

**NOTE: This is a report provided by Dianna Brigham to our CWU board; it was asked to be placed on our website.**

## **UNICEF**

**August 23, 2022**

UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) works in more than 190 countries and territories to reach the most disadvantaged children and adolescents—and to protect the rights of every child everywhere. UNICEF does whatever it takes to help children survive, thrive and fulfill their potential. The world's largest provider of vaccines, they support child health and nutrition, safe water and sanitation, quality education and skill building, HIV prevention and treatment for mothers and babies, and the protection of children and adolescents from violence and exploitation. UNICEF is there, bringing lifesaving help and hope to children and families. They are non-political and impartial, never neutral when it comes to defending children's rights, safeguarding their lives and futures.

UNICEF works with the United Nations and its agencies to make sure that children are on the global agenda. It strikes a balance between thorough research and practical solutions for children. This includes climate change, gender equality, ending poverty and during the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration in 2020, they spoke of the opportunity to secure a world where everyone can thrive in peace, dignity and equality on a healthy planet.

## **UKRAINE UPDATE**

UNICEF is in Ukraine providing essential services including health, education protection, water and sanitation—as well life-saving supplies. Since July, it has been reported that 260 Ukraine children have been killed as the war between Russia and Ukraine continues on.

UNICEF is diligently working around the clock to scale up life-saving programs for Ukraine's children providing:

- \* health and medical supplies for 3.9 million children and families
- \* reached 420,000 individuals with multi-purpose cash assistance

- \* helped more than 3.4 million people access safe water in areas where networks have been damaged or destroyed.
- \* helped more than 270,000 children through the provision of learning supplies.
- \* reached 1.4 million children and caregivers with mental health and psychological support.
- \* assisted around 63,000 children through case management and referral services.
- \* working with local governments in countries accepting Ukrainian refugees.
- \* working with UNHCR  
(United Nations High Commission for Refugees) (a UN Refugee Agency) and partners to activate Blue Dot Hubs—one stop safe spaces for children and women.)

#### AFGANISTAN UPDATE

**Although the United States pulled out as of last August, no longer providing military or life-saving assistance to the population of that country, UNICEF is still there providing humanitarian support, including receiving vaccines for Covid, and most recently, the polio epidemic.**

It takes a village to support people in crisis, and UNICEF has always “hit the ground running with work boots on.” I could go on and on, each country has its own unique problems, whether in the hills of Appalachia, the deserts of the Sudan, the cities of Ethiopia, or the rural provinces of Cambodia, UNICEF is there, still trying to reach as many as they can to provide humanitarian support.