



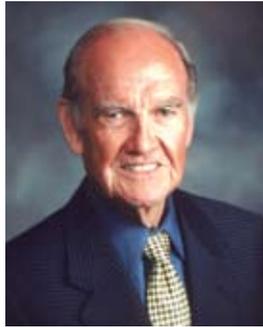
## THE WORLD FOOD PRIZE

# Hon. Robert Dole and Hon. George McGovern *2008 Laureates*

### INSPIRED LEADERSHIP



Dole



McGovern

Former U.S. Senators Robert Dole and George McGovern have been selected to receive the 2008 World Food Prize for their inspired, collaborative leadership that has encouraged a global commitment to school feeding and enhanced school attendance and nutrition for millions of the world's poorest children, especially girls.

The McGovern-Dole international school-feeding program was established by the United States in 2000. Since then, it has provided meals to feed more than 22

million children in 41 countries and boosted school attendance by an estimated 14 percent overall and by 17 percent for girls.

The success of the McGovern-Dole program has also led to dramatically increased international support for expansion of school-feeding operations in developing countries around the world. As one example, the UN World Food Program's school-feeding operations have nearly doubled since 2001; in 2006 alone, it fed more than 20 million children in 74 countries.

### A COMMON GOAL TO ERADICATE HUNGER



Throughout their distinguished careers, Senator George McGovern and Senator Robert Dole have dedicated themselves to the elimination of hunger at home and abroad. In the 1970s, as leaders of opposing parties, they worked together to reform the Food Stamp Program, expand the domestic school lunch program, and establish the Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC).

During the following decades, they built a broad, non-partisan consensus for anti-hunger and anti-poverty programs. By the early twenty-first century, the national school lunch program they fostered was providing meals to approximately 30 million children.

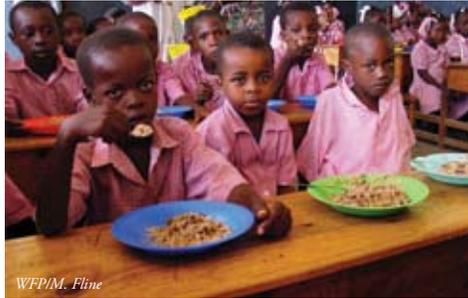
### A COMMITMENT TO GLOBAL SCHOOL FEEDING

In the late 1990s, building upon their successes in reinvigorating U.S. food- and poverty-assistance programs, Senators McGovern and Dole began working toward reviving and strengthening global school feeding, nutrition, and education programs. They were committed to creating a program that would provide poor children with meals at school in countries throughout Africa, Asia, Latin America, and Eastern Europe.

President Bill Clinton supported the senators' initiative and, in July 2000, his administration established a two-year pilot program, the Global Food for Education Initiative (GFEI), funded at \$300 million. The U.S. Department of Agriculture administered the program, which initially provided nutritious meals for children in 38 countries.

Under the GFEI, the U.S. Department of Agriculture provided surplus agricultural commodities to school-feeding programs operated by international organizations including the World Food Program, CARE, Catholic Relief Services, Mercy Corps, World Vision, Joint Aid Management, and the American Red Cross, as well as to the governments of countries that had made commitments to providing universal education.

## STEPS TOWARD ENDING THE CYCLE OF HUNGER AND POVERTY



Hungry children have difficulty learning, and malnutrition often leads to permanently stunted physical and cognitive development. By exerting tireless and creative leadership, Senators McGovern and Dole took significant steps toward ending the cycle of hunger and poverty that affects as many as 300 million chronically malnourished children.

School enrollment increased as a result of the GFEI, particularly for girls. More broadly, the benefits of school-feeding programs have been shown to include: improved cognition and better all-round academic performance; increases in local employment and parental involvement in school activities; and participation by local governments in supporting school-feeding efforts.

With the strong support and urging of Senator McGovern and Senator Dole, Congress passed legislation establishing a permanent international school feeding program. In May of 2002, President George W. Bush officially signed into law the George McGovern-Robert Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program (known as the McGovern-Dole Program). This hallmark effort has fed children in schools across the globe every year since then.

