

Frontline *Action*



Helping Children in a
World of Need

www.worldchildrensfund.org.uk

WCF feeds starving children in Liberia

Every day more than 400 malnourished and starving children receive a hot meal in Buchanan, Liberia. The children come daily to two feeding centers funded by WCF. “The children we serve are typically one step away from being orphaned or on the street,” said Andy Perkins, executive program director. “Many of them have already lost one or both parents and live with a relative or family friend. Because of the scarcity of food, most host families can barely feed themselves. They feed their own family first, leaving these children with little or nothing.”

When most of the children begin the feeding program, the effects of malnutrition are apparent. They arrive with distended bellies. Often, their hair is turning light in color and falling out. Their eyes are vacant and the children have no energy. Depending on the severity of their condition, the children are slowly weaned onto a full calorie diet. Marbaylo Logon is just one of the children who is thriving because of the feeding program. Both of her parents are dead and she lives with an aunt and uncle who have seven children of their own. When she entered the program two years ago, she was malnourished, small for her age and did not know how to eat with a fork or spoon. Today, she is healthy and well-adjusted. She attends school and she loves to volunteer to help prepare food with the cooks.

Liberia is one of the poorest countries in the world and basic infrastructure services like public power, water and sewage are either limited or completely unavailable. Perkins also noted that Liberia’s infant and child mortality rate is in the bottom five in the world and that one in four children (23.8%) never reach the age of five years old.

Many more children roam the streets of Buchanan looking for any morsel of food to satisfy their hunger. Currently, 600 children are on the waiting list for a place in our feeding program. As funding becomes available, plans include four new feeding centers. We are grateful to those who donate. Without you, many children would be malnourished or starving.

PHOTO—

A smiling, healthy little girl from one of the WCF funded feeding programs in Buchanan, Liberia. More than 400 children like her receive a hot, nutritious meal every day. The average cost to feed a child in the program is around \$10 per month.



WCF provides food relief to suffering Sudan



World Children's Fund is providing high protein rice meals filled with life-saving nutrients to Sudan's hungry children and families. About 4,400 people received the rice meals in sixteen different locations throughout southern Sudan. The nutritious meals are ideal in crisis areas, like Sudan. Sudan, the largest country in Africa, endured a twenty-five year civil war resulting in an estimated three million people being displaced from their homes and villages.

The people in Darfur, in the western region of Sudan, have suffered through civil strife, genocide, starvation, disease and mass displacements. Darfur continues to be an on-going humanitarian crisis.



Because food is scarce, many people cried with thankfulness when receiving the rice meals. In the suburban area of Gurei in Juba South Sudan, Mrs. Gwolo, a widow, received twenty packets of rice meal. Her husband died in the war and she said she struggles daily to feed her seven children. Tears clouded her eyes as relief workers handed her the food. In Juba town, a twelve-year-old street boy named Juma survives by digging through garbage. According to relief workers, when they gave him two packets of the rice meal, the hungry boy stared at them in disbelief. The next minute, they saw tears of joy roll down his malnourished cheeks.

- World Children's Fund is a non-profit, non-governmental organization committed to alleviating the suffering of children worldwide. We are a donor-funded charity with dedicated supporters, like you, located around the globe.
- World Children's fund provided approximately seven million meals to hungry children and their families worldwide during its last two fiscal years.



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Meet some of the children from our feeding programs in Buchanan, Liberia.

Story on page one.

Donations are used in the most effective way to benefit the children whose lives depend upon us. This may include administrative cost to assure our projects meet the highest standards, vital fund-raising efforts & education of the public on the needs of children and their families. Our charitable programmes are fulfilled by cash donations as well as contributions of goods and services in kind.

