A GIFT IN YOUR WILL TO CHANGE THE WORLD
BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE FOR EVERY CHILD
At UNICEF, we are united by one belief – that every child should have the chance to change the world. This belief unites us, drives us, and brings us together to make an astonishing impact for future generations.

I am immensely grateful that so many of our supporters share this belief and join us in ensuring every child has this opportunity, through including a gift to UNICEF in their Will.

A gift in your Will can help hydrate, vaccinate and educate millions of children all around the world, and give them the chance to thrive.

I hope this guide will show you what an incredible impact your generosity can have for children. Thank you so much for considering this special way of giving.
WHY LEAVE A GIFT IN YOUR WILL?

Help empower children for generations to come.

UNICEF is a powerful community of people united by the belief that every child should have the chance to change the world.

We have the experience, expertise and infrastructure to empower millions of children, but we are entirely reliant on donations from people who share this belief.

One of the most powerful ways you can join us is by leaving a gift in your Will. We’re grateful for every single gift we receive. No matter the size, we promise we will use it to bring the greatest impact for children.

Together, we can continue working to build a better future for every child.

UNICEF UK is funded entirely by voluntary donations. We receive no funding from the UN budget.
HOW TO LEAVE A GIFT IN YOUR WILL

After taking care of family and friends, including a gift in your Will to UNICEF is an incredible way to support the world’s children. There are two main ways to leave a gift to UNICEF in your will.

**Residuary gifts:** A residuary gift is a share of someone’s estate. This type of gift guarantees a fair distribution among all the people you want to benefit.

**Pecuniary gifts:** A pecuniary gift is a fixed sum of money. If you would like to protect the value of your gift from diminishing over the years, you could think about index linking the sum that you give to UNICEF.

We always encourage you to give a gift without restricting its usage, because we don’t know where our focus will be most needed when we receive your gift. Unrestricted gifts allow us to reach children who most need support – wherever they are.

Twelve-month-old Maya from Mali was suffering from severe acute malnutrition, but is on the mend thanks to therapeutic milk and medication supplied by UNICEF.
When making or updating your Will, we recommend you get professional advice from a solicitor. These tips will help with your preparation before seeing a Will-making professional.

1. **Think about your assets**
   Spend time listing the assets you own, their worth and whether you share ownership. You should also think about any debts, and estimate their value, as these will reduce your estate. Consider how and where information about your estate is kept so you can plan how to give secure access to this.

2. **Appoint roles in your Will**
   Your Executors are the people named in your Will who will look after your estate after your death. They can be family members and/or friends, professionals or even organisations (like a bank). Your Executors should be people you trust to look after everything and carry out your wishes in your Will. If choosing loved ones to be Executors, it is a good idea to discuss this with them, to make sure they are happy to be appointed.
**3 A gift in your Will to UNICEF**

After considering loved ones, you might also want to think about how your values can live on through supporting causes you care about. If you want to support children through UNICEF, you will need our address and charity number: **UNICEF UK, 1 Westfield Ave, Stratford, London, E20 1HZ.** Registered charity 1072612 (England & Wales) and SC043677 (Scotland).

**4 Make sure your Will is valid**

When you come to sign your Will, you will need to make sure there are two independent witnesses who can also sign the document and watch you sign. Make sure the witnesses are not beneficiaries of your estate as this will mean their gift becomes invalid.

**5 Have a think about your funeral**

We know it isn’t easy, but you may want to consider your wishes for your funeral. We can supply UNICEF donation collection envelopes for your funeral upon request.

For our free Will-writing service with Co-op Legal Services see page 12
UNICEF is the world’s leading organisation for children. We have been helping to create a better world for children for over 70 years.

Our work is based on The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, which sets out the rights to which all children are entitled.

Our impact is unparalleled: we work in more than 190 countries to ensure children are fed, vaccinated, educated and protected.

We have done more than anyone else in history to influence laws, policies and customs to help protect children.

We get things done. And we’re not going to stop until the world is a safe place for every child.
Bodoor, aged 17, has been living in Azraq Refugee Camp since she fled Syria for safety in Jordan five years ago. She’s studying astronomy at a UNICEF-supported school and hopes one day to go to university.

“I want my dreams to be real. My dream is to be an astronomer because I like space. And an astronaut too. I hope to discover new planets and new kinds of galaxies.

No one here has the same dream... If I get this dream, I would be the first woman from Syria to go to the moon.”

A gift to UNICEF in your Will can help more young people like Bodoor realise their dreams.
LIFE-CHANGING SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN

CLEAN WATER AND HYGIENE
For children to grow up healthy and happy, they need access to clean water, proper sanitation and good hygiene. By developing infrastructure and understanding, we’re working to improve water, sanitation and hygiene services around the world.

From 2018 to 2021, UNICEF helped more than 69 million people have clean drinking water.

EDUCATION
Every child has the right to a quality education – yet every day, 61 million children don’t attend primary school. We provide children with learning opportunities that prepare them with the knowledge and skills they need to thrive.

You can help us ensure more children learn the skills they need to reach their full potential.

VACCINES
Over the last 20 years, UNICEF has worked with governments and partners to vaccinate more than 2 billion children around the world – with vaccinations saving up to 3 million children’s lives every year.

