-supported learning centre for Syrian refugees in Jordan, which reminds her of her own experiences as a child in Lebanon during its civil war.

To see how far your UNICEF support reaches, be sure to read "India's children" (page 10). For the latest on UNICEF's life-saving response to the food crisis in South Sudan, turn to page 14 for "UNICEF donors save lives during famine." And in "She dreamed of being a scientist" (page 2), Innovation Specialist Jessica Tribbe talks about UNICEF's efforts to find innovative solutions to pressing problems affecting the world's most vulnerable children.

For issues closer to home, check out "Healthy, safe and equal?" (page 8), which reveals some shocking truths about growing up in Canada.

As you read these stories, I hope you'll see the difference your donations make and the vital need for your continued commitment in helping UNICEF reach every child.

With my sincerest thanks,

*David Morley*

PRESIDENT & CEO,  
UNICEF Canada



This year, David Morley visited Al Sabah Children's Hospital in Juba, South Sudan, which faced famine in two counties.



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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# She dreamed of being a scientist

An interview with Jessica Tribbe,  
Innovation Specialist with UNICEF

Jessica works with teachers and students in Uganda on programs to provide cleaner drinking water.

Since 2013, Jessica Tribbe has been an Innovation Specialist in the UNICEF Supply Division Innovation Unit based in Copenhagen, Denmark. The Unit harnesses innovative technologies for children, developing new products for UNICEF's programs and emergency responses. It manages a portfolio of 13 cutting-edge projects related to health, education, water, sanitation and other program areas. Here, Jessica talks about the unique approach that the organization takes, through the Innovation Unit, to save the lives of children and families.

*"I've traveled around the world working with governments and industries to find innovative solutions related to water, sanitation and education."*

## What does an Innovation Specialist do?

I run a series of Product Innovation Projects that address children's needs. Specifically, I'm responsible for a project that focuses on finding innovative solutions to identifying fecal contamination in drinking water. For the past four years, I've worked on a series of projects to enable development of solutions related to water, sanitation and education. Currently, for example, 2.1 billion people, including children, lack access to safe drinking water – an astounding number. No child should die or get sick as a result of contaminated drinking water or having no place to wash their hands. No child should have to stay away from school for lack of a clean toilet and privacy.

## What is another example of a project in the Innovation Unit?

Last year, during an outbreak of Zika

(a mosquito-borne virus that can cause congenital brain abnormalities, especially during pregnancy), UNICEF teamed up with many international agencies to drive development of a test to diagnose the virus, protect infants' lives and prevent microcephaly cases. Before that, there had been no commercially available test. The team defined the need, consulted with industry and installed a market guarantee that created incentives for developers to invest in research and development.

## Why is innovation important?

Innovation for products for children is important because it fuels the development of solutions to complicated problems. The Innovation Unit manages products at different stages of development, from prototyping, to field-testing, to getting ready for scale-up. Feedback from our Country Offices and implementing partners is critical, and on-the-ground work is crucial to better addressing the needs of children.

## What do you like most about your job?

As a kid, I dreamed of being a scientist. My indecision on the type of science led me to public policy instead. Day to day, working with new technologies to drive innovations means I learn about everything from microbiology to engineering. Also, I feel very proud to be a part of an organization that works to uphold the rights of children, and prioritizes equity in its programs.

## What is one challenge of your job?

Risk and complexity are two inherent aspects of innovation. So, when we ask donors to invest in our work, we have to be honest that there's risk involved. However, we learn from small failures and from taking the time to dig into the complexity. What's most important is how we capture these learnings and share them with others, so that the work contributes to a larger body of research. When we ask donors to invest in our work, we're asking them to see the potential for long-term impact on children and mothers' lives.

A district sanitation officer in Jinja, Uganda, conducts research with Jessica.



# If you want to change the world, educate a girl

Manar is from Homs, one of the first cities in Syria to be caught up in the war. Now, back in school, she practices English (conversation, vocabulary and grammar) during a course offered by a UNICEF-supported centre. She's discovered her passion and ability to learn new languages.

Manar participates in an activity during a course about life skills, learning more about negotiating within a team. Later, she convinced her father to allow her to return to school.

**W**hen Manar and her family fled from the city of Homs, Syria, in 2011, she left behind much more than her home and belongings. As violence escalated, Manar, 12 years old at the time, had to abandon her education and her sense of security. She's been trying to get back to school ever since.

The six-year Syrian conflict has forced 1.75 million children and youth out of school and uprooted millions more people from their homes. For many Syrian parents, the choice of sending their children to school is one of life or death. Manar's father felt that keeping his daughter out of school was the only way to protect her.