## TRANSFORMING LIVES ACROSS THE GLOBE



Since its inception as a pilot program, the McGovern-Dole Program has provided meals to 22 million children in 41 countries, including Afghanistan, Cambodia, Eritrea, Ghana, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Malawi, Moldova, Nicaragua, Niger, and Pakistan. The program has boosted school attendance by an estimated 14 percent overall, and by 17 percent for girls.

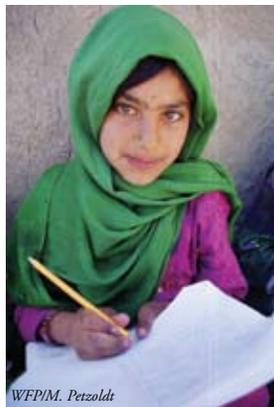
The McGovern-Dole Program has had an even wider impact by reigniting global interest in supporting school feeding, which had become a relatively low international priority by the 1990s. Leaders of various international organizations cited the McGovern-Dole Program as the key factor that allowed organizations to increase their school-feeding operations and also assess the impact of those programs. The proven success encouraged increased commitments from various donor countries for school feeding.

Development leaders also renewed their interest in and support for school feeding. In 2002, the G8 and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) listed school feeding as a specific intervention in their action plans for poverty alleviation. In 2005, school-feeding was highlighted in the UN Millennium Project's 10 key recommendations for achieving the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. The EU, Canada, and Japan are now among the major providers of

resources to global school-feeding programs.

With increased funding, the World Food Program's global school-feeding initiative – the world's largest such program – was able to double its operations between 2000 and 2005. By 2006, its efforts reached more than 20 million children in 74 countries. Eleven million of these were in Africa, and just over 50 percent of them were girls.

## BENEFITING SCHOOL-AGE GIRLS



The McGovern-Dole Program emphasizes benefiting girls and young women and overcoming gender inequalities in literacy and access to education. Traditionally, young girls in many developing countries are often kept out of school to work in the home performing child care, elder care, and other domestic chores, or are sent out to earn a living.

However, when meals are available at school, and/or take-home rations are available to the families of students attending school, girls and young women are much more likely to be allowed—even encouraged—to enroll, with numerous benefits. For example, studies in Mexico have shown that school-feeding programs there have led to girl students' finishing school at higher rates, and also marrying later in life and having fewer children.

## A VARIETY OF AID THROUGH FOOD COMMODITIES

Thousands of tons of wheat, soybeans, corn, wheat flour, cornmeal, corn-soy blend, rice, lentils, dry beans and vegetable oil have been shipped to participant countries through the auspices of the McGovern-Dole Program. These resources are used by local officials to provide school meals and snacks to children. The McGovern-Dole Program is moving toward increasing the amount of cash awarded while also implementing a new bartering system to diversify the commodities and foodstuffs that the program provides.

Organizations and governments often combine school-feeding resources and programs with interventions that include: construction or upkeep of school kitchens and sanitation facilities; teacher and staff training; HIV/AIDS education; de-worming and inoculations; and local purchase of foods to strengthen markets. These efforts in turn have a multiplier effect of enhancing education, community development, health, and gender equity.

## ELIMINATING HUNGER IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY



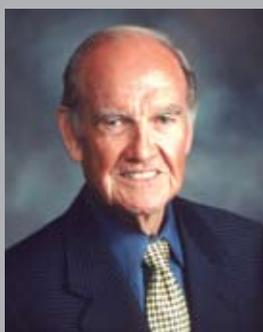
The path-breaking accomplishments of the 2008 World Food Prize Laureates – Senator George McGovern and Senator Robert Dole – continue to inspire leaders in the United States and other countries to move their efforts forward to ever greater heights, with the goal to end world hunger.

For the millions of children it has touched in the past, and the millions who will benefit in the future, the McGovern-Dole Program and other collaborative school-feeding initiatives can break the cycle of hunger and poverty and provide life-altering opportunities through education and improved health.



