Our Mission

UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, is delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every birth is safe, and every young person’s potential is fulfilled. Friends of UNFPA (formerly Americans for UNFPA), is a non-profit organization that advances this global effort by mobilizing funds and actions for UNFPA’s lifesaving work.
Dear Friends,

Sexual and reproductive health is not only crucial to the health and dignity of women, but is indispensable in building sustainable, thriving communities. When women and mothers are empowered with healthcare, choice, and opportunity; families are stronger, children's futures are brighter, and communities can prosper.

UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, works in over 150 countries with a unique and crucial focus on women’s and girls’ sexual and reproductive health and rights, driving enduring change in both local communities and on the international stage. And this hard work is paying off. As you will find in the following pages, more women are surviving childbirth than ever before, more countries are able to increase their capacities for providing reproductive health supplies and services, more couples are gaining access to voluntary family planning, and more young people are being given the chance to realize their full potential.

Fueled by passionate and courageous supporters, UNFPA programs are able to reach women in even the most rural or volatile regions. UNFPA has been the lead UN agency focusing specifically on the needs of pregnant women affected by violence in Syria. Reaching women within the country and in refugee camps in neighboring countries, UNFPA is ensuring that women can protect their health and rights and mothers can have a clean and safe delivery even in times of crisis.

By empowering women around the world with health, rights and opportunity, UNFPA is investing in the well-being of women and the growth and progress of communities. In 2012, UNFPA co-hosted the London Summit on Family Planning, alongside the United Kingdom Government and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, in an effort to revitalize global support for family planning. The event garnered the funds needed to give 120 million more women access to family planning by 2020.

All this substantial progress could not be achieved without the dedication of change-makers and women’s rights champions both near and far. Friends of UNFPA has worked diligently to advance these global efforts by garnering much needed support and funds from our dedicated supporter base in the United States. Without this support, we could not achieve such great results.

But there is still much to do. Millions of women around the world are still facing challenges to their health, rights and dignity. With your continued support, UNFPA will lead the fight to prevent unnecessary and preventable childbirth deaths and injuries, to promote education and access to voluntary family planning, to protect girls from harmful traditional practices like child marriage, and to encourage young people’s participation in health and development efforts across the globe.

Together, our work can transform the lives of women and girls around the world, laying the foundation upon which healthy communities can grow. I thank you for your unwavering commitment to this cause.

Warmest Regards,

Wendy Cai-Lee
Chair of the Board
“It pays to invest in women’s reproductive health, rights and education, not just in order to lower maternal death and disability, but also for the ultimate general economic progress for families, communities, nations—and individual women themselves.”

― Dr. Babatunde Osotimehin, Executive Director, UNFPA

In the quest to advance sexual and reproductive health, the last 20 years have seen significant progress, achieving a global maternal mortality rate reduction of nearly 50 percent. While this is a great milestone to celebrate, we cannot stop here. Women are still at risk – preventable childbirth injuries and deaths continue to devastate the lives of mothers and families around the world.

Every two minutes, a woman dies of preventable or treatable pregnancy-related complications, with 99 percent of these fatalities occurring in developing countries. UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, strives to ensure that no mother dies or is injured while giving birth, even in some of the most remote or volatile areas.

In rural Egypt, limited access to maternal healthcare is compounded by the political conflicts of the Arab Spring. In 2012, in the wake of this turmoil, rural areas of the country faced devastating shortages of midwives, who are crucial in making motherhood safer for women in their communities.

To combat these challenges, UNFPA worked to strengthen programs that trained birth attendants in these regions. One of these trained professionals, Ibtisam El-Khouli, has become a guardian angel for safe pregnancy and birth in her community, where maternal mortality used to be a frequent tragedy because of limited access to quality services and midwives.