A few years later, when her family returned to their partially-damaged home, Manar connected with a UNICEF-supported program that offers young people vocational training, as well as language and life-skills courses in Syria. Through the program, Manar gained self-confidence and improved her negotiation skills. "I think my greatest achievement after the course was convincing my father to let me continue my education," she said.

Last fall, Manar enrolled in grade 10 – giving her a glimpse of hope for a different future. Her dream of going back to school came true thanks to donors like you who support UNICEF's efforts to make education accessible to girls all over the world.



## SENDING GIRLS TO SCHOOL HAS FAR-REACHING BENEFITS

Educating girls is one of the most beneficial investments a society can make. When we educate girls, we create a more equal and prosperous world, and we ensure that girls are less likely to marry young or against their will. Educated girls grow up to have healthier babies and to send their children to school. And educated women contribute to the economic well-being of their families and countries.



# No girl left behind

While the rewards of educating girls are great, so too are the barriers. As a result of crippling poverty, long distances to school and prevailing social norms, as many as 130 million girls around the world are out of school. And across Africa, as many as 28 million girls will never set foot in a classroom.

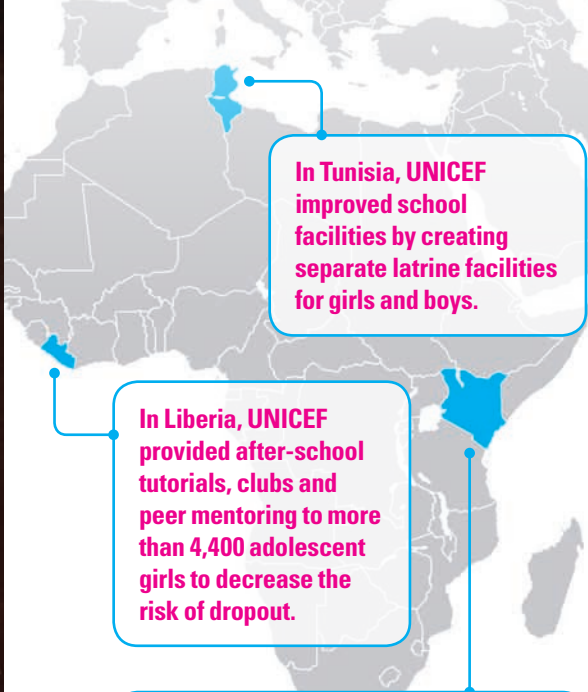
With the support of donors like you, UNICEF is working to break down barriers, so that no girl is left behind. Solutions include non-formal education programs with flexible schedules to ensure that girls who also have to work, inside or outside of the home, don't miss out on an education. Satellite schools mean shorter distances to travel, making it easier for those living in remote communities to attend classes. To combat language barriers, classes offered in students' mother tongues make the curriculum more relevant to minority populations.

## FAST FACTS:

- If all girls received a secondary education in Africa and Asia, **CHILD MARRIAGE WOULD DECREASE BY 64 PER CENT**
- If all mothers finished high school, there would be **1.5 MILLION FEWER ANNUAL DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE FIVE** in African nations
- If all girls completed just one year of high school, the result would be a **25 PER CENT INCREASE IN WAGES** in the job market

A smiling girl attends class at her school in the village of Bladier, in the rural municipality of Ouélessébougou, in Koulikoro Region, in western Mali.

## HERE ARE JUST A FEW GIRLS' EDUCATION ACHIEVEMENTS MADE POSSIBLE WITH YOUR SUPPORT



In Tunisia, UNICEF improved school facilities by creating separate latrine facilities for girls and boys.

In Liberia, UNICEF provided after-school tutorials, clubs and peer mentoring to more than 4,400 adolescent girls to decrease the risk of dropout.

In Kenya, UNICEF is helping to establish a science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) centre that targets adolescent girls, providing lesson plans and mentoring programs to encourage them to pursue STEM fields.

Rania with her grandmother, who supports her and believes in her.



## DREAMING BIG

Despite many challenges and pressures, such as poverty, marginalization and Yemen's ongoing conflict, 13-year-old Rania is determined to remain in school. Every day, she packs her UNICEF school bag and goes to class. Some days, when the class is full, she has to sit on the floor. "I want to be educated, to be a teacher to teach children and treat them well," Rania said. "Children should be in school, not out of school."





# Healthy, Safe and Equal?

## UNICEF REPORT BUSTS MYTHS ABOUT CANADA'S CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Our country is home to many myths, such as “Canada is a safe country for children” and “Canada leads in bullying prevention.” Or maybe this one: “Most Canadian children eat well every day.”

