

# Anne Lynam Goddard

ChildFund International  
President and CEO

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Anne Lynam Goddard is president and CEO of ChildFund International, the global child development organization dedicated to helping children in poverty gain the capacity and opportunity to thrive and bring positive change to their communities. Thought leader and frequent contributor to the national media forum, including the Huffington Post, Goddard has been an articulate voice for the world's most vulnerable children for more than 30 years. Her first-hand experience living in and traveling to developing countries around the world has given her unparalleled insights into a world that few Americans ever get the chance to see.



Raised by an Irish family who immigrated to the United States when she was a young child, Goddard has spent a lifetime working to improve conditions for children throughout the globe. Her career has been grounded in international development, having served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Kenya where she lived in a mud house and traveled among the remote villages on motorbike. It was there that she met and married her British husband and years later gave birth to her son. The couple later adopted a daughter from Indonesia. As a parent, her life has been profiled in *People* magazine, *Parents* magazine and other outlets. In 2009 Goddard received an honorary Ph.D. from Assumption College (Mass.) and in 2011 she was named the Influential Woman of Virginia by Virginia Lawyers Media.

Goddard is a passionate, involved global citizen. After earning a master's degree in public health from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, she lived and worked overseas for almost 20 years, serving in a variety of roles in Somalia, Bangladesh, Indonesia and Egypt.

In 2007, Goddard joined ChildFund International, the \$238 million global development organization whose work touches more than 13.5 million children in 31 countries. At ChildFund, she has drawn on her personal experiences to direct the organization's targeted efforts toward helping children find greater opportunity, opportunity that leads to hope and self-sufficiency. Building on its 75-year history, she has implemented a strategy that expands and deepens ChildFund's efforts across the globe in improving children's health, education and economic conditions.

Goddard is the chair of the Forum Club in Richmond, Va. She is the first woman in its almost 100-year history to serve in that role. Since 2007 Goddard has served on the board of directors for InterAction, the largest coalition of U.S.-based international nongovernmental organizations (NGOs). She co-chairs the Basic Education Coalition, is a board member of the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition, serves on the executive committee of the Alliance for International Youth Development and is on the board of directors for the Richmond Forum, an educational organization that brings global influencers to Richmond.

Goddard has viewed first-hand the deprivation that the world's poor experience. "Poverty isn't something you can fully convey in a photo. It's the sights, sounds and smells, it's the touch and feel, it's even the taste," she says. As a global citizen, she has a deep appreciation for the diversity and dignity of people around the globe and a fierce commitment to a world that values and protects the rights of all, particularly children.