Together we can build a better future.
Leave a bequest to UNICEF.
A message from the CEO of UNICEF Australia.

What kind of world do we want our children to grow up in? Of course we want to leave them a better world, a world where they have the opportunities to both survive and to thrive.

Leaving a bequest to support the work of UNICEF can make this dream a reality.

Not just for our own children but for some of the most vulnerable children on our planet. It is so inspiring to me that over the last forty years we have more than halved the number of preventable infant deaths. Yet staggeringly, 22,000 children still die every day due to extreme poverty. We can and we must dramatically reduce this number. With your help, we can make the number of childhood deaths from malnutrition, disease and ill treatment come down to zero.

When people unite in the interests of the next generation, we can literally change the world – for the better.

And keeping children alive is only a part of our work. Through education and appropriate health services, UNICEF is building the foundation stones for a child to thrive. We want you to be part of the solution.

UNICEF has been protecting the rights of vulnerable children for over 65 years and is the world’s leading development and emergency relief organisation working globally to support the needs and dreams of children.

By remembering UNICEF and the vulnerable children of the world in your will, you are ensuring our world will have a much brighter future.

On behalf of them all, thank you

Norman Gillespie
UNICEF’s commitment to creating a better world for children.

Founded after World War II to assist children affected by the conflict, UNICEF is now one of the most effective and efficient international aid organisations. Although an agency of the United Nations, UNICEF raises all its money from private, corporate and government supporters; we receive no funding from the UN system.

UNICEF works on the ground delivering life saving assistance, in building the structures which make a community strong and with government to advocate for the education, health and safety of children. Our UN status gives us great credibility with government and our grassroots connections allow us to use this influence to combat the structures which keep children and their communities trapped in poverty.

Our mission is to work with and for children everywhere, no matter their race, religion or nationality. We only discriminate in advancing the interests of the most vulnerable.

Our vision is a world where children are valued and respected and a world where their dreams can be realised. We are working to build a world where we are no longer needed – but we have much work to do before we achieve this goal.

“When I was recently updating my Will, my children suggested it would be a good idea for me to leave a bequest to UNICEF to help address important issues like health care, education and protection for disadvantaged children. I have taken their advice and included UNICEF Australia as a beneficiary. UNICEF’s work includes mass immunisation projects, water and sanitation improvements in schools and training for teachers and community health workers. My children, my wife and I all like knowing we’ll be making a contribution to future generations of children.”

Martin Brown, Sydney, NSW
UNICEF works for all children everywhere, no matter their race, religion or nationality. For over 65 years the organisation has done whatever it takes to create the best long-term outcomes for children by working with local communities, governments and non-government partners.

UNICEF’s work around the world is focused on several key areas:

**Child survival and development.**
This area is concerned with providing essential health, nutrition, water and sanitation programs to ensure children’s basic right to grow up in good health.

**Child education and gender equality.**
Education is critical to the development of individuals and societies, and helps pave the way to a successful and productive future. UNICEF is helping millions of children go back to school, and stay at school longer. In one year alone, UNICEF provided more than 12 million children with educational materials.

**Child protection.**
UNICEF works to prevent and protect children from violence, exploitation, abuse, neglect and the effects of conflict, including armed conflict.

**HIV/AIDS.**
More than 15 million children have lost one or both parents to AIDS. UNICEF works to help build capacity to look after these vulnerable children and provides medical assistance and education on prevention.

**Emergencies.**
UNICEF responds to over 200 emergencies on average each year, many of which don’t make the local news. Children are always especially vulnerable to disease, malnutrition and violence during an emergency.
Tips for making your Will.

Statistics show that one third of Australians don’t have a Will. You work hard all your life to take care of your loved ones, so don’t leave your estate to chance. It is vital that every person over the age of 18 has a legal, up-to-date Will.

Here are a few key pointers to making or updating your Will:

- Although DIY kits are available, UNICEF Australia advises seeking qualified expert assistance from a solicitor to make or adjust your Will.
- It is essential to keep your Will updated. A Will that does not reflect current family status such as a divorce, a marriage or the birth of a child, may be invalid.
- If you want debts to be settled before your assets are distributed, you must specify this.
- Remember that tax may be payable on some assets, like an investment property. Your solicitor or accountant can advise you.
- Nominate a guardian for any young children. Don’t use someone who will be a beneficiary as your witness. Choose someone who has no vested interest in the result, should the Will be contested.
- It’s a good idea to ask your proposed executors if they will accept the responsibility. Be sure that your executors and at least one other person know where your Will is.

At the frontline: Madagascar

We first met Manjo in October 2009 when he was starting the second grade for the third time in his small community in southern Madagascar. According to Manjo’s teacher, he is an excellent student and a natural leader. But Manjo was not moving on to the next grade like most boys his age. He was repeating second grade because his school only offered two years of education. The nearest school offering the third grade was too far and expensive for Manjo to reach.

Schools like Manjo’s fall into one of UNICEF Madagascar’s three priority categories for Schools for Africa (SFA) funding, along with communities with no school and schools affected by cyclones. The SFA funds that UNICEF Madagascar started to receive just after our first meeting with Manjo will help turn Manjo’s school into a full cycle primary school, offering five years of primary education.

The support from Schools for Africa will mean that Manjo and his friends will have the opportunity to complete their education.