Earlier this year, a UNICEF Report Card exposed a few shocking truths about growing up in Canada. Among high-income countries, we have some of the poorest rankings when it comes to child-homicide rates, bullying and food security, to cite a few examples.

In terms of overall child and youth well-being, the report ranks Canada 25th out of 41 rich countries. This unimpressive ranking hasn't changed much in a decade, since UNICEF began measuring the well-being of Canada's children. This year's report was the first to assess children's status in rich countries in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals. The SDGs are the global tool to measure progress towards providing lifelong education and promoting peaceful and inclusive societies by 2030.

*“The findings of this report are tragic because they paint a picture of Canada that many of us don't want to see,” said David Morley, UNICEF Canada President and CEO. “Yet we must confront reality: our kids are being pulled down by the weight of too many pressures, and they're not getting the support they need. It's our shared responsibility to look at the facts and resolve to do better.”*



Recently, UNICEF Canada addressed these issues, calling on all levels of government to:

1. Invest more and earlier in children, with policies and programs for very young children and for youth falling behind.
2. Improve monitoring of child well-being to ensure investments are made wisely – focusing on where Canada is lagging.
3. Develop a Canada-wide strategy to implement the SDGs that focus on children's rights and well-being.



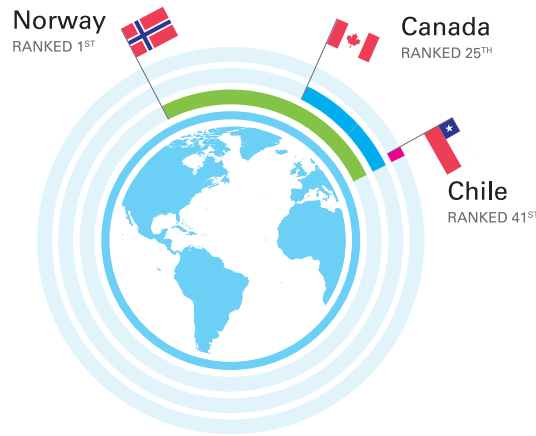
## JOIN ONE YOUTH

This year, UNICEF Canada launched One Youth, an initiative of children, youth and adults working together on improving the well-being of Canada's young people. By listening to and working with young people, and by measuring progress and influencing policy, Canada can become the best place in the world to grow up.

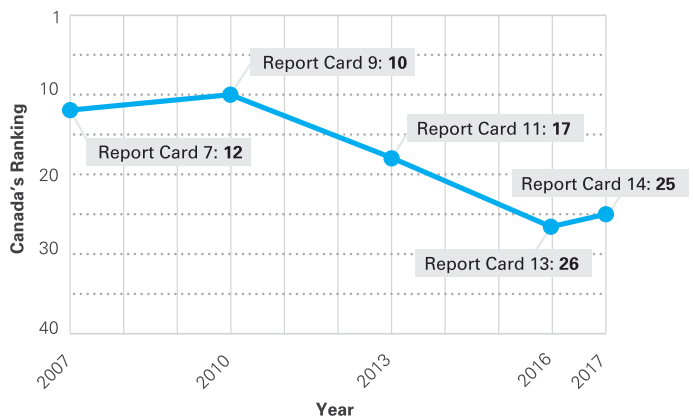
“We've set a bold goal to make Canada number one on the index by 2030,” David Morley said. “I've spoken to so many Canadians from across the country who believe ours is a great country for our kids to grow up in, but it's time to face the facts: too many of our children are unhealthy, unsafe and unequal.”

Central to One Youth's effort is the meaningful inclusion of children and youth in every stage of the process. From research, to testing, to evaluating new ideas and policies, children's insight and wisdom will guide us towards the most promising solutions to the biggest challenges facing Canadian kids.

## CANADA'S RANK ON THE INDEX OF CHILD AND YOUTH WELL-BEING AND SUSTAINABILITY



## CANADA'S CHILD WELL-BEING INDEX RANKINGS OVER TIME



## MAKING IT TO #1

Even with the meaningful involvement of kids, UNICEF Canada can't get to the top of the index working alone. The plan to **Measure, Design, and Influence** needs to be supported by researchers, policy makers, child-focused organizations, corporations and every Canadian who cares about kids. Solutions to complicated issues like bullying, mental health, and poverty require everyone at the table. One Youth will create safe spaces for youth participation, but all of us can join in to get to number one. Stay tuned for future opportunities to help make Canada the best place in the world to be a kid: [www.unicef.ca/en/one-youth-unicef-canada](http://www.unicef.ca/en/one-youth-unicef-canada)

