



# Caring for **WOMEN** and **GIRLS EVERY STEP** of the way

# **Friends of UNFPA**

promotes the health and dignity of women and girls around the world by supporting the lifesaving work of UNFPA, the United Nations reproductive health and rights agency, through awareness-building and fundraising.

**UNFPA** works toward a world with **ZERO** preventable maternal deaths **ZERO** unmet need for family planning **ZERO** incidents of violence against women and girls

## **CHILDHOOD**



# WOMANHOOD

## **MOTHERHOOD**

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#### DEAR FRIEND,

In 2019, UNFPA achieved incredible advances in the reproductive health of women and girls.

Fewer women lost their lives during pregnancy and childbirth, with the number of daily maternal deaths dropping from 830 to 808. 58 million women also gained access to family planning thanks to UNFPA's work.

Even as health outcomes for many women and girls improve, there is still work to be done. Over the next decade, UNFPA will focus on ending preventable maternal deaths, ending the unmet need for family planning, and ending gender-based violence. To meet these goals, UNFPA hosted the Nairobi Summit in November to lay the groundwork for the next ten years of progress in global reproductive health.

Even as UNFPA works to meet the needs of women and girls, the agency does so with limited resources. The outcome of the 2020 American presidential election could have dire ramifications for women and girls both in the United States and around the world. The Trump Administration has defunded UNFPA for the past three years, stripping away the rights of millions of women. Last year, Representative Chrissy Houlahan of Pennsylvania proposed the Support UNFPA Funding Act of 2019 to reinstate vital funding taken away by the Trump Administration.

In 2019, Friends of UNFPA experienced its own transformation. While it is bittersweet to step down as Chair of the Board, I am happy to announce that Jacob Onufrychuk will take my place. Jacob has proven himself to be an adept leader in both the corporate space and as a member of the board. In 2020, Friends of UNFPA also welcomed Amanda Seller as the new Executive Director. Amanda brings with her over 20 years of expertise in the nonprofit sector and will certainly lead Friends of UNFPA to even greater success.

Even though this report is about the accomplishments of UNFPA and Friends of UNFPA in 2019, we would be remiss not to discuss the climate in which this report has been published. The COVID-19 pandemic has fundamentally changed the context of global public health, showing both how fragile the systems that protect us are and how much we all rely on our families, communities, and leaders to keep us safe. Thank you to our community for all of your generous contributions in 2019. Your ongoing support in 2020 means more now than ever as we act to safeguard the reproductive health that is the right of every woman and girl.

This work would not be possible without you.

Sincerely,

Minh Ngo Former Chair of the Board Friends of UNFPA

**UNFPA**) founded





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# In 2019, we received support from:

970 **NEW DONORS** 

163 SUSTAINERS

3,279 **TOTAL DONORS** 

#### **Fast Facts about UNFPA:**

unintended pregnancies prevented in 2019 thanks to UNFPA-supplied contraceptives

14 M+





#### 21,000 midwives trained in 2019

# 2.5 M+

girls who received child marriage prevention or protection services

Second International Conference on Population and Development in Nairobi (ICPD25)

50th anniversary of UNFPA

2020

Decade of Action, UNFPA's campaign to end maternal death, the unmet need for family planning, and genderbased violence, begins

Vision 2030, the deadline for the transformational goals, and a world where no woman or girl is left behind

2019

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2030

#### Partnership Highlight

#### Winslow Foundation

#### Friends of UNFPA

Since 2015, the Winslow Foundation has been an instrumental partner of Friends of UNFPA. By supporting UNFPA Supplies, UNFPA's global program to end the unmet need for family planning, the Winslow Foundation has shown an unshakeable commitment to supporting the rights of women and girls to decide if, when, and with whom to have children. The Winslow Foundation is a proud partner of UNFPA and their work to address the vast social, environmental, and health inequities magnified by a lack of access to contraceptives.

