

About Shot@Life

Shot@Life educates, connects, and empowers individuals to champion global vaccines as one of the most effective ways to save the lives of children around the world. Our campaign rallies the public to advocate and fundraise for global childhood vaccines. We believe that by encouraging people to learn about, advocate for, and donate to fund vaccines, we can decrease the 1.5 million annual vaccine-preventable childhood deaths and give every child the opportunity to survive and thrive.

Shot@Life works with partners and volunteers in the United States and around the world to ensure that lifesaving vaccines reach children everywhere. Funds raised by Shot@Life support UNICEF, the World Health Organization, and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, in the coordination, purchase, delivery, and administration of immunizations in communities across the globe. Through our advocacy efforts, we work to ensure that U.S. government support for global childhood immunization programs remains strong.

Why Vaccines?

Nearly one-third of deaths among children under five are preventable with vaccines. Vaccines are one of the most cost-effective ways to save and improve the lives of children worldwide. Without them, children have no protection against deadly and debilitating diseases like measles, polio, pneumonia, and rotavirus.

Vaccination efforts have already changed the tide of history. Immunizations have saved the lives of more children than any other medical intervention in the last 50 years. However, with 1.5 million children still dying unnecessarily from vaccine-preventable diseases each year, we must work to reach every last child.

Our Movement

Together, we are building a movement to help children access lifesaving vaccines. Our grassroots network includes more than 2,500 trained champions across the U.S. and nearly 350,000 online supporters who advocate, fundraise, and raise awareness on behalf of global childhood immunization programs. Your voice, your time, and your actions can change a child's life forever.

Did You Know?

Around the world, a child dies every 20 seconds from a disease that can be prevented with a vaccine.

Funding for global vaccine programs is less than 1% of the U.S. federal budget, but this funding helps save 2.5 million lives every year.



Our Disease Targets

Measles, a highly contagious disease caused by a virus, is transmitted primarily through the air or direct contact. Beginning with a high fever and inflamed eyes, measles can result in serious complications, including blindness and swelling of the brain. The measles vaccine has resulted in a 73% drop in measles deaths globally since 2000. Despite this progress, in 2019, there were more than 850,000 measles deaths globally, the highest number since 1996.

Polio is a highly infectious disease that primarily affects children under the age of five. It attacks a child's nervous system and can cause total paralysis or even death. As long as a single child remains infected with polio, children everywhere remain at risk of contracting the disease. While no cure exists, polio is effectively prevented by vaccination.

Pneumonia is the single largest infectious cause of death in children worldwide. Derived from the pneumococcal bacterium, pneumonia causes lungs to fill with pus and fluid, limiting oxygen intake and proper breathing. Pneumonia accounts for 18% of all deaths of children under the age of five, killing nearly 1.4 million children each year. Children whose immune systems are compromised by malnutrition and other factors face an especially high risk of contracting pneumonia.

Diarrheal Disease is the second leading cause of death in children under the age of five, accounting for 1 in 9 deaths. Annually, there are million of cases of childhood diarrheal disease worldwide and 525,000 children die from the disease. Rotavirus — the leading cause of severe childhood diarrheal disease — is most commonly found among children living in low-resource settings who lack access to primary health care. Vaccines have proven to be an effective prevention measures, averting two-thirds of deaths caused by rotavirus.

Sources (Updated 2/2021)

Global Polio Eradication Initiative - polioeradication.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Call-To-Action-20201105.pdf

World Health Organization - [who.int/maternal_child_adolescent/news_events/news/2011/pneumonia/en/](https://www.who.int/maternal_child_adolescent/news_events/news/2011/pneumonia/en/)

Did You Know?

Nearly **one-third of deaths** among children under five are **preventable with vaccines**.

Vaccines for measles, pneumonia, and diarrheal disease **save millions of lives each year**.

Vaccines play a critical role in reaching UN Sustainable Development Goal 3: **reducing preventable childhood deaths**.