She drives a motorized tuk-tuk to travel between remote communities to reach her clients, providing ante- and post-natal care. She is also constantly called upon to answer medical questions or to provide urgent help. Ibtisam was one of 550 participants in a UNFPA supported training program through the Ministry of Health and Population in 2012.

“The main thing is to keep a close eye on the women during pregnancy, and assisting those who face obstacles,” says Ibtisam. Looking at the future of the training program and of maternal health in Egypt, Ibtisam says, “My hope is that my colleagues will follow my footsteps and together we can reduce maternal mortality in Egypt.”

UNFPA and partner UN organizations supported 49 countries’ efforts to reduce child deaths by two-thirds, and to reduce maternal deaths by three-fourths.

UNFPA helped 33 countries strengthen their midwifery workforces.

With UNFPA support, 47 countries increased their capacities for financing or providing reproductive health supplies and services.
Meeting the Need for Family Planning

Family planning is a basic human right that unlocks unprecedented rewards for women in terms of health, economic power, and gender equality. Beyond empowering women, providing resources for voluntary family planning is crucial in building thriving communities.

A study published by UNFPA and the Guttmacher Institute in July 2012 found that while in general the number of women in developing countries who do not have access to family planning has decreased from 226 million to 222 million, the number of women in the poorest countries who want to avoid pregnancy but do not have access to modern contraception has actually increased from 153 million to 162 million from 2008-2012.

The results of meeting this unmet need for access to family planning would be staggering – there would be a two thirds reduction in unintended pregnancies worldwide, an estimated 26 million fewer abortions, about 7 million fewer miscarriages, a 79,000 reduction in the number of pregnancy related deaths, and an estimated 1.1 million fewer infant deaths.

As a key tool in advancing family planning, UNFPA works to educate the entire community on women’s rights and reproductive health. A common reason women do not use modern contraceptives is opposition from their partners. By involving men in the conversation and encouraging them to participate in reproductive healthcare and family planning, UNFPA is fostering open dialogue and building the sturdy foundation on which women and girls, and entire communities, can be lifted.

Jean-Baptiste Sawadogo, a 36-year-old farmer reflects the changing attitudes of the rural community of Sablogo in Burkina Faso. Through the clinic’s educational outreach initiatives, he has learned of the benefits of birth spacing and he is now an active participant with his wife in their own family planning as they look toward the future.

“I personally make sure she does not forget to take the pill on a daily basis. Our second daughter will not have a younger brother until the time when she is able to say to me, ‘Daddy, get me a toy from the market,’” says Jean-Baptiste Sawadogo.

These initiatives strengthen partnerships between husbands and wives, empower women with choices, and raise communities through education and information. Family planning allows women and their children to live healthier, longer lives, and has a positive multiplier effect on development.

2012 Highlights

Through the Global Programme to Enhance Reproductive Health Commodity Security, UNFPA provided 86 million “couple years” of contraceptives in developing countries between 2008 and 2012.

UNFPA procured 20 million female condoms and 690 million male condoms.

UNFPA helped 54 countries integrate sexual and reproductive health services, including family planning, into national health policies and plans.
Increasing Young People’s Access to Health Services and Education

“There are an estimated 1.8 billion young people in the world today. This is the largest youth cohort of people aged 10 to 24 in human history. Providing services and education on sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights to this group is crucial in advancing the health of the generation and to the development of their communities.

Marking the first ever International Day of the Girl Child in October of 2012, UNFPA strengthened its commitment and investment in the world’s youth. UNFPA works to prevent adolescent pregnancy through education and access to voluntary family planning, to protect girls from harmful traditional practices such as female genital mutilation/cutting and child marriage, and to encourage young people’s participation in health and development efforts across the globe.

To facilitate youth empowerment and education around the world, UNFPA initiated a peer education network called Y-PEER. Almazbek Suiunbekov, a young boy living in the outskirts of Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, transformed his life from a child worker to a youth activist, and is now a volunteer at the Y-PEER network in his region, encouraging others to follow their dreams.

