You may have never heard about polio, but here is why you should care...

QUICK FACTS ABOUT POLIO:

- There is no cure for polio, it can only be prevented. Polio vaccine, given multiple times, can protect a child for life.
- Polio mainly affects children under five years of age.
- Polio is a highly infectious disease caused by a virus. Poliovirus invades the nervous system, and can cause total paralysis in a matter of hours.
- One in 200 infections leads to irreversible paralysis (usually in the legs). Among those paralyzed, 5% to 10% die when their breathing muscles become immobilized.
- In the late 1940s to the early 1950s, in the United States alone, polio crippled around 35,000 people each year making it one of the most feared diseases of the twentieth century.

1955 ★ VACCINE DEVELOPED BY **JONAS SALK** IS LISCENCED FOR USE; VACCINATION CAMPAIGNS BEGIN ★

★ **1,000** IS ENOUGH TO FILL A **STADIUM** ★

★ **EARLY 1960's** SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY CAMPAIGNS BEGIN USING NEW **ORAL POLIO VACCINE (OPV)** DEVELOPED BY **ALBERT SABIN** AND LISCENCED FOR USE IN 1962 ★

MANY POLIO VICTIMS SPENT LONG HOURS INSIDE **"IRON LUNGS"** TO KEEP THEM BREATHING

50 ★★★★ YEARS OF WINNING THE BATTLE AGAINST POLIO

so polio isn't in the U.S. & there is a vaccine, so

what's the URGENCY about polio now?

2009-2010 ★ 23 previously polio-free countries were re-infected due to imports of the virus ★

1979 ★ **LAST CASE** OF POLIO, CAUSED BY WILD POLIOVIRUS ACQUIRED IN THE **UNITED STATES** ★

★ **BY 2012,** MORE THAN **20 MILLION** HEALTH WORKERS AND VOLUNTEERS WORLDWIDE HAVE BEEN TRAINED TO DELIVER THE POLIO VACCINE ★

1980 ★ APPROXIMATELY **400,000 CASES OF PARALYTIC (CAUSING PARALYSIS) POLIO** ARE REPORTED WORLDWIDE, MOSTLY AFFECTING CHILDREN ★

1988 ★ AN ESTIMATED **350,000** POLIO CASES OCCUR WORLDWIDE, IN OVER 125 COUNTRIES ★

1988 ★★★ **Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) launched . GPEI** is led by the World Health Organization **(WHO)**, **Rotary** International, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention **(CDC)**, and the United Nations Children's Fund **(UNICEF)**. Its goal is to eradicate polio worldwide. Other major partners include National Governments and **The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.**

what's being DONE? and how close are we?

why ERADICATE?

as long as a single child remains infected with poliovirus, children in all countries are at risk of contracting the virus.

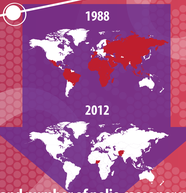
ERADICATE: (erad-i-cate) *destroy completely, put an end to*

1998 ★ **134 MILLION** CHILDREN ARE VACCINATED AGAINST POLIO ON A SINGLE DAY IN INDIA ★

2002 ★ **EUROPE** CERTIFIED "POLIO FREE" ★

★ FEBRUARY **2012, INDIA** WHICH AS EARLY AS THE 1990'S, STILL HAD 50,000 TO 100,000 CASES EVERY YEAR, IS DECLARED "POLIO-FREE" ★

★ 2012 **only 3** polio-endemic countries remain - **AFGHANISTAN, NIGERIA, AND PAKISTAN.**



THE NUMBER OF POLIO CASES PER YEAR HAVE DECREASED BY **99%**

★ **GET INVOLVED. FINISH THE JOB.**
learn more at:
www.polioeradication.org/
www.gatesfoundation.org/polio
www.cdc.gov/polio

since 1988, about 2.5 billion children around the globe have been vaccinated against polio, and number of polio cases per year has decreased by 99%.