

On World Children's Day, Mary's Meals Underscores the Importance of School Feeding to Uphold Rights

From nourishment to knowledge, Mary's Meals provides daily school meals and access to education offering children a powerful path out of poverty.

BLOOMFIELD, NJ, UNITED STATES, November 20, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- U.N. [World Children's Day](#) on November 20 is a global call to action, raising awareness of children's rights and inspiring efforts and action to build a better future for every child. In a year marked by ongoing conflict, displacement, poverty, disrupted education, and widespread hunger—even famine in some regions—children often bear the heaviest burden.

For 23 years, global school-feeding charity [Mary's Meals](#) has worked to uphold two fundamental rights: access to food and education. Mary's Meals believes this promise can be fulfilled. In a world that produces enough food to feed everyone, no child should go hungry. Today, the organization serves daily school meals to more than 3 million children across 16 countries at an average cost of just \$25 per child for an entire school year.

The U.N.'s theme this year urges action to uphold children's rights, recognizing them as essential human rights. Mary's Meals founder and CEO Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow reinforced this principle in his address at the first [Vatican Summit on Children's Rights](#) earlier this year.

"In his speech, Magnus highlighted that for the world's poorest children, the rights to food and education are inseparable. School meals not only uphold these fundamental rights but also support others," said Mary's Meals USA Executive Director, Terry Bonet.

"He outlined that school meal programs do not need to remain reliant on outside aid forever. In fact, by supporting the emergence of an educated young workforce, they play a key role in setting communities free from dependence on aid and helping to build economies that can eventually support their own provision of school meals," Bonet said.

She added, "Our work in the U.S. to bring attention, create opportunities, and support school feeding programs amplifies this vision by fueling the resources and advocacy needed to make these school feeding programs possible worldwide."

Globally, Mary's Meals partners with communities in areas of greatest need to establish locally-

led programs that reduce hunger, boost enrollment, support children's well-being, and ease pressure on food-insecure households.

This World Children's Day, Mary's Meals reaffirms that every child has the right to health, safety, education, and development and, most importantly, the "right to hope." Hope for a future where they can reach their full potential.

— ENDS —

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