VACCINES SAVE LIVES

MEASLES

- A safe and effective measles vaccine that can prevent suffering and death has been available for more than 50 years.
- Measles kills almost 90,000 people each year and is a leading cause of death in children under age 5.
- Measles causes a rash and fever, but complications may also include ear infections, diarrhea, pneumonia, and encephalitis, which can cause permanent brain damage.
- Children who are malnourished, very young, or have little or no access to medical care are at greatest risk of dying from measles.
- Measles is one of the most contagious viruses on earth; one measles infected person can give the virus to 18 others.
- 90% of unvaccinated people exposed to the virus become infected.
- Overcrowded places, such as refugee or displaced person camps, are ripe to spread measles and cause outbreaks.
- Measles infections take an economic toll on a family.

A family can lose a month’s income caring for a child who is sick with measles.

RUBELLA (German Measles)

- Rubella causes mild symptoms of a rash or fever in most people, but it’s a leading cause of birth defects if a woman contracts the virus during pregnancy.
- Women infected during their first trimester of pregnancy have up to a 90% chance of delivering an infant with congenital rubella syndrome (CRS).
- More than 100,000 babies are born with CRS every year.

Infants born with CRS can have multiple birth defects, including heart disorders, blindness, deafness, or brain damage.

2018

Measles kills 246 children each day

Each year measles infects 7 million people

The Measles & Rubella Initiative is a global partnership committed to ensuring no child dies from measles or is born with congenital rubella syndrome.

2001

2 billion children vaccinated since M&RI began
A MEASLES AND RUBELLA FREE WORLD IS POSSIBLE!

- The western hemisphere eliminated measles in 2002 and rubella in 2009.
- In 2016, measles deaths fell to fewer than 100,000 for the first time.
- The Measles & Rubella Initiative’s partner organizations—American Red Cross, US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, UN Foundation, UNICEF, and WHO—work closely with countries and stakeholders like Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, to rid the world of measles and rubella by:
  - vaccinating every child against measles and rubella with two doses of vaccine,
  - ensuring every child is vaccinated on time, and
  - detecting and responding to measles and rubella outbreaks quickly.

Measles deaths fell by 84% between 2000 and 2016.

Vaccinating against measles and rubella provides huge rewards: Every $1 invested in vaccines yields a $58 return!

A world without measles and rubella needs political commitment by every country to ensure high-quality vaccines reach every child.

Measles vaccinations saved 20.4 million lives between 2000 and 2016.

Less than $2 to vaccinate a child against measles and rubella

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