“I had no resources, no means, no self esteem. I didn’t believe in dreams,” Almazbek recalls of his life working in the markets to support his mother. However, with help from the non-governmental Centre for Protection of Children, Almazbek received food, clothes, and money for school materials, and was able to go back to school. Today, 22-year-old Almazbek is enrolled in a program to prepare him for studies in software engineering and now has “dreams about the future.” Almazbek continues to mentor young people through Y-PEER and is a role model for youth in his community.

With an historic number of youth in the world today, the importance of providing support, services and education cannot be understated. Investing in youth will not only ensure them a healthy future with bright possibilities, but will produce a productive new generation of leaders, like Almazbek.

2012 Highlights

UNFPA celebrated the first ever International Day of the Girl Child on October 11, 2012. In honor of the day, UNFPA pledged to invest an additional $20 million over the next five years to reach the most marginalized adolescent girls in 12 countries with high rates of child marriage.

Working with The Population Council and in collaboration with local governments and communities, UNFPA reached out to thousands of vulnerable girls in poor and under-served communities to provide them with safe and supportive networks to advance their education and life skills.

— Wendy Cai-Lee, Chair of the Board, Friends of UNFPA

“To build a sustainable future, we must act urgently to protect and fulfill the human rights of all young people. This includes their rights to sexual and reproductive health services and education.”

Photo: UNFPA/Almazbek Suiunbekov
Humanitarian Assistance

In 2012, UNFPA implemented 70 lifesaving programs in 39 countries affected by humanitarian emergencies. In Syria, nearly one million women of reproductive age and approximately 200,000 pregnant women were affected. As the conflict expanded and more people fled, UNFPA provided a unique and critical focus on women’s needs. To ensure that pregnant women in crisis could have safe deliveries, UNFPA established an innovative voucher system that allowed over 4,600 women to obtain maternal health and obstetric services free of cost. Additionally, UNFPA provided 40,000 dignity kits filled with essential hygiene items for women and girls in Syrian refugee camps.

In September of 2012, UNFPA launched a “Safe birth. Even here.” campaign to increase awareness about the life or death difference emergency medical supplies and intervention can make during a time of crisis. The campaign also shares the encouraging stories of women who gave birth safely in rural and remote regions of the world affected by humanitarian crisis, including refugee camps.

Preventing Child Marriage

Child marriage can deprive a young girl of many of her basic human rights. When a girl marries at a young age, the results can be devastating. Early marriage denies a girl her childhood, disrupts or often discontinues her education, increases her exposure to violence and abuse, endangers her reproductive health, and robs her of the opportunity to decide her own future.

According to Marrying Too Young: End Child Marriage, a report published by UNFPA in October 2012, there are currently 67 million girls who were married before the age of 18. UNFPA predicts that if this trend continues, by 2020 an estimated 142 million girls will have been married by their 18th birthday. Despite the fact that several countries have laws prohibiting marriage before the age of 18, girls are still at high risk. The report calls on governments to improve enforcement of laws that prohibit child marriage, to use data to identify specific hotspots where a high number of girls are at risk, and to expand programs that empower girls and fight the underlying causes of child marriage.

In honor of the first ever International Day of the Girl Child in October 2012, UNFPA pledged an additional $20 million over the next 5 years to reach the most marginalized adolescent girls in 12 countries with high rates of child marriage.
Friends of UNFPA is Inspiring Change in Support of UNFPA’s Mission

With the support of dedicated individuals like you – our donors, advocates and partners – Friends of UNFPA works to promote and advance the health, rights and dignity of women and girls everywhere. Together, we lead the way for enduring change within communities near and far, positively impacting the lives of women around the globe. Here are some successes from 2012 that your support has made possible.

Public Affairs and Public Education

Friends of UNFPA generates awareness of UNFPA programs and drives U.S. support for UNFPA campaigns. Through letter writing, petition campaigns, traditional media, online outreach, and educational events, Friends of UNFPA engages U.S. audiences with UNFPA’s global mission and mobilizes action and funds for the cause.

