
The Weekly Pulse

NEWS FROM ORGANIZATIONS AND COALITIONS IN GLOBAL CHILD ADVOCACY



Vol. 159: GCE-US Call to Action, World Children's Day, & World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Violence

November 20, 2023

Call to Action

The Global Campaign for Education-US is asking for CEOs, executive directors, heads of organizations, or senior staff to [add](#) their organization to the FY25 [letter](#) advocating for International Basic Education Funding. The letter serves as an urgent appeal to President Biden and the U.S. Government, asking them to prioritize international basic education funding in his Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 budget request. The GCE-US appeal is specifically directed towards CEOs, executive directors, heads of organizations, or senior staff, encouraging them to add their organizational and leader's information via the provided form to sign-on and endorse this crucial [letter](#). The deadline for signing the letter is Monday at 10 am ET. To add your organization, please fill out the form [here](#).

Quick Summary

The USAID Protecting Children and Youth from Digital Harm Symposium is accepting session [proposals](#) until November 24, 2023. With the increasing impact of digital technologies on the lives of children and youth worldwide, the symposium aims to address the risks associated with online and offline exposure. Scheduled for February 6, 2024, in celebration of Safer Internet Day, the event emphasizes the inclusion of children and youth in its planning and implementation, welcoming session proposals from diverse stakeholders. The symposium aligns with USAID's inclusive development principles, acknowledging and incorporating the varied identities of young people, including those from marginalized groups. Session proposals are sought on topics such as emerging technologies, intervention program design and evaluation, research and evidence, and advocacy, policy, and regulation. Each category poses relevant questions to guide potential contributors. The planning team encourages interested parties, including youth leaders, civil society representatives, technology companies, researchers, and policymakers actively engaged in promoting the safe use of digital tools among children and youth, to submit their session proposals via the link [here](#). To learn more about this symposium, click [here](#)

The 2nd World [Day](#) for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Violence was on November 18th. This designation marked a significant global effort to raise awareness about the prevalence of sexual violence against children and to mobilize action for prevention, healing, and justice for survivors. In preparation for that important day, individuals joined Together for Girls and the Brave Movement to amplify their voices. In the recent article by [Dr. Daniela Ligiero](#), CEO and President of Together for Girls, underscored that safeguarding children is fundamental for their development, emphasizing the societal cost when this safety is compromised. The article delves into the impact of a lack of safety on children's learning abilities and educational outcomes, with a particular focus on the prevalence of school-related violence affecting millions of children globally each year. The piece emphasizes the need for comprehensive data on school-related violence, especially sexual violence, and highlights the estimated cost of this violence in terms of lost future lifetime earnings. To learn more and read the article, click [here](#).

In the latest [edition](#) of "Readers Critique the Post", Leila Nimatallah, Vice President of Advocacy and Mobilization at First Focus on Children, highlights a crucial issue omitted in the Oct. 27 Politics & the Nation [article](#), titled "GOP delays more than \$1 billion in HIV program funding." The concern raised pertains to the potential threat to the 7.2 million orphans and vulnerable children benefiting from the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). She underscores the successful bipartisan efforts of PEPFAR over the past 20 years, specifically directing 10

percent of funding to protect and nurture children affected by HIV. However, the 10 percent set-aside for this purpose expired on Oct. 1. The letter emphasizes the ongoing need to support approximately 14 million children orphaned by AIDS and calls for a clean, five-year reauthorization of PEPFAR to ensure continued assistance at current levels. Additionally, she advocates for prioritizing children in public policy and budget decisions, pointing out the disparity between the significant percentage of children and the allocated budget. To read this article, click [here](#).

Spotlight

November 20th is World Children's Day, which is a powerful day marking the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Emphasizing that children's rights are human rights, this day serves as a reminder that in many places, these rights are unfortunately under attack. The focus of World Children's Day is on creating a space for children and young people to voice their concerns and opinions on issues that matter to them. By prioritizing children's rights and participation, the goal is to contribute to building a better future for all. **To echo the needs of children, the Children's Policy and Funding Initiative [published](#) a video describing the need for a whole child approach**, which looks to address the multifaceted challenges faced by children worldwide. The short video illustrates the myriad needs of children and emphasizes that the key to creating a brighter future for children and youth globally is to take a holistic approach to addressing their challenges. It underscored that a healthy child can grow and a safe child can learn, but only with a comprehensive approach can they truly thrive. **Everyone is encouraged to publicize, use, and share the video widely using the social media toolkit [here](#).** To watch the video, click [here](#).



Children's Policy & Funding Initiative, 2023. *Whole Child*.

<https://vimeo.com/873888044/6bbb401d7e>

Events

- International Disability Alliance [webinar](#) “**Assistive Technology Survey 2023 Launch.**” November 20, 2023, at 4 am ET.
- USAID & Center for Global Development [hybrid event](#) “**Phonics and Foreign Aid: Can America Teach the World to Read?**” November 20, 2023 at 9:30 am ET.
- WHO, UNICEF, PMNCH & UNFPA [virtual event](#) “**Climate change across the life course: Evidence to Action. Launch of a joint statement by WHO-UNICEF-UNFPA and advocacy brief by PMNCH and partners.**” November 21, 2023, at 7 am ET.
- Alliance for Peacebuilding & Kyiv Social Recovery [event](#) “**Kyiv Social Recovery Conference.**” November 22, 2023, from 2 - 10 am ET.
- International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children (ICMEC) [webinar](#) “**Combat Online Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation in Greece.**” November 28, 2023, at 5 am ET.
- Global Campaign for Education-US (GCE-US) [virtual event](#) “**November 2023 Coalition Meeting.**” November 30, 2023, at 2pm ET.

Reports, Articles & Resources

- GCE-US [kudoboard](#) “**Happy 20th Anniversary, GCE-US!**”
- World Bank Group and Solutions for Youth Employment [report](#) “**What Works: Business Incubators for Rural Youth.**”
- USAID YouthPower2 [blog post](#) “**A Missing Piece of the Puzzle in Girls’ Education.**”
- World Vision policy [paper](#) “**Children in Crisis: Global Snapshot and Policy Recommendations.**”
- European Peacebuilding Liaison Office Civil Society Dialogue Network (CSDN) [discussion paper](#) “**‘Peace’ in the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus: Good Practices and Recommendations.**”



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