## HOW CANADA RANKS BY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL (SDG)

	<b>Global Goal 12:</b> Ensure sustainable production and consumption	Canada ranks <b>6</b>
	<b>Global Goal 4:</b> Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education for all	Canada ranks <b>8</b>
	<b>Global Goal 8:</b> Promote full and productive employment and decent work for all	Canada ranks <b>11</b>
	<b>Global Goal 10:</b> Reduce inequality within and among countries	Canada ranks <b>14</b>
	<b>Global Goal 11:</b> Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable	Canada ranks <b>19</b>
	<b>Global Goal 3:</b> Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being	Canada ranks <b>29</b>
	<b>Global Goal 1:</b> End poverty in all its forms everywhere	Canada ranks <b>32</b>
	<b>Global Goal 2:</b> End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition	Canada ranks <b>37</b>
	<b>Global Goal 16:</b> Promote peaceful and inclusive societies	Canada ranks <b>37</b>





# India's children

Teck partners with UNICEF to save the lives of 100,000 children in India

Healthcare workers regularly visit families, offering medical care, training and advice.

UNICEF/Canada/India2017-001/Lively



Sabina holds her youngest child, Rai, at their home in Meermust, in Uttar Pradesh. Teck and UNICEF have teamed up to reach families like hers to provide critical, low-cost interventions like ORS and zinc.

UNICEF/Canada/India2017-001/Lively

Anupriya Shukla distinctly remembers saving a child's life on a recent visit to a village in India, in the state of Madhya Pradesh. As the state government's Regional Coordinator for Child Health, she leads her team every month into villages, monitoring health programs for children, including a campaign to decrease the suffering and death caused by acute diarrhoea.

"As we were crossing a farm, we saw a house at a corner of the field," she said. She'd heard that a girl there had

been sick with diarrhoea all night. "Her mother was not convinced to take her to a health facility. That was the challenge for us."

Millions of Indian children suffer each year from acute diarrhoea, which leads to severe dehydration and death if left untreated. In 2013, Teck, a Canadian mining company, teamed up with UNICEF to increase access to zinc and oral rehydration salts (ORS), which together reduce the duration and severity of diarrhoea. Teck is one of the world's largest producers of zinc, and the company knows the health benefits of zinc as a micronutrient that saves lives.

The cost of treatment is low – 40 cents can save a child's life – but the majority of Indian children don't have access to zinc and ORS. Even when zinc is available, lack of

knowledge among health workers and the community means that few families use it. The goal of the five-year program with Teck is to strengthen healthcare systems in the most marginalized communities in three states – and to save the lives of 100,000 children in the process.

Anupriya and one of her team members spoke to the girl and her family. Anupriya's roles include verifying that village health workers have adequate medical supplies, such as zinc and ORS, and that they have the training to administer them. "The mother and the family members were informed about the condition of the child," Anupriya explained. "They were also counselled about the advantages of zinc and ORS. It took about an hour, but we could manage it, and we initiated zinc and ORS." The family took the girl to a health facility afterwards.

*"If the child was not referred to the facility to receive the zinc and ORS, it could have been fatal,"*  
Anupriya said.

Efforts of Indian health experts such as Anupriya have saved many more lives. To date the partnership has helped save the lives of more than 61,000 children. And in 2016 alone, more than 4,600 community coordinators educated 377,000 individuals about using zinc and ORS, and nearly 1,100 zinc and ORS stations were established to demonstrate ORS preparation to parents. The demos included counselling parents about breastfeeding, sanitation and how to identify early warning signs when their children get sick.

Anupriya said that this is one of the best parts of her work – when she gets to work directly with parents on caring for their children. "I get to know what child care means for parents." And the talks give her and her colleagues ground-level inputs for future demonstrations and meetings.

**None of this would have been possible without Teck.**



## Teck

**The goal of the five-year program with Teck is to strengthen healthcare systems in the most marginalized communities in India – and to save the lives of 100,000 children in the process.**





# WHY UNICEF?

With the support of our donors and the efforts of our field workers around the world, UNICEF reaches and saves more children than any other humanitarian organization. In this issue of *For Every Child*, we asked a few of our supporters to share why they’re committed to this work.



*“Childhood should be full of joy.”*

## CAROLINE CATHCART

Caroline Cathcart, Co-Head of Business Development and Client Service at RP Investment Advisors LP, in Toronto, joined UNICEF Canada’s The 25th Team in 2016. She’s one of 60 influential Canadian women who made a four-year commitment to invest in life-saving projects in Cambodia, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Namibia and Peru.

