

Confronting the Children's Crisis

Worldwide, a child dies every three seconds from hunger or malnutrition. This is just one of the hardships some children have to deal with on a daily basis. According to the Global Citizen, as of 2017 there were, "264 million children who didn't have access to an education," (*McMaster*). This is a startling amount of children, many of them being girls. Most of these issues stem from a high level of poverty in the world. Across the globe about 1 billion children live in poverty, lacking the basic necessities they need. Numerous children are affected by these difficulties. Those of us who can, should try to help. This is where UNICEF comes in. They are a United Nations agency providing children around the world with humanitarian and developmental aid. The work that UNICEF accomplishes is crucial, benefiting millions of children across the world and ensuring that the future is a little bit brighter.

UNICEF stands for the United Nations Children's Fund. This organization was originally established with the mission to provide relief to children in areas devastated by World War II. Since then, UNICEF has put their efforts into improving nutrition, health, education, and the overall welfare of children, and mothers. They work in many countries to protect children from domestic violence and abuse. They also strive to provide better healthcare for children, and supply pregnant women with proper care. When disaster strikes, UNICEF is on the ground providing help for families during and after an emergency. During this Covid-19 pandemic, UNICEF has been working with partners and donors to supply families with guidance and protection. Another pandemic of sorts they help to manage is a lack of education. They work to provide learning opportunities for all children, no matter where, or what gender. Gender equality is one of the key areas of education UNICEF focuses on. Discriminatory school practices can bar

girls from getting an equal education. In response, UNICEF provides learning environments where girls can feel empowered to be successful. This is only a fraction of what UNICEF achieves, and they are improving the status of children worldwide, every day.

UNICEF has accomplished much since the start of their foundation in 1947. UNICEF “works in over 190 countries and territories,” (*unicef.org*) sometimes in the remotest of places. This organization’s tireless efforts are also essential to many children across the world. UNICEF has secured a better future for thousands if not millions of children. These actions have given a beacon of hope to people globally, showing them the importance of peace. As they say, actions speak louder than words. Securing the well-being of countless children also promotes peace because it shows these children they matter. Who knows, one of the children UNICEF has saved may grow up to be a leader, an innovator, or a pioneer of peace. Children are the future, and UNICEF is aiding them and the generations to come. To conclude, these examples establish that the work UNICEF accomplishes is crucial, and will continue benefiting millions of children across the world, ensuring that the future is a little bit brighter.

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