> Kelsey Wirth President of the Board

# The Winslow Foundation has supported UNFPA Supplies in **three main ways:**



# Improving access and strengthening supply chains

so no woman or girl has to wonder whether she'll be protected from unintended pregnancy next week, month, or year. In 2019, UNFPA Supplies supported 14 "last-mile" assessments that for the first time gave a detailed picture of the entire in-country supply chain for reproductive health supplies.



# Expanding choice and reaching the underserved

so even in the most remote communities women have the family planning that is their right. 40,000 nurses and midwives and over 48,000 community health workers were trained to provide reproductive health care. Further, healthcare workers were also given training to provide and remove longacting contraceptives like IUDs and implants.



# Making family planning affordable,

so UNFPA Supplies can continue to meet the needs of women everywhere. In 2019, UNFPA was again able to reduce prices for key contraceptives, ultimately generating \$3.4 million in savings through price negotiations and quality generic products.

#### In 2019

UNFPA-supplied contraceptives prevented:

- 14,071,023 unintended pregnancies
- 3,904,568 unsafe abortions
- 47,272 maternal deaths

We are profoundly grateful to the Winslow Foundation for the support received in 2019 and over the past five years, and for their continued partnership and commitment to ensuring rights and choices for all.

# For the **HEALTH** and **DIGNITY** of women and girls everywhere

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#### **UNFPA's work toward** ZERO preventible maternal deaths

Today, 808 women will die from causes related to pregnancy and childbirth. Each death is a tragedy. To provide hope and care to mothers and their families, and to create a better world for us all, UNFPA is working to end all preventable maternal deaths by 2030.

By supporting and supplying health systems with the equipment, training, and supplies they need to deliver quality safe birth care, UNFPA helps to build reliable networks of reproductive health services for women everywhere.

© UNFPA Tanzania

#### At a Glance

For every woman who dies, 20 or 30 others encounter injuries,

infections, or disabilities.

One woman dies during pregnancy or childbirth every two minutes.

UNFPA/

Nadine Cornier

**CHURCAMPA, PERU** Inclusive Practices

UNFPA has adopted inclusive birthing practices in Peru, so mothers from indigenous communities in the Andes Mountains can give birth safely and according to their traditions. The moms sit upright in their partner's lap and hold onto a rope for support while they deliver their baby.

#### SIMIYU, UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA Care for Fistula Survivors

© UNFPA Peru/

Juan Pablo Casapia

Keflene did her best to make sure that she had a healthy pregnancy. Even so, when she was ready to deliver, Keflene experienced extreme pain. She nearly died after three days of labor and, tragically, her baby was stillborn. Keflene developed an obstetric fistula, a traumatic birth injury, but thankfully, she was able to receive repair surgery from UNFPA and is now an advocate for other women with fistula.

© UNFPA Pacific

#### The presence of a

## midwife or skilled birth attendant

is vital for protecting the health of newborns as well as mothers. The majority of newborn deaths occur during delivery or in the 48 hours afterward.

#### **AL-HASSAKEH. SYRIA** Safe Birth During a Crisis

Ongoing conflict in Syria led 8-month pregnant Aisha to seek the safety of a UNFPA refugee camp. Tragically, on the way, Aisha was shot in the stomach and her two children were killed in the violence. Finally, she made it to the camp and, thanks to UNFPA care, she was able to recover from her injuries and safely give birth to her baby.

#### **SUVA, FIJI Equipping Midwives**

By 2030, the world will need 9 million additional midwives to meet the reproductive health needs of women and girls around the world. Emma in Fiji was a midwife for 18 years before she began training new midwives with UNFPA. The training includes prenatal care, safe delivery services, family planning, and much more. Now, Emma even travels to other islands, like Vanuatu, to instruct new midwives and make sure that women do not go without the lifesaving care they need.

#### **UNFPA's work toward** ZERO unmet need for family planning

The burden of planning and caring for children overwhelmingly falls on women. However, as many as 232 million women lack access to family planning due to gender inequality and education, economic, and availability barriers. When women are unable to determine if, when, and with whom to have children, they are stripped of their human rights. Trapped in cycles of poverty and oppression, these women may experience tragic health outcomes, like maternal or newborn death.