“All children should be able to play without fear, learn without barriers, and grow up without hunger or disease,” Caroline said.

She also inspired her company to take action. RP Investment Advisors is matching Caroline’s personal contributions to UNICEF, and they’re avid supporters of our Water for Life Galas. “I want to help make the world a place where no child is held back from their dreams because of who they are or where they come from,” she said. “UNICEF is uniquely positioned to achieve those results.”



*“All Canadian kids should have equal opportunities.”*

## OLIVIA LAM

Grade 12 student Olivia Lam first became involved with UNICEF last fall when she participated in a workshop to help brand UNICEF Canada’s new youth movement. When her group’s name, One Youth, was selected, it sparked Olivia’s interest in UNICEF’s bold goal to make Canada the best place to grow up in by 2030. Since then, Olivia has participated in other youth-oriented projects, including a discussion on Report Card 14. “It was really eye-opening,” Olivia said. “I was surprised by how poorly Canada ranks in terms of youth mental health and poverty.”

Olivia is thankful to UNICEF for taking her seriously and giving youth like her a platform for their opinions and insights. “My wish for all Canadian children is that their voices can be heard too,” she said.



*“If I can help in any way to save a life, I will.”*

## MELANIE NADEAU

Melanie Nadeau became involved with UNICEF a few years ago when she joined the executive committee for the Water for Life Gala in Halifax. For the last two years, she’s been the Chair of the event, which raises funds to help families around the world to gain access to clean water and proper sanitation. “I’ve travelled extensively and worked in different countries and seen firsthand so many women and children who don’t have the same opportunities we do here in Canada,” she said.

“I was eager to contribute to UNICEF’s work and to help ensure children’s basic needs – access to water, food, shelter, education and medication – are met. I believe the work UNICEF carries out has impact. If I can help them in any way to save a life, I will.”



*“Protecting children’s rights is everyone’s business.”*

## JONATHAN DRIMMER

In 2014, Barrick Gold Corporation participated in a UNICEF pilot project for the extractive sector. With guidance from UNICEF, the multi-national mining company reviewed and revised their human rights risk-assessment tool to better assess impacts on children in one of their overseas operations. “The project opened our eyes to the vulnerabilities that children face, and how companies like ours can better respond,” said Jonathan Drimmer, Vice President, Deputy General Counsel at Barrick’s head office in Toronto.

Since then, Barrick has worked closely with UNICEF on several other projects. “We continue to be impressed with UNICEF’s passion, sophistication and expertise,” Jonathan said. “They identify risks to children’s rights from so many different angles, and develop innovative tools and approaches in response. UNICEF’s commitment to protecting children is second to none.”



*“There are so many vulnerable children that need our help.”*

## ROSEMARY COOKE AND MICHAEL HILLIARD

Rosemary and Michael have been UNICEF supporters for nine years. As parents of two young boys, they’re passionate about helping children. “I can’t imagine what it would be like if your kids got sick and you couldn’t give them medicine or take them to a doctor,” Rosemary said. “Children can’t control the circumstances into which they were born.”

Michael, who spent three years of his childhood in the Democratic Republic of Congo, echoed that sentiment: “I remember seeing kids who didn’t have roofs over their heads or enough food to eat. Those images have stayed with me.”

Rosemary had a similar reaction: “We wanted to do something to help vulnerable children, and we felt that giving to UNICEF was the best way to do that,” she said.



*“We hope our family’s support will help children in need.”*

## JOE & MARY GIUFFRE

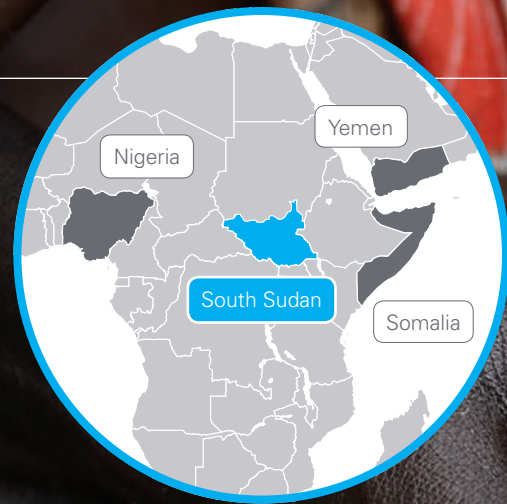
For the Giuffres, supporting UNICEF is a family affair. Joe and Mary became donors seven years ago after their son, Michael, who was serving on UNICEF Canada’s board, invited them to attend Calgary’s Water for Life Gala. Joe and Mary were impressed by the scope of work UNICEF does around the world to help children in need.

