



TV

UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

U.N. IN ACTION

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Programme No. 926

Length: 3'59"

UN HELPS HONDURAS' VULNERABLE MOTHERS AND CHILDREN

VIDEO

ISIDORA PREPARING
BREAKFAST (14")

ISIDORA WADING THROUGH
STREAM (19")

PREPARING PUMPKIN MEAL (9")

PEREZ ON CAMERA (14")

AUDIO

NARRATION

Sixteen-month old Cynthia is smiling and playing now. Unremarkable in many children her age, but for her its something of a miracle. A miracle made of pumpkin and milk... and of her mother Isidora's determination.

With her husband working far away from home, and her daughter Cynthia suffering from malnutrition, Isidora walked across rugged terrain from her rural home in the Central American country of Honduras to save her baby. The long walk was worth the effort.

For Cynthia's life has been saved thanks to a simple nutritional supplement of pumpkin mixed with her mother's milk.

PEREZ:

"I have noticed that after I began to give her the food supplement she has grown. She was malnourished before. Now she is putting on weight."

HEALTH CENTRE/WEIGHING
BABIES (17")

NARRATION

Putting on weight thanks to a project supported by the World Food Programme and UNICEF, the UN Children's Fund. Health workers here monitor the growth and development of children at their most vulnerable - between the ages of six months and two years old.

INTRO (3")

UNICEF health coordinator, Yolanda Muñoz.

YOLANDA MUNOZ ON-CAMERA
(10")

MUÑOZ:

In addition to all the services we provide, we give them medicine against parasites as well as iron supplement for children below the age of 5 years."

WARD FOR MALNOURISHED
CHILDREN (15")

NARRATION

But some children are not as lucky as Cynthia. They are severely malnourished and end up in the hospital. However, thanks to inexpensive oral rehydration salts provided by UNICEF, they are recovering much faster says Dr. Salvador Canales.

CANALES ON CAMERA (14")

CANALES:

"Now the children stay in the hospital on average twenty-one days. That's very important because it

reduces hospital costs. And the medical treatment is easier for the mother and child and the children recover much quicker.”

NARRATION

CHILDREN CARRYING PLATES
FOR FOOD (15”)

According to the World Health Organization, malnutrition contributes to 60% of the 11 million deaths of children under five each year in developing countries. This translates into one child death every five seconds.

DOCTOR EXAMINES BABY (13”)

Malnourishment also causes physical and intellectual underdevelopment and leaves victims much more vulnerable to infection, like the bacterial skin infection that afflicts Cynthia. Paediatrician Dr. Angel Aguilera.

AGUILERA ON CAMERA (11”)

AGUILERA:

“A number of diseases appear as a consequence of malnutrition especially acute respiratory diseases which are the most frequent among local children.”

NARRATION

UNICEF WORKERS/MOTHERS
(25”)

And children are at risk even before they are born. Studies have shown that a pregnant mother’s health is crucially important for the health of her baby. Monitoring of arm measurements is a reliable indicator of a mother’s health. Twenty-five centimetres shows normal weight but below twenty-three centimetres indicates malnutrition. UNICEF’s Daisy Pastrana.

PASTRANA:

PASTRANA ON CAMERA (9")

"As we can see, the results of the test show that the pregnant mother is well. Her results are good. But with the other mother, her results show low weight."

NARRATION

NURSE MIXING BLEND FOR CHILDREN (12")

These pregnant and nursing mothers receive a nutritious corn and soya blend, as well as maize, beans and cooking oil. It's an inexpensive but life-saving ration for keeping vulnerable women and their babies healthy.

ISIDORA PREPARING MEAL (12")

In this way the fatal effects of malnutrition need not be passed on from one generation to the next. With a little help, good nutrition for expectant and nursing mothers can break this deadly cycle.

UN LOGO (12")

This report was prepared by Richard Sydenham for the United Nations.