UNFPA works to end the unmet need for family planning by equipping midwives with the training and supplies they need to provide the full range of family planning care to their patients, including short and long-term contraceptives, and by educating women and girls through peer networks on their bodies and rights.

#### At a Glance

## 232 million

women who want family planning are without access to it.

Every dollar invested in family planning results in

\$2.20 saved in pregnancy-related care.

> © UNFPA South Suda Arlene Alano

**OUNFPA** Nepa

#### **KAPILVASTU, NEPAL** Faith and Family Planning

In Nepal, UNFPA works with religious leaders to educate Muslim women on family planning. Before the program, many women thought family planning was against the teachings of Islam and did not know of its benefits. But now, the stigma is gone and women feel empowered to take control of their reproductive health.

#### CÚCUTA, COLOMBIA Caring for Migrants

1.2 million migrants have fled Venezuela for Columbia, and more are on their way. UNFPA has distributed information to migrants on where to reach family planning and genderbased violence resources. This is particularly important as 37 percent of women migrants reported experiencing violence as they traveled.



If the need for family planning was met, maternal deaths would

decrease 25% and newborn deaths would decrease 20%.

Girls need family planning, too! Worldwide, complications from pregnancy and childbirth are the leading cause of death for girls

15-19 years old.

#### CHISINAU. REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA Comprehensive Sexuality Education

Iuliana never learned about her body and became pregnant at 15 years old. This was incredibly dangerous as complications from pregnancy and childbirth are twice as likely for adolescent girls than for women. Iuliana met a girl from a UNFPA peer program who taught her about reproductive health and rights. Now, Iuliana can have children on her own terms.

© UNEPA Moldova/ Anastasia Pirvu

#### **AWEIL. SOUTH SUDAN** Empowering Women with Disabilities

In 2019, Arek was pregnant with her seventh child and was living with a disability. Even though she wanted to, Arek had never used family planning because she was unable to afford it and because she was afraid contraceptives would make her disability worse. Thanks to UNFPA's midwifes in South Sudan, Arek is now able to receive the care she needs for her new baby and for herself.

#### **UNFPA's work toward** ZERO incidents of gender-based violence

Gender-based violence, including physical, psychological, and sexual violence, as well as harmful practices like female genital mulitation (FGM) and child marriage, are incredibly common experiences for women all over the world. Sadly, this violence is often tolerated or even institutionalized, particularly in places with extreme gender inequality. UNFPA is working to end gender-based violence by 2030 by preventing harmful practices before they occur and by supporting survivors with medical, legal, and psychosocial care.

#### At a Glance

#### 20,000

underage girls are married every day.

1 in 3

#### 40%

of women who are murdered are killed by their partner.



© UNFPA Somalia

The film was presented at UNFPA's Nairobi Summit on the agency's 50th anniversary. A Girl From Mogadishu was shown in partnership with the Family of Women Film Festival, of which Friends of UNFPA is a sponsor and beneficiary. The festival, held in Sun Valley, Idaho each year, screens films that depict the status of women around the globe.

#### FEZ. MOROCCO Surviving Violence and Child Marriage

After 10 years of abuse and violence, Khadija found the strength to leave her husband. She faced homelessness, unemployment, and poverty. After years of trying to rebuild her life, Khadija found a UNFPA center where she and other survivors of violence could receive psychosocial care, legal counseling, and vocational training. Now, Khadija has a community and owns a small business.

© UNFPA Morocco

© UNFPA India

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women will experience violence at the hands of an intimate partner or family member during her life.

## 200 million

women alive today have experienced FGM.

#### **DAMASCUS. SYRIA** Conflict Threatens Human Rights

Child marriage is increasingly more common in Syria, where years of conflict have placed safety and economic pressures on families. 18 percent of all Syrian girls are married as children, but this number increases in refugee communities. Child marriage is a human rights violation that has adverse outcomes for girls, from limited education opportunities and early pregnancy to a higher risk of domestic violence and social isolation. UNFPA works to end child marriage in Syria by supporting survivors of child marriage and reaching girls before they are ever married.