An astute businessman and respected philanthropist, Joe did his research. “Their excellent history, their quick response to disasters, the transparency of their operation, and the cost control of their administration convinced me that UNICEF should be one of our family’s principal world charities,” Joe said.

Today, the whole family is involved. Michael’s wife, Heather, is on the organizing committee for Calgary’s Water for Life Gala, brother Anthony is a member of the Gala’s Patron’s Council, Anthony’s wife, Britt, is a member of UNICEF Canada’s The 25th Team, and many of the Giuffre grandchildren are volunteers and donors.



# UNICEF donors save lives during famine



A child receives ready-to-use therapeutic food from a UNICEF-supported Out-Patient Therapeutic site near the town of Aweil in South Sudan.

**I**n February, famine was declared in two counties in South Sudan and loomed in Nigeria, Somalia and Yemen, putting as many as 1.4 million children at risk of death. Thanks to supporters like you who responded to our urgent appeal for help, UNICEF and our partners were able to ramp up operations on the ground.

With your support, humanitarian assistance is now reaching nearly 10 million children and adults each month. This includes clean water supplies, medicines, testing and treating for malnutrition, and providing food support (such as planting crops and treating livestock). Our collective efforts have resulted in a reversal of famine conditions in South Sudan, and, together, we've saved many lives throughout the region.

However, the crisis is far from over. The lives of millions of children are still at risk, as food insecurity – caused by ongoing violence and drought conditions – threatens to cause more suffering. “We must continue to scale up our response and insist on unconditional humanitarian access, otherwise the progress made could be rapidly undone,” said Manuel Fontaine, UNICEF Director for Emergency Programs.

## ON THE BRINK IN SOUTH SUDAN

The number of people struggling to find enough food each day has grown to six million, the highest level of food insecurity ever experienced here. This year, as the country lives through a civil war, almost 276,000 children are estimated to be severely malnourished and in need of immediate life-saving aid.

## NIGERIA'S COMPLICATED LANDSCAPE

Conflict with Boko Haram continues to contribute to large-scale population displacement, limit market activity and restrict livelihoods. Around 5.2 million people remain severely food insecure, with as many as 450,000 children suffering from severe malnutrition. The start of the rainy season further complicates the humanitarian response, with deteriorating road conditions and floods making populations harder to reach.

## SOMALIA'S FRAGILE POPULATION

Battered by decades of conflict, Somalia's population has been further marginalized by prolonged drought conditions. Up to 275,000 children will likely suffer from severe malnutrition this year, making them more likely to

die of diseases and ailments, such as cholera, diarrhoea and measles, all of which are getting worse in the country.

## TIME IS RUNNING OUT IN YEMEN

In a country where almost 400,000 children are estimated to be severely malnourished, an unprecedented cholera outbreak has complicated humanitarian action. The health system is on the verge of collapse, with hospitals and treatment centres struggling to cope, and medicines and medical supplies are quickly running out. Famine is possible in a worst-case scenario as the conflict continues.

## UNICEF HELPED MEET THE URGENT NEEDS OF CHILDREN AFFECTED BY THE FOOD CRISIS

“We've got more than 750 staff spread across the four countries, doing their best to meet children's urgent needs,” said David Morley, UNICEF Canada President and CEO. “Our rapid response teams are reaching the most remote communities with treatment for malnutrition, immunization and safe water and sanitation services. But the scale of the crisis is unprecedented.”

Thanks to your continued support, UNICEF has stepped up efforts to provide life-saving food to the 1.4 million children at risk of severe malnutrition in South Sudan, Nigeria, Somalia and Yemen. We're also restoring and equipping health facilities, providing more clean water to vulnerable children and families, and developing more medical and nutritional supply pipelines.



Nine-year-old Nyamuig Jon receives treatment for severe acute malnutrition at the UNICEF-supported nutrition ward in Al Sabbah Children's Hospital, Juba, South Sudan.





## DOING WHATEVER IT TAKES TO REACH EVERY CHILD

Insecurity and constrained access continue to undermine the delivery of aid in all four, at-risk countries. Where roads can't be used, life-saving supplies are airdropped. This past June, three UNICEF charter planes delivered 36 tons of food, medicine and water purification supplies to Yemen for example.