$19,121 can provide a complete emergency health kit to meet the needs of 10,000 people for 3 months.
Leaving a legacy for vulnerable children is as easy as remembering UNICEF when you write or update your Will. Although DIY kits are available, it is advisable to seek qualified expert assistance from a solicitor.

Most people prefer this option, as there is no need to keep changing the amounts if your estate grows or reduces and the value of the gift will not be affected by inflation.

Of course, there are other options you might want to consider. You can specify a percentage of your estate to be left to UNICEF, which will also be unaffected by inflation, or you can choose to leave a set amount or even an item of value.

How to leave a legacy to UNICEF.

Suggested wording.

Your solicitor may find the following wording helpful:

I give and bequeath free of all duties and taxes,

1. the whole (or x%) of the residue of my estate
2. x% of my estate
3. the sum of $(amount)
4. (details of specific asset(s) to Australian Committee for UNICEF Limited (UNICEF Australia) to be used for the general purposes of UNICEF and I declare that the official receipt of Australian Committee for UNICEF Limited shall be sufficient discharge of the same.)
Frequently asked questions.

Where will my gift be used?
Legacies provide UNICEF with vital funds for long-term planning and development. Donors often like to support specific themes or countries, but in the longer term this could be detrimental to needy children in other parts of the world, especially those in countries that are rarely visited and not in the media spotlight. So legacy funds are allocated to wherever the need is greatest at the time.

How will you acknowledge my pledge?
We’re very keen to show our gratitude to you, so we ask that you let us know if you are leaving a legacy to UNICEF. Then we can keep you informed about our work with children around the world.

Doesn’t the UN fund UNICEF?
No, it’s a common misconception that we’re funded by the UN. UNICEF is part of the UN family, which gives us enormous political influence, but we are funded entirely by voluntary donations.

What’s the difference between UNICEF and other charities that work with children?
UNICEF is the only global organisation working specifically for children and children’s rights. Our position as part of the UN means we are uniquely placed to gain vital support from governments around the world. Our expansive community links and influence means we can and we do make a huge difference.

How can I be sure my money will reach the children who need it?
All donations to UNICEF go directly to where they are needed most, to protect the world’s most disadvantaged and vulnerable children. This is UNICEF’s commitment, both to our donors and to the children who need our support. Administration and fundraising costs are kept to an absolute minimum.

What about the possibility of my money ending up in the hands of corrupt regimes?
UNICEF carries out a great deal of local monitoring and will swiftly tackle governments where corruption is suspected. In addition, UNICEF’s support is channelled into specific projects using items that are of no real value or interest in the wrong hands, such as midwifery kits, baby scales and school supplies.

Will you co-work with other charities and local organisations in the field?
Yes, in a number of different situations, particularly during emergencies. A common example is that a school will be built by the local community, UNICEF will provide the training, materials and support and a local organisation will provide the teacher’s salary.

Why doesn’t UNICEF help needy children in Australia?
Industrialised countries such as Australia usually have the resources and knowledge to meet their children’s needs, and as our resources are limited, we must spend them where they are needed most. Whilst UNICEF doesn’t fund programs in Australia, we are always working for the interests of children. In 2010, UNICEF successfully advocated to get children out of detention as one example of our domestic work. We also work with health practitioners, organisations and communities to identify problems and bring them to the attention of the relevant authority.

How do you avoid people becoming dependent on aid?
UNICEF’s ultimate aim is to help those in need to develop independence and self-reliance. UNICEF provides the resources, support and tools to help people take care of themselves and their children, and in emergency situations we stay in place until the community is back on its feet, with plans and infrastructure in place for the long term.
Your legacy ensures generations of young lives will be improved.

UNICEF is the leading global development and emergency relief organisation working specifically to support children and their rights.

Our UN position also means we are able to work across more countries and access more remote or dangerous areas than other aid organisations. UNICEF can and does effect large-scale systemic change, benefitting millions of children. However UNICEF is not funded by the UN and relies on voluntary donations for our work.

If you share UNICEF’s vision for a world where every child is vaccinated, educated and protected from harm, please consider investing in our work by remembering UNICEF in your Will.

If you have any further questions, or we can help you with any aspect of leaving a legacy to UNICEF, please call our Bequests Officer on (02) 9261 2811 or email us at bequests@unicef.org.au

Thank you for pledging to improve the lives of future generations of children.

Pledge form.

Please take a few minutes to complete and return this form.

Please tick as appropriate:

- I have already included a gift to UNICEF in my Will
- I intend to include UNICEF in my Will

Name: 
Address: 
State: Postcode: 
Email: 
Phone: ( )

Today’s date: / /

The following information is optional but would be hugely helpful to us.

My gift to UNICEF will be:

- The residue of my estate  
  (the most popular option known as a residue legacy - what's left over when loved ones are taken care of)
- % share of my estate
- The sum of $ 
- An item, or items of value (please state)

Thank you.

Please return this form (no stamp required) to:

UNICEF Australia, Reply Paid 488, Queen Victoria Building, Sydney, NSW 1230
All donations of $2 or more are tax deductible. To reduce administrative costs, UNICEF Australia issues all receipts for donations after the end of the financial year. Donors will also receive updates on the progress of UNICEF's work to improve the lives of vulnerable children. Updates can either be mailed or emailed.