As part of ongoing educational initiatives, Friends of UNFPA brought two International Award honorees to Capitol Hill to discuss from firsthand experience the issues of midwifery and child marriage in developing countries. Additionally, Friends of UNFPA connected members of Congress with women’s rights experts and advocates throughout the country on subjects ranging from reproductive rights to female genital mutilation/cutting.

Ahead of the November 2012 elections, Friends of UNFPA rallied supporters to urge President Obama to continue strong support for UNFPA. Thanks in part to these efforts, the President’s budget request for FY2014 included $37 million in funding for UNFPA, a $2 million increase over previously enacted levels.

Resource Mobilization

Friends of UNFPA has mobilized support for critical campaigns by building partnerships with various crowdfunding platforms. By leveraging these previously untapped online audiences, Friends of UNFPA is driving more funds to specific country programs that support women’s sexual and reproductive health and rights. Projects across the platforms address issues that range from gender-based violence, to child marriage to emergency response needs and care. One such project continues to successfully raise funds to send women clean birthing kits in times of crisis. These lifesaving kits help pregnant women in conflict zones who are unable to get to a health facility have a healthy and safe delivery.

In October of 2012, Friends of UNFPA organized the Ghana Leadership Delegation. Highlights of the delegation included meeting with government ministers and ambassadors and visiting project sites such as the Tamale Fistula Center, to meet women and children who are impacted by the work of UNFPA.
Around the World, UNFPA’s Friends are Helping Women and Girls

Every year, Friends of UNFPA honors individuals who have made exemplary contributions to women’s health and rights with our International Awards for the Health and Dignity of Women and Girls.

Muhammad Shahzad  Recipient of the 2012 Award for the Health and Dignity of Women and Girls

Child marriage is devastating the lives of girls throughout the world. Muhammad Shahzad knows this injustice first hand, and took a stand against tradition and social norms to change this harmful practice. At only 12 years old, Muhammad Shahzad went on a hunger strike to protest the arranged marriage of his 15-year-old sister to a 50-year-old landlord. After three days, his father relented and called off the wedding. However, due to the boycott, the family was forced to leave their village in the Southern Punjab region of Pakistan.

After sharing his story, Muhammad realized that many others shared his concern and devoted himself to ending child marriage. In 2006, he founded the Chanan Development Association (CDA) to inspire young people, especially young girls, to stand up for their rights. In 2009, CDA received support from UNFPA to establish the Pakistan branch of UNFPA’s Youth Peer Education Network (Y-PEER). Under Muhammad’s leadership, Y-PEER has become one of the country’s leading youth networks, with 100 youth-led or -focused member organizations from 65 districts that have directly reached 20,000 peer educators, 60 percent of whom are girls.

“At first, no one was ready to listen. We had to show that young people could be responsible for development and change in our country. Receiving a grant from UNFPA was an indicator for us that we’re equal partners in both.”

Magdalene Juliet Acquah  Recipient of the 2012 Award for the Health and Dignity of Women and Girls

Magdalene Juliet Acquah, a midwife in her community, is passionate about medicine and healing. All her life, she wanted to care for babies and their mothers. When she began her work, she observed that women preferred to deliver in a squatting or sitting position, instead of lying down as prescribed in hospitals. Using her own funds and assistance from a carpenter, she designed a birthing stool. She received support from UNFPA to share her innovation with midwives across Ghana. The Ghana Health Service has since approved its replication to be used throughout the country.

By listening to the voices of women, Magdalene has become an advocate for maternal health in her community. With the support of UNFPA, she serves as the lead facilitator of the regional training team and has trained midwives to handle obstetric emergencies in the health centers in rural communities. With over 34 years of experience in midwifery, she is now a Principal Midwife Officer at the Cape Coast Metropolitan Hospital in Ghana.

