



WFP/Tom Haskell

School Meals Program

Nearly 400 million children suffer from hunger around the world.

It's an overwhelming statistic, but it represents a problem that can and must be solved. Friends of the World Food Program (Friends of WFP) provides significant support for a sustainable solution: school meals.

The Cycle of Poverty

Approximately 66 million primary school students in developing countries attend school with empty stomachs. They have little energy to concentrate on their studies, succeed academically and eventually break the cycle of poverty. Others do not even attend school.

A World of Difference

But school meals from the United Nations World Food Program (WFP) make a world of difference. More than 20 million chil-

dren in 70 developing nations eat at school. The results are outstanding: dramatic improvements in enrollment, attendance and academic performance.

Over time, WFP's meals also help to reduce hunger throughout communities – and at an affordable price. It costs only 25 cents to provide a healthy meal for a child in school, which translates to \$50 to feed a child for an entire year. On a larger scale, a meal for every hungry schoolchild worldwide would cost only \$3.2 billion yearly.

Education for Girls

In particular, WFP school meals dramatically increase the number of girls who enroll and stay in school. Rather than keep their daughters home to help with work, parents appreciate the advantage of providing them with nutritious meals. New generations of women are being equipped to lift their communities from poverty to prosperity. It all starts with a school meal.



McGovern-Dole Program

The George McGovern-Robert Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program helps to alleviate child hunger and poverty by supporting operations that provide nutritious meals to children in schools in the world's poorest countries. This simple formula has proven to be a success – providing school meals encourages families to send their children to school and helps students concentrate on their studies. Friends of the World Food Program and its partner organizations advocate increased U.S. funding and support for the McGovern-Dole Program.

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**Friends of the
World Food Program**