

ChildW²⁰¹⁹orld

PROTECT CHILDREN FROM
VIOLENCE & EXPLOITATION

30 YEARS OF
CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

DISASTER RELIEF IN
INDONESIA

HEALTH INTERVENTIONS
IN ZAMBIA AND PNG

YOUR STORIES

ChildFund
Australia

BECAUSE
EVERY CHILD
NEEDS A
CHILDHOOD

SHINING A LIGHT ON CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

Every child has the right to experience a childhood where they are nurtured, protected and have access to opportunity.



This year marks an important milestone for children's rights and presents an opportunity to accelerate progress for children who experience poverty, violence and a lack of opportunity.

Thirty years ago the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) came into being.

While the Universal Declaration on Human Rights of 1948 laid out a foundation for all people, and recognised that "childhood is entitled to special care and assistance", it was the CRC in 1989 that expressly defined the human rights of children.

With 54 rights in total – covering the areas of survival, development, protection and participation – the CRC has spurred action and progress in many areas. Great progress has been made in recognising and upholding the rights of children

around the world: child mortality has reduced dramatically; primary school attendance rates have soared; and the number of children living in extreme poverty has been halved. Child protection policy and legislation is now in place in almost all countries.

However, the rights of children around the globe continue to be violated. One billion children continue to live in poverty and an estimated 22,000 children die each day from preventable causes. Violence against children is pervasive in all countries. In some parts of the world, violence, abuse and exploitation of children is extreme and wide-reaching, destroying childhoods and locking young people in a cycle of poverty.

An opportunity to achieve greater progress comes this year with the United Nations High Level Political Forum, where progress will be reviewed on Target 16.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals (to end abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence and torture against children).

This is an important moment to monitor progress, identify gaps and inequalities, and highlight interventions that are succeeding in keeping children safe from harm. ChildFund will contribute strongly to the Forum while continuing to focus

maximum resources on our grassroots programs with children and families.

ChildFund operates in the knowledge that ending violence against children is inextricably linked to our work to reduce poverty for children and families in developing communities.

So in 2019, ChildFund will be a prominent voice on the importance of childhood for all children – a childhood where children are nurtured, protected and have opportunities to reach their full potential.

This would not be possible without your generosity. At ChildFund we are extremely fortunate and privileged to have the generous backing of more than 60,000 Australians. With your support, ChildFund is able to improve conditions for children living in many of the world's poorest communities.

Together, we can enable more children to experience a happy and healthy childhood. Together, we can help more children say: "I am safe. I am educated. I am heard. I have a future."

Nigel Spence
CEO

ChildFund Australia is an independent international development organisation that works to reduce poverty for children in developing communities. ChildFund Australia is a member of the ChildFund Alliance – a global network of 11 organisations which assists more than 13 million children and families in over 60 countries.

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PROTECT CHILDREN FROM VIOLENCE & EXPLOITATION

Violence can perpetuate poverty, and poverty often triggers violence and exploitation. Ending violence against children is inextricably linked to ChildFund's work to reduce poverty.

Arun was 13 years old when he lost his left arm while working at a brick factory. His daughter Mony (pictured right) is now the same age and works at the same factory.

Around the world 152 million children like Mony can be found working in appalling conditions, in manufacturing, agriculture and construction.

Multigenerational poverty is a primary driver of child labour and other forms of exploitation, such as child trafficking and child marriage.

If parents have no education, they often end up in low-paid jobs and rely on their children to supplement the household income.

In turn, their children miss out on school, leaving them unqualified for better paid jobs in the future.

Mony's family has worked in brick factories for generations. Arun was helping his parents in the kilns as a child when his left arm got caught in a machine.

Today, Arun earns less than one cent for each brick he makes. His wife worked alongside him until she also suffered a severe injury. Much of Arun's wages had to go towards paying off medical expenses.

The only way to survive was to make more bricks. Mony, the oldest of four children, had to step into her mother's role at the factory.

"It's hot, hard, and sometimes a risky job, but I need to do it to help my mum from a heavy debt," Mony says.

Children whose parents cannot afford to send them to school live in fear of a future where they have no choice but to work in dangerous environments.

"I don't want my kids uneducated like me," Arun says. "But I didn't know what to do when my wife could not help me out on family income."

Mony's family situation remains vulnerable, but fortunately she has been able to return to school.

Help protect children like Mony from violence and exploitation:

www.childfund.org.au/appeals/fear-ends-here/

THE RIGHT TO BE NURTURED



VIETNAM

Children in rural Vietnam are now enjoying a better education thanks to a recent renovation of their preschool. With the help of ChildFund Vietnam the school was transformed from two small rooms to four spacious, fully equipped classrooms. The school also has a new playground so children can stay active, as well as a new kitchen, toilets, and handwashing facilities with clean water. The 90 children who attend the school, including five-year-old Linh (pictured left), no longer have to learn in old and overcrowded classrooms, and are more confident and motivated to learn.

ZAMBIA

Growth monitoring sessions are saving the lives of children such as Lily (pictured right). When Lily was six months old and her mother Frida struggled to continue breastfeeding, Lily became so weak she stopped crawling. "I was so worried that I might lose her," Frida says. After attending a growth monitoring session supported by ChildFund Zambia, Lily was diagnosed with malnutrition and placed on a supplementary feeding program, which saved her life. Today, Lily, 2, weighs almost 10kg and is a happy and healthy toddler.



PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Tuberculosis is a serious threat to the lives of children in Papua New Guinea. ChildFund Papua New Guinea is training TB Treatment Supporters to reduce the spread and impact of the disease. When Mamopi, 7, was infected with TB in Grade 1 and started missing months of school, TB Treatment Supporter Heather (pictured left with Mamopi) helped his parents access treatment so Mamopi could return to school and be able to pursue his dreams of becoming a mechanic.

