



Dear friend,

Thank you for requesting this Generation Hope screening pack and for helping us to tell more people around the world about the life-changing work of Mary's Meals.

Following the success of our last documentary, Child 31 – which helped us to bring the message of Mary's Meals to thousands of new eyes, new ears and new hearts – we are pleased to have teamed up again with the same talented director, Charles Kinnane, on this beautiful new film.

All because of generous supporters like you, Child 31 was shown in living rooms, school halls, churches, clubhouses, theatres and cinemas across countless countries on six continents. It is our fervent hope that this new film will allow us to reach as many hungry and poverty-stricken children as Child 31 did.

And so we set off to visit our school feeding programmes in Malawi, Haiti and India, where we uncover stories which are rich in hope and inspiration, straight from the mouths of the young people for whom Mary's Meals has already made a lasting difference.

As many of you know, the work of Mary's Meals was inspired by the words of a child in 2002, when I met 14-year-old Edward – sat beside his dying mother – in a village in Malawi. I asked him what his hopes and dreams were and he answered: "I would like to have enough food to eat and to be able to go to school one day."

I have echoed these words at so many talks on the work of Mary's Meals since, and not once have they lost their significance or their weight on my heart. For a long time I felt apprehensive about meeting Edward again, knowing that – since we didn't start serving meals in his area until several years after we first met – Mary's Meals had come too late for him.

But, as we shot Generation Hope, it was a great joy to be reunited with him and a great comfort to know that Edward's younger siblings have been receiving Mary's Meals in school each day for a number of years, and that his young son Blessing will too once he reaches primary age.



mary's
meals

a simple solution
to world hunger

GENERATION HOPE

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Others we meet in this film include Jimmy, a talented singer-songwriter from Haiti's dangerous Cité Soleil slum, and Veronica, one of the first group of children ever to receive Mary's Meals who now studies business and education at university.

They're part of a new generation, once fed by Mary's Meals, who are beginning to find their voice. We call them "Generation Hope". It is these young people who, well-nourished and well-educated, will become the men and women who will lift their communities out of poverty, and build a brighter future for their countries.

While it is deeply encouraging to see this bright new generation emerging to lead the way, we remain committed to our vision that – in a world where 59 million children are out of school and many more are chronically hungry – every child should receive a daily meal in their place of education.

I hope Generation Hope (which we recently heard has been selected to be shown as part of the 'short film corner' at the prestigious Cannes Film Festival!) will move and motivate you as much as it did us.

Thank you for your extraordinary efforts in bringing this powerful film and these important stories to your friends, families and communities! Together, we can reach the next hungry child waiting for Mary's Meals.

Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow

Founder and CEO of Mary's Meals

