

CONTACT:

Helena Finnegan
Mary's Meals USA Communications Manager
helena.finnegan@marysmeals.org
239-290-7788

Mary's Meals: Global Food Insecurity Focus Critical As Hunger Crisis Worsens

Bloomfield, N.J. – August 1, 2023 – For 21 years, Mary's Meals has provided meals to children where they learn. As a front-line school-feeding charity in 18 countries, our organization has witnessed first-hand the effects of food insecurity – especially that caused by conflict – which can lead to malnutrition, acute hunger and, in the worst cases, famine. Working in countries from Ethiopia and South Sudan to Haiti, Syria and Yemen, Mary's Meals knows that hunger is devastating and destabilizing.

We are encouraged that this month's US-led United Nations (U.N.) Security Council will prioritize global food security, as indicated by Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield, the United States (U.S.) representative to the U.N. and the U.S. representative in the Security Council of the U.N. A rigorous focus on food security during this protracted global hunger crisis is urgently warranted and is wholeheartedly supported by Mary's Meals.

Without a renewed Black Sea Grain Initiative, millions of people will be severely impacted by a lack of foodstuffs and grain shipments. This situation is compounding the plight of the 345 million people around the world who face acute food insecurity exacerbated by high food costs, natural disasters, and conflicts.

This month's U.N. Security Council emphasis on food security is imperative to the creation of life-saving solutions in a worsening hunger crisis, in which feeding needs far outpace current donations and funding.

— END —

About Mary's Meals

Now in its 21st year, [Mary's Meals](#) is a global movement that sets up school-feeding programs in some of the world's most vulnerable communities, where conflict, poverty and hunger often prevent children from gaining an education. Mary's Meals works with in-country volunteers to provide one daily nutritious meal in a place of learning to attract children into the classroom to receive an education. This simple solution to help end world hunger also enables children to lift themselves from the cycle of hunger and poverty.

Mary's Meals began by feeding 200 children in Malawi in 2002. Today, the organization feeds 2,429,182 hungry children every school day in 5,084 schools across five continents in the following countries: Benin, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Haiti, India, Kenya, Lebanon, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Myanmar, Niger, South Sudan, Syria, Thailand, Yemen, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. Mary's Meals collaborates with the U.N. World Food Program, partners with USAID in Liberia and is part of the global School Meals Coalition, an emerging initiative of governments and partners to drive actions that can urgently re-establish, improve, and scale up food and education systems. For more information about Mary's Meals, visit marysmealsusa.org.

Follow Mary's Meals USA on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), or [Twitter](#).