



# MISSION SUPPORT IN ACTION

## THE POWER OF FLEXIBLE FUNDING

9-year-old Jaxson with his younger brother Jonathan, 7, in Mississippi. Both have participated in Save the Children's Literacy Program for two years.

### THE CHALLENGE

#### PROTECTING CHILDREN'S RIGHTS IN A COMPLEX AND CHANGING WORLD.

With evolving operational contexts and unpredictable crises, flexible funding from generous private partners has never been more vital.

More children than ever before have been uprooted from their homes due to conflict and climate-related disasters.

Hunger, displacement, poverty and inequality are robbing children of their basic rights – to a healthy start in life, the opportunity to learn and protection from harm.

### THE SOLUTION

#### WE BRING 100+ YEARS OF EXPERTISE AND PARTNERSHIPS IN HEALTH, EDUCATION, CHILD PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY.

Unrestricted investments promote our stability, longevity and effectiveness as we work to keep children healthy, educated and safe – with 85% of every dollar going directly toward helping children.

Flexible resources enable us to urgently address funding gaps, meet changing needs and leverage additional funding. Every year, we reach tens of millions of children in more than 110 countries through our work.



A portrait of Lina\*, 12 at a Girls Empowerment Center run by Save the Children in Jordan.

Photo: Save the Children



## WHAT WE DO

### PROTECTING CHILDREN IN CRISIS

We help more children in crisis recover and return to learning than any other humanitarian organization. And with 30 projects in the pipeline, we're the first international NGO accredited to the largest dedicated climate finance mechanism in the world: The Green Climate Fund (GCF).

### GLOBAL HEALTH

We led the worldwide effort to cut the number of child deaths before age 5 by more than half since 1990. Our research informed World Health Organization guidelines on treating newborn infections, setting standards for care worldwide.

### EDUCATION

We've worked with more children to ensure they get a quality education in the last decade than any other global nonprofit. Since 2009, our signature Literacy Boost program has dramatically improved children's reading skills, helping nearly 4 million children in more than 36 countries.

### GENDER EQUALITY

We've helped reduce child marriage worldwide by nearly one-third since 1990. Last year, we supported successful campaigns in Sierra Leone and Colombia to outlaw this harmful practice. We are also the leading advocate for U.S. investment in girls' leadership around the world and the first nonprofit to be certified Gender Fair.

### HUNGER AND LIVELIHOODS

We work with children and families to provide food assistance, strengthen livelihoods and build resilience. In 2023, we helped improve the health and nutrition of over 33 million children.

### U.S. PROGRAMS

Our programs work to give children in America's rural communities a strong foundation for success in school and life. Students in our literacy programs scored 10 points higher for student growth than the national median.



## BUILDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE

# FLEXIBLE FUNDING IS AN INVESTMENT IN LASTING IMPACT FOR CHILDREN

Unrestricted funding plays a vital role in the evolution of our programs and how we deliver them. Frequent conflict and natural disasters, growing hunger, the climate crisis and COVID have all demanded our agility and innovation to respond to the world's most pressing challenges. Annual allocations of flexible funds bolster our readiness to respond quickly in times of crisis – with a total of more than \$72 million invested between 2021 and 2024.

Patricia teaches Save the Children's livelihood programs in the rural Potosí region of Bolivia.

## HERE ARE EXAMPLES OF FLEXIBLE FUNDING IN ACTION:

### MAKING THE CASE FOR CASH TRANSFERS

Cash and voucher assistance is one of the most effective, efficient and dignified ways to combat child hunger and poverty.

We initiated a review of how our cash programs for vulnerable families in 13 countries have protected their children from disrupted education, early marriage, labor, neglect, sexual exploitation and family separation. Unrestricted funds provided us the flexibility to conduct evaluations three months after the pilots ended to measure their longer-term impacts.

### PROVIDING A HEAD START IN RURAL AMERICA

We built the knowledge and skills of 250 Head Start staff who lead our early learning programs for 2,200 children in rural, underserved communities across five states in the U.S.

Through a two-week Summer Learning Institute in 2023, made possible with unrestricted funds, participants improved their skills in safeguarding children, with a special focus on delivering childcare that recognizes and responds to the impact of trauma and stress on children, families, communities and staff.

