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News Release

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SAVE THE CHILDREN TO HONOR FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

Westport, CT--On September 18, 1995, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will receive Save the Children's highest honor: The Distinguished Service Award. Save the Children Chairman Najeeb Halaby and President Charles MacCormack, along with last year's Award recipient and National Spokesperson Phyllis George, will present the award at a White House ceremony.

"As a mother, public servant, attorney, policy maker, and author, Hillary Rodham Clinton has fought to give the less fortunate--especially women and children--a chance, a voice, a future," said Save the Children President Charles MacCormack. "We want the First Lady--and everyone else--to know how proud and grateful we are for her work on behalf of children and their families."

Save the Children bestows the Distinguished Service Award in recognition of extraordinary efforts to meet the needs of poor children and their families. Past recipients include the Princess Royal of the United Kingdom, Princess Anne; Save the Children's National Spokesperson Phyllis George; Rafiq Hariri, Prime Minister of Lebanon; C. Everett Koop, M.D., the former U.S. Surgeon General; Her Majesty Queen Noor of Jordan; Queen Sirikit of Thailand; and Maurice Strong, Secretary General of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

Hillary Rodham Clinton began her work as a tireless and effective advocate for children more than 20 years ago. As a law student at Yale University, she was an intern at the Children's Defense Fund (CDF). After graduation, she became staff attorney for CDF and served as a board member for 16 years. As the First Lady of Arkansas, she led a major effort to reform the public school system and introduced the innovative Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youth, which trains parents to prepare their children for school. She also founded Arkansas Advocates for Children. In recognition of her accomplishments, Hillary Rodham Clinton was named Arkansas Woman of the Year in 1983, and Arkansas Mother of the Year in 1984 and again in 1995.

Since becoming First Lady in 1992, Mrs. Clinton has helped to promote improved health care for women and children as chair of the President's Task Force on National Health Care Reform. In just the last year, she has traveled across the United States, throughout Asia, and to the Fourth World Conference on Women in China as part of her effort to improve health care, education, and economic opportunities for women, children, and their families.

Founded in 1932, Save the Children is an international development and relief organization whose mission is to make lasting, positive change in the lives of disadvantaged children. Save the Children operates health, education, economic opportunity, and emergency relief programs in more than 40 countries around the world, including the United States.

Save the Children Distinguished Service Award

Save the Children presents the Distinguished Service Award as its highest honor to individuals who have made extraordinary contributions towards meeting the immediate and long-term needs of children and families in poverty. The Distinguished Service Award also recognizes those who have dedicated themselves to building a more peaceful and equitable world for people everywhere.

Recipients of the Distinguished Service Award include:

- T. Berry Brazelton, M.D.
- Phyllis George, former First Lady of Kentucky, former Miss America, television personality, and National Spokesperson for Save the Children.
- Rafiq Hariri, Prime Minister of Lebanon.
- C. Everett Koop, M.D., former U.S. Surgeon General.
- The Princess Royal of the United Kingdom, Princess Anne.
- Queen Aishwarya Rajya Laxmi Devi Shah of Nepal.
- Queen Noor of Jordan.
- Queen Sirikit of Thailand.
- Maurice Strong, Secretary General of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.



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THE BIG RED SCHOOL BOX

Save the Children's Emergency Response Kit

***The Big Red School Box* is Save the Children's emergency child care kit - a kit filled with materials designed to return children affected by major disasters to a nurturing, active setting.**

When natural and man-made disasters strike, citizens are frequently forced from their homes, their lives profoundly disrupted. Children feel this disruption most of all. They face the combined trauma of dislocation from familiar surroundings and routines, the psychological damage of seeing adult protectors and caregivers rendered powerless, and the terror of the catastrophe itself.

In the United States, unlike the developing world, basic food, water and warm clothes arrive quickly after a crisis. However, psychologists and emergency relief experts believe a critical immediate need is to return children to a safe environment, a comfortable routine, and a nurturing, active setting as soon as possible. Save the Children works with communities around the world to address this need through programs of emergency child care. It was this need and this work that gave birth to the *Big Red School Box* - Save the Children's Emergency Child Care Kit.

The *Big Red School Box* contains materials necessary to set up a makeshift child care center for six young children in a sheltered corner of an evacuation site, or to get a family day care provider up and running immediately after a disaster, while parents begin rebuilding their lives. The *Box* includes toys and learning materials, such as books, paper and games, plus sleeping pads for naps and basic hygienic supplies. These items are packaged in a sturdy, water-proof, easily transportable container that can be shipped immediately to evacuation shelters.

Save the Children, one of the world's leaders in community development and disaster relief, will launch its *Big Red School Box* program in the United States January in 1996 to fill a gap in our nation's response to the needs of child victims of disasters.



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