

September-October 2024 Action Sheet, Global Poverty

Write your local paper about global nutrition and global poverty

We keep seeing global headlines about families grappling for survival. Each year, almost 5 million children will die before their fifth birthday. Malnutrition is the underlying cause of almost half of those deaths.

Proper nutrition can make or break a child's chance at surviving illness and other harms of dire poverty. Now, world leaders are gearing up to make pledges to a key global partnership. Nutrition for Growth (N4G) helps increase access to nutritious food for children. The U.S. must lead this charge. If we do, other countries may follow suit with bold commitments at the N4G summit next spring.

The world is getting better at providing a healthier start to life for all children. Global child deaths have decreased by more than half since 1990. This is due to longstanding support and partnerships. But millions of children still die from preventable or treatable causes. We must not give up the work.

To that end, we must address not only global malnutrition, but also other scourges of poverty.

We must offer a bold pledge at the Nutrition for Growth summit in March 2025.

We must also pass the End Tuberculosis Now Act (H.R.1776) in the House. This bicameral, bipartisan legislation recently passed in the Senate. It directs the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to set bold targets to reach and treat the most vulnerable populations for all forms of tuberculosis. The bill also addresses the impact COVID-19 has had on global tuberculosis control efforts.

We must pass the READ Act Reauthorization Act of 2023 (H.R. 681) in the House. The READ Act Reauthorization Act of 2023 would continue current U.S. efforts to ensure equal access to quality education for children throughout the world. The matching Senate bill has already passed with bipartisan support.

And we must support two bipartisan resolutions supporting Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (H.Res.1286 / S.Res.684). This set of resolutions is a great opportunity to show strong U.S. support ahead of the Gavi replenishment in 2025. The resolutions emphasize the importance of a multi-year commitment to Gavi. They encourage increased funding for

the next five years to ensure access to lifesaving vaccines. They ultimately work towards ending preventable child and maternal deaths.

Remember that, during election season, candidates are eager to listen to constituents. Voters will go to the polls soon to decide candidates' fate during the elections. Many candidates hold townhalls (in-person and virtual). At these events, the candidates meet with groups to connect with voters. This is an excellent moment to be powerful as an anti-poverty advocate. At townhalls, you can make meeting requests and educate the public on our issues. And your media successes can underpin these townhall conversations.

Sample Letter to the media in EPIC Format

Consider organizing a group to write letters to the editor. Invite RESULTS group members, Action Network members, and others who care about these issues. Encourage them to write and submit their own letters. You can find a [sample meeting agenda here](#).

Subject: The Biden Administration must support a strong, early pledge to Nutrition for Growth

Engage: Headlines on child survival in places like Gaza and Ukraine have gotten increasingly more alarming.

State Problem: We now know that almost 5 million children worldwide will likely die before age 5. Violent conflict and disease help drive this grim statistic, but malnourishment is the underlying cause for half of these deaths.

Inform: Proper nutrition can help children survive illness and the other harms of dire poverty. Nutrition for Growth (N4G) is a global partnership that channels needed resources toward proven nutrition programs. This funding opportunity only comes up every four years in conjunction with the Olympics and will happen in 2025.

Call to action: I urge the Biden Administration to make a bold pledge to N4G as soon as possible. This alone will save lives. It will also send a strong signal to other world leaders to follow our lead. The world must prioritize nutrition and child survival.