### YOUR SUPPORT HELPS CHILDREN LIKE NYAJIME

When four-year-old Nyajime was brought to a UNICEF-supported clinic in Juba, South Sudan, she suffered from severe malnutrition and medical complications. Emaciated and too weak to sit up on her own, she was immediately admitted to the emergency ward for in-patient treatment. On the third day of treatment, Nyajime sat up and smiled. By day eight, she was back on her feet – shaky and weak, but standing. The medical staff monitored her progress closely each day as she continued to grow stronger. By day 14, the doctors were optimistic she would make a full recovery. Thanks to the interventions that your UNICEF support makes possible, Nyajime has a new chance at life.



PHOTOS: © UNICEF/UNI201742/Rich, © UNICEF/UN047612/Rich, © UNICEF/UNI201750/Rich

# Your life and legacy

Beryl Agnes Foster was an extraordinary woman. At the age of 32, she was the only Canadian woman present at the founding of UNICEF, in 1946. At age 51, she became one of the first women in Canada to get a home mortgage, after her initial request was refused. And before she passed away, Foster made a decision that changed the lives of millions of children around the world. She became a UNICEF legacy donor. She included UNICEF Canada in her final Will, sharing some of the wealth in her estate.

Foster was committed to creating a safer place for children through legacy giving. Like so many others of her generation, she witnessed some of the pivotal moments in history and brought about momentous change for children.

By leaving a gift in your Will to UNICEF Canada, you can help us to give tomorrow's generation the chance to grow up safe, happy and healthy. Whether you value UNICEF's life-saving work during emergencies, or its programs that immunize children against preventable diseases, or its numerous other programs, a legacy gift may be one of the easiest and most fulfilling ways of supporting children for years to come.

Beryl Agnes Foster wanted to leave an imprint on the organization that she saw founded and, more importantly, she wanted her legacy to have a lasting impact on children around the world. Foster's final gift was one of hope.

**Your legacy will ensure that hope endures.**

### YOUR PERSONALIZED TIMELINE

Visit UNICEF's legacy website to look at the moments that shaped your childhood and the milestones that shaped UNICEF and the world's children.

Just type your name and birth year at [uniceflegacy.ca](https://uniceflegacy.ca) and receive your personalized video.

See yourself in these life-changing moments and remember the power we have to improve the world.



We've been working to keep children safe since 1946. In this picture, a boy in Greece clutches a UNICEF-supplied blanket. This was just after the Greek Civil War (1944-1949), which had put children in further danger following the Second World War.

**unicef**   
CANADA

To learn more, contact [bequests@unicef.ca](mailto:bequests@unicef.ca) or call Jackie Jones, Legacy Giving Manager at **1 800 567 4483**.





# Bayan Yammout's incredible journey

From growing up in a war zone to becoming a UNICEF Canada Ambassador

**B**ayan Yammout spent the first 17 years of her life living in a war zone. She grew up in Beirut during Lebanon's protracted civil war that left more than 150,000 people dead and many more injured.

She witnessed shelling of residential areas, artillery exchanges between militias mere steps from her home, and explosions of car bombs in markets. "I learned at a very young age that it was easy to lose someone you care about," Bayan said.

As a child, Bayan spent a lot of time in an underground shelter – sometimes sharing it with as many as 100 people. "We had to stay in it for days, sometimes even weeks. The shelter had no electricity, no washroom, and one small window. With every rocket explosion, the dust and smoke would come through the window and fill the shelter," she said. "Sometimes it was hard to tell whether it was daytime or nighttime, because the sky was so dark from smoke and gunpowder."

## A LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

The one moment of brightness for Bayan and the other children in the shelter was the arrival of the UNICEF supply box. It was filled with water purification tablets, protein bars, vaccines, hygiene kits, blankets and school supplies. "My parents helped to distribute the water

purification tablets, hygiene kits and protein bars in the community. My mother used the school supplies to lead educational activities for the kids in various shelters across the city," Bayan said.

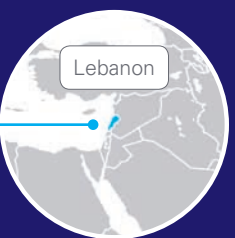
*"Sometimes it was hard to tell whether it was daytime or nighttime, because the sky was so dark from smoke and gunpowder."*

For her, and for so many other children who grow up in conflict zones, UNICEF means more than essential supplies. "The message I received with every donation box that reached us was that there are people who live far away who care about us and want to help," she said.

## MEANING AFTER HARDSHIP

Bayan left Lebanon in 1997 and eventually moved to Canada, where she lives in Toronto with her husband and two children. Now an elementary school teacher for children with special needs, Bayan is an advocate for educational equality and a passionate UNICEF Canada Ambassador.