THE RIGHT TO PROTECTION



INDONESIA

When an earthquake and tsunami devastated the island of Sulawesi in Indonesia in September 2018, more than 2,000 people died and many more children and their families were injured and lost their homes. Since the disaster struck, Cleora, 2, (pictured above) and her family have been living in a displacement camp and are vulnerable to disease and violence.

The initial lack of clean water and hygiene at the camp caused Cleora to develop a skin disease. ChildFund Indonesia has been helping provide family kits with basic personal care and hygiene items to children like Cleora and their families. ChildFund has also set up water tanks, toilets, handwashing facilities, and Child-Centred Spaces at the camps to provide children with psychosocial support and a safe place to learn and play.

TIMOR-LESTE

In Timor-Leste violence is regularly used as a discipline method in homes. In schools, corporal punishment is still a widely accepted form of discipline. ChildFund Timor-Leste is working with 14 schools to establish new codes of conduct for teachers and educating parents and teachers about non-violent methods of discipline. Children such as Cagio, 10, (pictured below) are also being empowered to become peer educators to pass on knowledge to their friends and classmates on child protection, children's rights, and how to resolve conflicts without violence, and prevent bullying and fighting.



MYANMAR

More than 300 students and young people across 10 schools, as well as their parents, carers and teachers, are benefiting from ChildFund Myanmar's first ever online safety training sessions. The sessions are covering topics such as cyberbullying, the risks of oversharing online and how to search for reliable and credible information. Grade 11 student Ye, 15, (pictured far left) says he is now more cautious about what he reads or posts online. "I've learnt that not all information we see on Facebook is correct," he says. "We should be careful not to share the wrong information. I am glad that I received this training."

THE RIGHT TO OPPORTUNITY

LAOS

Physical and arts education can help improve children's confidence, wellbeing, creativity and social skills, however they are often overlooked in schools in Laos because teachers do not have the resources or experience to teach them. ChildFund Laos is helping strengthen school curriculums and provide children, such as Sonepet, 15, (pictured right) with a diverse and quality education by ensuring sports as well as creative classes such as drawing, singing and painting are taught, alongside maths and literacy lessons. "I've learnt to paint animals, fruit, and all kinds of things more beautifully than before," Sonepet says. "It also helps me stay healthy because we play so many sports."



HONDURAS

In Honduras, children regularly experience violence of all kinds, or the threat of it, in their homes, schools and communities. In a culture of machismo that often normalises men's use of violence as an expression of power, girls like Yeimi, 10, (pictured below) are especially at risk. But it's not just the actual risk of violence that keeps girls down. Families' overwhelming fear for their girls' safety is limiting their opportunities. ChildFund Honduras is training parents and teachers on ways to prevent and cope with violence, and is empowering girls like Yeimi by ensuring they know and can demand their rights.



UGANDA

Sending children to school is a challenge for many disadvantaged families in rural Uganda. While the government has mandated universal primary and secondary education, families have to pay school fees and buy uniforms and supplies. ChildFund Uganda is helping children like Kereni, 7, (pictured above, right in front row) with these expenses so she can finish her education and create a better life in the future for herself and her family.

YOUR STORIES

PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS RAISE \$3000 FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

Last year Georges River Grammar in south-west Sydney raised \$3000 for ChildFund's Laos Nutrition Appeal and children affected by the Philippines typhoon in September 2018.

Children from Grade 2 to Grade 6, including Chloe and Julia (pictured right) participated in the fundraiser, running stalls and activities for students, including face painting and games, and sold cakes and second-hand books and toys.

Head of Primary School Nina Heinecke says the event taught students leadership and organisational skills, and the importance of giving back. "It's good for children to understand the need to share all that we have," Nina says. "Children need to learn compassion. It's so important.

"I would encourage as many schools as possible to join with us in supporting ChildFund communities and children."



SPONSOR'S REWARDING VISIT

Tay MacNabb was a seasoned traveller when he embarked on a trip to Indonesia in early 2019. He had been to many developing countries before but he was unprepared for how much the trip to Indonesia to visit his sponsored child, eight-year-old Yumna, would affect him. "The whole experience was more rewarding than I had ever imagined," he says.

After years of exchanging sponsor letters, Tay wanted Yumna and her family to be able to put a face to a name. "I really wanted for Yumna and her parents to know that even though her sponsor was a great distance away living in another country, that her sponsor actually genuinely cared for them and their community to take the time out to visit," he says.

Tay (pictured right with Yumna and her family) says the trip was a great way to see first-hand how his support was helping Yumna and her community. "I would have never had an appreciation of the great program that has been introduced to develop and support children such as Yumna," he says. "It is programs such as these that provide children with the opportunity to realise their true potential in life."



A GIFT WORTH LEAVING

Having grown up in a poor family in Portugal, Sydney resident Maria da Graca Guerreiro (pictured above) knows all too well how far a little money in Australia can go for children in need overseas.

Over the past eight years, Maria has been sponsoring two children through ChildFund, and a couple of years ago decided to leave a gift in her will to ChildFund. "It may not be a lot of money here, but it's a lot of money to help people overseas," she says.

Maria says leaving a bequest to ChildFund has been important to her. "I know it will be used wisely," she says. "It's not just giving to a child; the money supports the entire community. It sets up children and their families to be self-sufficient.

"I'm so lucky to have everything that I have. I think it's my responsibility to share it."



HOW YOU SUPPORT CHILDREN



CHILD AND COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP



GIFTS IN WILLS



GIFTS FOR GOOD



MAJOR GIFTS



COMMUNITY FUNDRAISING



APPEALS

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