© UNEPA Regional Syria Response Hub

#### **INDIA Ending Menstration Myths**

When Priyanka menstruates, she is forced to stay outside of her home and wear special clothes, as part of a practice called chhaupadi. In parts of India, menstruation is considered dirty and menstruating women and girls are thought to be unclean or bad luck. It is not uncommon for women to experience gender-based violence or attacks from animals while they live outside of the home. The practice of excluding women and girls from public life is deeply rooted in gender inequality. UNFPA works to dispel period myths and realize gender equality.

#### **UNFPA's work providing** care in humanitarian emergencies

Natural disasters, conflict, and pandemics do not stop women from giving birth. These emergencies also do not stop couples from needing contraception or women and girls from menstruating. Yet, access to reproductive health care during crises is often cut off entirely, leaving millions of women and girls stranded and vulnerable to

violence, infection, or even death. By deploying mobile clinics and midwives and by distributing essential supplies in emergency birthing kits and dignity kits, UNFPA delivers reproductive care to women and girls, regardless of the circumstances.

#### At a Glance

In 2019, UNFPA humanitarian assistance reached over 19 million people.

## **Over 50%**

of maternal deaths occur in humanitarian emergencies.

## UNFPA operates more than 1,000 safe spaces

for women and girls where they can connect with one another and be free from judgement and violence.

### SANA'A. YEMEN The Worst Humanitarian Crisis

#### **BEIRA, MOZAMBIQUE** Cyclone Idai

Cyclones Idai and Kenneth devastated the countries of Mozambique, Malawi, and Zimbabwe in March and April of 2019. The storms were the worst the region had seen in decades. UNFPA sent midwives to the affected areas to ensure that those affected by the cyclones still had access to lifesaving reproductive healthcare.

#### **CARACAS, VENEZUELA** Economic Migrants

Years of shortages and an economic crisis have led millions of Venezuelans to flee the country. Those who remain face a high unmet need for family planning and increasing rates of genderbased violence, especially for migrants. UNFPA is circulating information on how women and girls can receive care after experiencing violence and is supporting survivors through psychosocial care, legal counseling, and medical treatment.

© LINEPA

Natalia da Lu:

Bangladesh/ Fahima Tairinr



UNFPA operates more than

## 2,000 mobile clinics

so women can access care even if they are unable to afford treatment or transportation to a health facility.

Every two hours, a Yemeni woman dies from pregnancy and childbirth complications. This is only worsening as funding shortages continue. Om Asma survived her pregnancy at a UNFPA hospital. The agency is the only reproductive healthcare provider in Yemen and may have to close clinics due to lack of funding, even though millions require care.



© UNEPA Yeme

#### **COX'S BAZAR, BANGLADESH** Rohingya Refugee Camp

Salma, a Rohingya woman in a refugee camp in Bangladesh, suffered 9 miscarriages before finally delivering her daughter. The difference between this pregnancy and her others was Imama, her midwife. In refugee camps, lifesaving reproductive healthcare can be hard to find, but UNFPA works to train midwives, including from the Rohingya population, so women like Salma can receive the care they need. This is even more important as humanitarian emergencies last longer and longer.



I refused to marry off my daughter for a simple, good reason: I want my daughter to be empowered,

-Lemeima, Mauritania



© UNFPA MAURITANIA

When health workers build and update their capacities, those who benefit the most are the people living in nearby communities, 55

> -Gregorio, a healthcare worker in Venezuela

## 66

If you want your daughters to avoid this fate, then keep them in school, 55

> -Malama, an Islamic preacher in Niger on the importance of empowering women to seek reproductive healthcare

© UNFPA WCARO/ Habibou Dia

DUNEPA Venezuela

They treated me with respect, and they listened to me. Being a displaced person, I hadn't expected that,

> – Ja Htoi, a new mother in Myanmar

I want to give women who are survivors of domestic violence a chance to start again, to rise from the ashes, just like I did,

> -Najma, a survivor of child marriage and marital violence and a Syrian refugee

© UNFPA/ Seivan Salim

In 2019, Friends of UNFPA raised over \$1,000,000 more for the health and dignity of women and girls than in 2018. Donors like you were able to make this possible. Now, in 2020, with the coronavirus pandemic threatening access to reproductive healthcare, civil rights protests highlighting the need for inclusive and equal treatment of people everywhere, and an election that could affect UNFPA's funding and ability to continue providing care to the world's most vulnerable women and girls, your support means that much more. Thank you.