"It still amazes me how UNICEF found me and my friends in that underground shelter in a small, dead-end street in Beirut," Bayan said. "That's why I believe in this organization. No matter how difficult the circumstances or how remote the location, UNICEF believes that no child is too far." With first-hand knowledge of how critical it is for children and families caught in conflict to know they're not alone, Bayan is determined to help UNICEF reach every child.



Bayan grew up in Beirut during Lebanon's civil war.

Bayan's story of courage and resilience has inspired others. Here, she visits children in Za'atari refugee camp in Jordan.





## HELPING REFUGEE CHILDREN HEAL AND LEARN

Last year, Bayan travelled to Za'atari – a camp for Syrian refugees in Jordan – to see the work being done in UNICEF's child-friendly learning spaces. "The moment I arrived I was swarmed by children," Bayan said. Some wanted to sing songs and show off their soccer skills. Others wanted to share pictures they'd drawn. "One little boy proudly held up a picture of a horse," she said. "A little girl clutched a paper covered with butterflies and hearts."

Many of the learning programs in the camp centred around drawing, as the majority of the children didn't know how to read or write. In one program, the children were asked to use pictures to show an unsafe situation and what they should do if it happens to them. One 12-year-old first drew a picture of a boy who had been hurt. In the next picture, he drew the boy with two people. When Bayan asked him who the people were, he said, "They're from UNICEF." For so many children around the world, UNICEF means safety.

"That's certainly how I felt growing up in a war zone," Bayan said. "Drawing pictures using pencils and papers we got from UNICEF was my safe haven during the endless weeks I spent hiding in underground shelters."

Bayan knows all too well what the children in the Syrian refugee camp have been through. "They are surprisingly resilient," she said. "The children know they can't change the past, but they can hope for a better future." That's the power of UNICEF. That's the impact of your support.

*"The children know they can't change the past, but they can hope for a better future."*



Bayan (in the middle) visits girls at a refugee camp in Jordan.

## A SONG OF PEACE

In one of the child friendly spaces that Bayan visited in Saadnayel, Lebanon, a group of young girls stood around her and sang a song of peace. Bayan was surprised to hear that it was the same song that she and her friends had learned at a UNICEF peace camp in Lebanon during the civil war decades before. It was a touching moment. "Two different generations, same call for peace, same hope made possible, thanks to UNICEF," she said.

## EVENTS

Every year, philanthropic Canadians across our country generously raise life-saving funds for the world's most vulnerable children. Meet some of the donors who share your commitment and dedication to children.

## SMILES, HUGS AND HIGH-FIVES

The 25th Team is a group of 60 influential, Canadian women who joined together to save the lives of vulnerable women and children in Cambodia, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Namibia and Peru. Their four-year commitment gives them the option of visiting UNICEF programs overseas, so that they can see, firsthand, how UNICEF is collaborating with communities to improve the lives of children. Their combined, four-year investment will help more than 3.8 million women and children. In 2016, members of The 25th Team took three more field trips. Here's what they saw.



The 25th Team member, Joanna Wright, visiting Oshakati West Primary School in Namibia.

### Namibia

Travelling from the capital of Windhoek to the northern town of Ondangwa, six Canadian donors saw how UNICEF works closely with the Namibian government to save the lives of children. The group learned about the power of birth registration and how it enables access to social supports for some of the poorest households. And a visit to a school showed how investing in teachers and school leaders produces outcomes for children, a visit that resulted in smiles, hugs and high-fives.



The 25th Team Members from left to right: Chitra Ramaswami and Jennifer Toby.

### Indonesia

The 25th Team's investments in Indonesia focus on qualitative research to learn about the obstacles that youth, especially adolescent girls, face in leading healthy lives. During their December trip, four Canadian donors saw firsthand the health facilities that are providing antenatal care, acute-malnutrition treatment and immunizations for children and youth. They also met with adolescents who had dropped out of school, and they learned about the challenges that prevented teens from leading healthy lives.



### Peru

In October, 2016, four donors flew to Lima and travelled onwards, taking a river boat to visit remote health centres in the Amazon, observe educational activities and see the differences between urban and rural birth-registration processes. The group witnessed how disadvantaged children in indigenous communities get a healthy start because of increased access to healthcare and sanitation. The 25th Team members met Carina, a dynamic nurse at the health post who provides ante- and postnatal care to more than 1,000 women in her community.

Karen Kirker visits students at a UNICEF-supported school in Peru.

*Thank you for everything you do in so many different ways to help children around the world.*



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