## ROBERT DOLE - BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

- Born in 1923 in Russell, Kansas. His father owned and operated a small creamery in town.
- Served as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army's 10th Mountain Division during World War II, 1942-1945; suffered severe injury during combat in northern Italy. Decorated twice for heroism, received two Purple Hearts for his injuries, and the Bronze Star with combat "V" for valor for his attempt to assist a downed radio operator.
- Earned law degree at Washburn University, 1952.
- Father of one daughter, Robin. Married Elizabeth Hanford in 1975, who was elected to the United States Senate in 2002.
- Served in the Kansas House of Representatives, 1950-52.
- Served as county attorney of Russell County, Kansas, 1952-60.
- Served in the U. S. House of Representatives (Republican), 1960-68.
- Served in the U.S. Senate (Republican), 1968-1996
- Republican candidate for U.S. Vice President on the ticket with Gerald Ford, 1976
- Republican candidate for U. S. President, 1996
- Founding co-chair of The Partnership to Cut Hunger and Poverty in Africa, 2000
- The Robert Dole Institute of Politics at the University of Kansas was established in 2003.
- Author of several books, including *One Soldier's Story: A Memoir*, published in 2005.
- Presently serving as special counsel at the law firm Alston & Bird in Washington D.C.

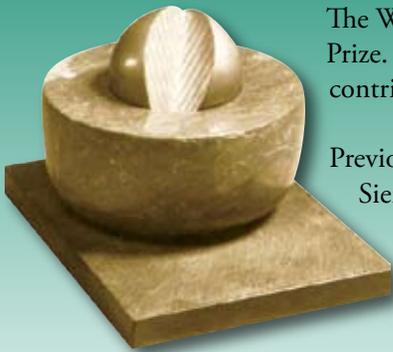


## GEORGE MCGOVERN - BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

- Born in 1922 in Avon, South Dakota, the son of a Methodist minister; lived in nearby Mitchell from the age of 6.
- Served as a B-24 bomber pilot during World War II, 1942-45, flying 35 missions over enemy territory from bases in North Africa and later Italy; won the Distinguished Flying Cross for saving his crew by crash landing his damaged bomber on a small Mediterranean island.
- Earned B.A. degree at Dakota Wesleyan University; M.A. and Ph.D. at Northwestern University; earned a divinity degree from Garrett Theological Seminary in Evanston, Ill.
- Married Eleanor Stegeberg, 1943; she died in 2007. Father of five children: Ann, Terry (deceased), Susan, Mary, and Steven.
- Taught history and political science at Dakota Wesleyan, 1950-53.
- Served in the U.S. House of Representatives (Democrat), 1956-60.
- Served as director of President John F. Kennedy's Food for Peace Program; helped found the UN World Food Program, 1961-62.
- Served in the U.S. Senate (Democrat), 1962-80.
- Democratic candidate for U.S. President, 1972.
- Senator George McGovern Learning Center opened at Dakota Wesleyan University, 1981.
- Served as U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Agencies based in Rome, 1998-2001.
- Appointed the first United Nations Global Ambassador on world hunger by the World Food Program, 2001.
- Author of several books, including *The Third Freedom: Ending Hunger in Our Time*, published in 2001, and *The Essential America*, published in 2004.

*Robert Dole and George McGovern will be presented the \$250,000 World Food Prize on October 16 at the Iowa State Capitol in Des Moines.*

*The award will be given in conjunction with the 2008 Borlaug Dialogue, which focuses on “Confronting Crisis: Agriculture and Global Development in the Next Fifty Years.”*



The World Food Prize was conceived by Dr. Norman E. Borlaug, recipient of the 1970 Nobel Peace Prize. Since 1986, The World Food Prize has honored outstanding individuals who have made vital contributions to improving the quality, quantity or availability of food throughout the world.

Previous Laureates have been recognized from Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Denmark, India, Mexico, Sierra Leone, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United Nations and the United States.

In 1990, Des Moines businessman and philanthropist John Ruan assumed sponsorship of The Prize and established The World Food Prize Foundation, located in Des Moines, Iowa.

[WWW.WORLDFOODPRIZE.ORG](http://WWW.WORLDFOODPRIZE.ORG)