BFP Unicef Committee Information Page

The Unicef Committee started in 2004 as a brainchild of Jane Friedson and Cheryl Pyrch. Our core mission has not changed during the past 17 years. It is to put a spotlight on the link between child welfare and peace. Every society that is working hard to improve the health, education, safety, housing and nutrition for all children is already on a pathway towards peace! It cannot be otherwise.

Why UNICEF?

UNICEF is an agency of the United Nations. Its mission is to provide humanitarian and developmental aid worldwide. They have a presence in 192 nations. Its 2021 budget is over $7 billion; which is a lot of money, but it falls far short of what is needed. The governments of the world do not provide the resources for it to do all of the work that's needed. So, we the people of the world need to give UNICEF more money.

Jim Grant was the executive director of UNICEF for 15 years from 1980 to 1995. He radically changed UNICEF. UNICEF is an acronym for United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund. The agency was conceived as way to bring in relief when there was an earthquake, hurricane, tidal wave or other natural disaster. Mr. Grant was a public health scientist. He knew that there were 100,000's of children dying every day from causes that could be fixed for less than $5. UNICEF needed to address the health of children everywhere, all of the time. UNICEF was re-named the United Nations Children's Fund. The solutions were local. 100,000's of nurses were trained and hired to monitor and bring medical aid to young children in cities and villages throughout the world. Mr. Grant's plan worked. Here is what the New York Times columnist Nicholas Kristof wrote about Mr. Grant, "…a little-known American aid worker", had "probably saved more lives than were destroyed by Hitler, Mao and Stalin combined" through his promotion of vaccinations and diarrhea treatments.