**We owe it to women to give them** the tools and services they need, and the justice and equality that is their right-in hospitals, in homes, and in their communities. **7** 

-Dr. Natalia Kanem, Executive Director of UNFPA



**Total Annual Revenue** 



This money directly benefited women and girls needing services like emergency obstetric care, care and support after experiencing gender-based violence, and protection from child marriage and female genital mutilation. Your support means that UNFPA can be there for women and girls every step of the way.

#### 2018 vs 2019 Annual Expenses

#### In 2019, UNFPA delivered critical reproductive healthcare to millions of women and girls across the globe.

However, there is more work to do. To meet UNFPA's transformational goals to realize a world with zero preventable maternal deaths, zero unmet need for family planning, and **zero** incidents of gender-based violence by 2030, more funds are required. The current funding gap is \$264 billion over the next 10 years.



# Without you, this work would not be possible.

Thank you for your support and for your commitment to women and girls.



#### Monthly donors are the backbone of our support for women and girls.

They are an extraordinary group of people who have made supporting reproductive health and rights part of their life's work. Monthly donors make it possible for Friends of UNFPA to decrease administrative costs by enabling us to better plan our work. Ultimately, this means more funding for women and girls. To show our thanks, we have created Friends of UNFPA's Circle of Friends and send exclusive content to monthly supporters about the people whose lives they have changed.

#### Monthly donors make it possible for:

Pregnant women and new mothers to receive prenatal, postnatal, and safe delivery care

Women to access family planning and medical care, legal counsel, and psychosocial support after experiencing gender-based violence



Girls to grow up empowered, without fear of experiencing harmful practices or losing their education

**UNFPA** provides the resources women need to control their bodies and plan their families. That requires sustained support, which is why I give monthly.

> Bonnie Catena Donor since 2017

Thank you for your commitment to being with women and girls, every step of the way. Want to become a monthly donor? Visit friendsofunfpa.org/monthly or contact:



Addison Altholz

Senior Development Associate (646) 649-9105 aaltholz@friendsunfpa.org

#### Here are 5 ways you can get involved to support the health and dignity of women and girls:



The best way to meet the needs of women and girls right now is to donate. Essential, lifesaving reproductive healthcare is under attack from chronic defunding, entrenched stigma, and lack of trained health professionals. Your contribution helps Friends of UNFPA meet these needs by funding UNFPA programs.

Visit friendsofunfpa.org/donate to give now.



**Educate Yourself** 

The obstacles that women and girls face toward realizing their full potential are evolving all of the time. Policy changes, conflicts, natural disasters, and funding cuts continually limit reproductive health services. Sign up for our emails to receive the latest information on the state of reproductive health around the world.

Visit friendsofunfpa.org to subscribe to our emails.



Host a Fundraiser

Do you want to make an even greater impact? You can host your own fundraiser benefiting Friends of UNFPA and make a difference in the lives of women and girls.

Host a fundraiser through Facebook at facebook.com/ FriendsofUNFPA or visit friendsofunfpa.org/how-tohelp to fundraise through Crowdrise.

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Become a Monthly Supporter

Monthly donors are the base of our support. They allow us to minimize costs and give more to women and girls. Your monthly support means UNFPA can provide even more reproductive healthcare.

Visit friendsofunfpa.org/monthly to donate monthly.



To realize a world where no woman or girl is left without lifesaving reproductive healthcare, it is critical to raise awareness about the importance of UNFPA's work. Social media has made sharing information with your family and friends easier than ever before.

Find us @FriendsofUNFPA on Twitter and Friends of UNFPA on Facebook.

For guestions or additional information on how you can give, contact:



#### Jennifer Munz

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