



World Immunization Week

World Immunization Week, celebrated globally each year during the last week of April, highlights the importance of vaccines in offering protection to people of all ages against many diseases.

World Immunization Week unites partners and people behind a focused global campaign to highlight the life-saving importance of vaccines. The aim is to reach children who missed

out on routine vaccination, return at least 2019 coverage levels for children born in 2023, and strengthen immuniza-



tion systems as part of primary health care.

This year, during World Immunization Week 2023, World Health Organization, (WHO), along with its global partners, is launching a “The Big Catch-Up” campaign – a year-long initiative that has three objectives:



Vaccines Save Lives

Vaccines are safe, effective and save million of lives each year and vaccination is one of the best tools to improve people’s health and well-being. Globally, vaccination pro-

grams need to continue to protect vulnerable children and prevent outbreaks.

The progress in the fight to end polio is

proof that vaccines work.

It is estimated that the polio vaccine has saved more than 20 million children

World Immunization Week, Big Catch-Up Campaign



- *First, to catch-up, which means reaching children who have missed out on their routine Vaccinations:*
- *Second, to restore, which means getting back to at least 2019 coverage levels for children born in 2023;*
- *Third, to strengthen immunization systems as part of primary health care.*

Vaccines Save Lives

around the world from paralysis.

However, more than 12.5 million children are totally unvaccinated. They are known as zero-dose children and vaccinating them is critical to stopping polio for good.

In July 2022, the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF reported the largest sustained decline in

childhood vaccinations in approximately 30 years.

Rotary has proven the good that vaccines do by immunizing 3 billion children against polio and reducing the cases of polio by 99.9% since 1988. But we know the job is not yet done until every child is vaccinated, and polio is stopped for good...

We must continue vaccinating the world’s children against polio because polio anywhere is a threat everywhere. Let’s take collective action to ensure that the Polio vaccine reaches every child and communities are safe from disease.



Rotary