UNICEF helps provide vaccines for almost half of the world’s children under five.

LIFE-SAVING FOOD
Since 1990, the percentage of undernourished children worldwide has almost halved. UNICEF provides 80 per cent of the world’s life-saving food. And in 2018, UNICEF treated more than 4 million children for severe acute malnutrition.

But 200 million children’s lives are still at risk because they are malnourished.

WE STILL HAVE MUCH WORK TO DO
UNICEF is pleased to offer our supporters* an exclusive opportunity to write or update your Will for free. We’ve partnered with award-winning Co-op Legal Services to make it easier for you to write your Will – in the comfort of your home, by phone and online.

HOW DOES IT WORK?
The process is simple. Just do one of the following steps to get started:

1. Start your Will online at unicef.uk/freewill
2. Arrange a call back from a dedicated Wills specialist via unicef.uk/freewill
3. Speak to a Wills specialist at our dedicated UNICEF helpline immediately on 0330 606 1012.

Many people have found our free Will service incredibly easy to follow. Gemma Kinneir is a mother of twins and lives with her husband in London. They had been meaning to make a Will for some time but, like many others with busy lives, they found it hard to find the time. UNICEF’s free Will writing offer provided a great opportunity to get it done.

“Since having children I have been putting off making my Will as I didn’t really understand what it would involve. This service was so easy – completely free, confidential and all done over the phone. It is great to have a weight off my mind knowing that my family will be looked after, and no one will have to worry about this on my behalf.”

* The offer is only valid for those aged 18 or over living permanently in England or Wales.
Adolescent girls in the village of Yakoua, Chad, after attending a UNICEF-supported community session raising awareness of child survival-related issues. More women in the area now go for regular health check-ups during pregnancy and for follow-ups after giving birth.
Susan is a passionate supporter of UNICEF and has made the very special decision to leave us a gift in her Will.

“I have been supporting UNICEF for over 40 years, since 1978. You can tell that they are an excellent organisation, they are good stewards of money.

They will always tell you exactly what they are spending the money on, so that encouraged me to leave a gift in my Will. I know that many children will benefit from my legacy.”

Hear more from people who are leaving a gift in their Will to UNICEF at unicef.org.uk/legacy-guide
From selling cakes at her local market to leaving a gift to UNICEF in her Will – Pat Thorn’s support for UNICEF is part of everything she does.

Pat Thorn and her late husband Frank have supported UNICEF for more than 30 years. From Kenya and India where they saw our work in action, to travelling around Britain teaching school children about UNICEF – together they were dedicated to helping children.

They decided to take their commitment one step further. “It was a simple decision for us to put UNICEF in our Wills,” says Pat. “You support whatever organisation you think will make the biggest change in the world.”

You can help build a better future for children, just like Pat and Frank.
Four-year-old Ajwa from Lahore, Pakistan, shows off the ink mark on her little finger, which confirms that she has received a polio vaccine. UNICEF helps vaccinate over 400 million children globally against polio every year.

1 IN 2
UNICEF PROVIDES VACCINES FOR ALMOST HALF THE WORLD’S CHILDREN UNDER 5
Leaving a gift in your Will is a special and personal decision. That’s why we make these promises to you:

- We believe that your family and friends come first, and promise to treat you and your family with courtesy, compassion and respect.

- We will always be happy to answer any questions, explain UNICEF’s work in more detail, and tell you where you can find further information about how your gift will make a difference to children’s lives.

- We will use your gift wisely and cost-effectively so that it has the greatest impact for children. We exist to represent and support children.

- You can change your mind about leaving a gift in your Will at any time, and we will respect your decision.

- Any personal information that you choose to give us will be handled securely and confidentially. We will always respect your privacy – you choose the frequency and ways we can contact you.

- Once you leave a gift in your Will, you will join a powerful community of people working tirelessly for every child. We will update you on our work through monthly emails and events with other supporters.

- We will ensure our work continues to empower children for generations to come.
What happens if I don’t have a Will?
If you pass away without making a Will, you will be classed as dying ‘intestate’ and this could result in your estate not going where you would have wished. If you have no family members to inherit, the entire estate will pass to the Crown.

How can I find a solicitor near me to make a Will?
We recommend you consult a solicitor when writing your Will. Just visit the Law Society website at lawsociety.org.uk for a list of legal professionals in your area.

What happens if I change my mind?
You are free to change your mind about leaving a gift in your Will to UNICEF at any time, and we completely understand that this is a personal decision. If you have told us you are intending to leave us a gift, it would be helpful to let us know if that changes.

Any more questions?
If you would like to find out more, Wills and Trusts solicitor Aarti Gupta has answered a few more questions on our website: Unicef.org.uk/legacy-guide
In Cucuta, Colombia, Venezuelan refugee Judith drinks clean water from a tap installed with UNICEF’s support. UNICEF is supplying safe water to support Venezuelan refugees. Over 3.7 million Venezuelan migrants and refugees are living in Latin America and the Caribbean.
If you have questions about leaving a gift in your Will, please get in touch with our Gifts in Wills team on 020 7375 6131 or at giftsinwills@unicef.org.uk

You can also find more information about gifts in Wills on our website at UNICEF.ORG.UK/LEGACY-GUIDE

Thank you for considering this special way of giving.