“The exposure provided by UNFPA enhanced my view of the greater maternal health picture and my ability to analyze the situation as well as the opportunity to develop the birthing stool.”
2012 Financial Highlights

**UNFPA**
2012 Total Income: $981 million

UNFPA Assistance by Geographic Region

- Africa (Sub-Saharan) (41%)
- Asia & the Pacific (26%)
- Arab States (8%)
- Latin America & the Caribbean (10%)
- Eastern Europe & Central Asia (5%)
- Global and Other Programs (10%)

**Friends of UNFPA**
2012 Total Income: $3.7 million

- Associations (27.9%)
- Corporate (28.7%)
- Special Events (17.1%)
- Foundations (2.7%)
- Individuals (19.4%)

2012 Total Expenses: $3.5 million

- Program (including grants) (63%)
- Administration (15%)
- Fundraising (22%)
Statement of Activities
For the year ended December 31, 2012 (with summarized financial information for the year ended December 31, 2011)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Support &amp; Revenue</strong></td>
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<td>Foundation Grants</td>
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<td>Contributions</td>
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<td>Special Events</td>
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<td>In-Kind Contributions</td>
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<td>Other Income</td>
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<td><strong>Total Support &amp; Revenue</strong></td>
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<td><strong>4,299,143</strong></td>
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|                      |         |          |
| **Expenses & Grants**|         |          |
| Program Services & Grants | 2,224,974 | 3,398,359 |
| Management & General | 519,866  | 422,397  |
| Fundraising          | 635,816  | 440,413  |
| Direct Cost of Special Events | 143,634  | 183,302  |
| **Total Expenses & Grants**| **3,524,290** | **4,444,471** |

|                      |         |          |
| **Change in Net Assets**| **130,109** | **(145,328)** |
| Net assets - beginning of year | 2,058,523 | 2,203,851 |
| Net assets - end of year    | 2,188,632 | 2,058,523 |

Note 1:
Friends of UNFPA acts as an advocate for the health and dignity of women and girls. One of our functions includes updating both the U.S. Administration and Congress about the importance of voluntary contributions made to UNFPA by the U.S. Government. Friends of UNFPA’s efforts in this regard helped secure a contribution of $35 million to UNFPA for FY 2012. This funding is provided directly to UNFPA and is not reflected as revenue in the summary of Friends of UNFPA’s Statement of Activities. Related expenses are included in total program services.

Note 2:
The above information represents a summarized view of Friends of UNFPA’s financial statements. For the complete audited financial statements, including the auditor’s report and related notes, please go to: www.friendsofunfpa.org/financials.
Get Involved – Women and Girls are Depending on You!

Together we can inspire change and deliver a world where all women and young people have a life of health and equal opportunity. Here are some ways that you can get involved.

• **Join the conversation** – Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest and sign up to receive our newsletter, invitations to events, action alerts and updates.

• **Spread the word** – Host a film screening in your workplace, or a salon at your home, to help raise awareness of the importance of empowering and safeguarding the sexual and reproductive health for all.

• **Advocate for UNFPA** – Meet, write or call your members of Congress and let them know why U.S. support for UNFPA matters to you. Ask them to commit to continuing the U.S. Government’s annual voluntary contribution to support UNFPA’s lifesaving work.

• **Witness UNFPA’s impact firsthand** – Travel with us on a leadership delegation to visit UNFPA’s country offices and field programs.

• **Monthly Giving** – Join our Circle of Friends and make a monthly donation. Knowing we have these funds to draw upon will help us work and plan more effectively.

• **Planned Giving** – Become a part of our legacy community. Leave a bequest to Friends of UNFPA in your will and help advance our mission well into the future.

Contact Us! To learn more about how you can help advance the right of every women and girl to live a life of health and equal opportunity, please contact:

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Senegal/Photo: Friends of UNFPA