



Education Saves Lives, Reduces Poverty and Promotes Security

PROBLEM

Lack of Quality Education is a Global Crisis

A lack of quality educational opportunities is connected to child mortality, disease, poverty and conflict.

- 75 million children around the world are not enrolled in primary school.
- 226 million adolescents do not have the chance to attend secondary school.

SOLUTION

Education Saves Lives

In Africa alone, five million children die each year before reaching their 5th birthday. Investing in primary education—especially for women and girls—is an effective way to save millions of lives.

- Children of mothers with a full primary education are nearly 50% more likely to survive to age five.¹

Education Improves Health

From improved nutrition to decreased cases of HIV/AIDS, basic education provides information that can improve health in countries around the world.

- Children of mothers with a primary education are 50% more likely to be immunized.²
- In sub-Saharan Africa alone, 700,000 HIV cases could be prevented each year if all children received a primary education.³

Education Decreases Poverty

The evidence is clear—education increases the economic well being of families, communities, and countries.

- For each additional year of schooling, a person's lifetime earnings increase by almost 10%.
- The largest contributing factor to reducing child malnutrition has been the education of women⁴

Education Leads to a Safer World

Peace and democracy are strongly correlated with education. Experts write: "Education is the best hope of turning young people away from violence and extremism."⁵

- Enrolling boys in primary school decreases the likelihood of civil war by up to 73%.⁶

Global Fund for Education Can Help Meet the Goal of Universal Global Education

An independent, multilateral approach would leverage other nations' investments for education.

- Engage developing countries, donor countries, and civil society in a proven model to make education for all a reality by 2015.

¹ CIDA and %, (ONE website - <http://www.one.org/c/us/issuebrief/93/>)

² SUAS

³ Oxfam

⁴ Smith, et al, 2000

⁵ Center for Strategic and International Studies

⁶ Deininger, 2003. Quoted in Justino, 2007



SUPPORT DEC. 10 DAY OF ACTION FOR GLOBAL EDUCATION

Global Fund for Education can Eradicate Poverty, Child Mortality, Disease and Violence

Global education investment falls short of need

The quest to achieve quality education for all children and youths will need a strong partnership between all stakeholders — donor countries, developing countries, international institutions, civil society, and the private sector — to ensure the resources needed to achieve universal education are mobilized.

The Social Principles of The United Methodist Church state:

“All children have the right to quality education ...” (¶ 162), and, *“We believe that every person has the right to education. We also believe that the responsibility for education of the young rests with the family, faith communities, and the government” (¶ 164).*

The good news is that President Obama pledged \$2 billion to a Global Fund for Education during his 2008 campaign. **Now is the time to act: President Obama can lead the world in supporting a Global Fund for Education, and funding it in his budget request to Congress.**

For background information on global education, click [here](#).

December 10th Day of Action

The General Board of Church & Society asks you to join supporters across the country by participating in Global Campaign For Education — U.S. Chapter NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION to send a strong message to President Obama to support universal education investments.

How you can help support education for all of God's children

1. **Educate** your members/supporters about the December 10th National Day of Action.
2. **Call** the White House Comment Line number (202) 456-1111 on Thursday, December 10, with the following message:

“I support education for all and support President Obama’s pledge to budget \$2 billion for the Global Fund for Education.”

3. **Download** personalized flyers to distribute and get signed in local churches. Please **return these by Dec. 8** to Donna Brandyberry, General Board of Church & Society, 100 Maryland Avenue, NE, Washington, DC 20002.
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For more information, contact Peace with Justice Program Director Mark W. Harrison at (202) 488-8465 or mharrison@umc-gbcs.org.