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November 2021

Dear wonderful 100 Strong friends,

We hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving, and Happy Hanukkah! Welcome to our debut 100 Strong e-Newsletter!

Our network started as just a kernel of an idea, at an intimate luncheon Peg hosted in November 2017 with a small group of women that included Save the Children Trustees Gabriela Hearst, renowned fashion designer, and the late Cokie Roberts, distinguished journalist known for her work with ABC News and NPR. We were inspired to come together as women and as philanthropists, to dive into the issues and

to unite our efforts for kids. Joined by Catherine, we went on to found 100 Strong a few months later with just a handful of members.

Cokie would be so proud to see how our network has taken off not four years later! There are now 41 of us from Seattle to Miami, from Los Angeles to New York, each dedicating considerable time, talent, and treasure to make the world a better place for children. And we're going global, friends, with a UK chapter up and running and lots of interest in the Middle East, Italy, Australia and elsewhere. We are indeed going "Strong"!

With much happening and more plans in the works, we wanted a medium to keep us all informed and engaged with 100 Strong. Hence, we're thrilled to present this newsletter on a quarterly basis to:

- Share updates on our efforts and celebrate our impact
- Highlight global 100 Strong activities
- Strengthen our connection with one another
- Call out upcoming events

In this season of gratitude and reflection, our deepest thanks to each one of you for being part of our special group. It's an honor and a pleasure to know you. Happy reading!

Warmly,

Peg and Catherine

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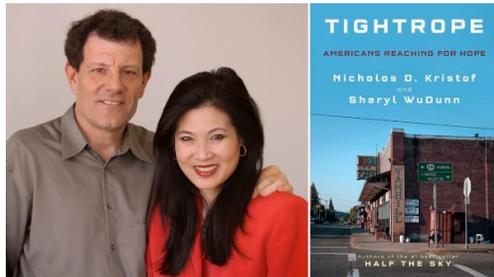
Looking Ahead:

Closing out 2021 and Jumping into 2022

Recent 100 Strong Events:

U.S. in Focus

Capping off our 2021 event schedule were two excellent gatherings focused on issues affecting children and families right here in the United States. We are grateful to Mark Shriver for bringing our extraordinary speakers to the table, and for moderating both great events.



In September, we enjoyed an engaging [discussion with Pulitzer Prize-winning authors Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn](#) about their book *Tightrope: Americans Reaching for Hope*. We heard updates from Nick and Sheryl on the folks profiled in the book, and spoke about the challenges affecting many in America's working class and the possible solutions. You may have heard that [Nick officially announced his candidacy in late October for Governor of Oregon!](#)

In October, we had a terrific [conversation with Kimberly Williams-Paisley and Brad Paisley](#) about their free Nashville grocery store and explored potential innovative ways to combat rural child hunger. [Just a week after our event, the Paisleys and *The Store* were featured on NBC Nightly News with Lester Holt!](#)



100 Strong Mentoring Program: Empowering Save the Children's Unsung Heroes

Peg is passionate about supporting Save the Children's staff around the world who put themselves on the line every day to facilitate critical programs for children and families. This passion led her to maintain close connections with program experts she met during visits to Bhutan and Colombia. For years, Peg has longed to lift up more of these crucial staff members in meaningful ways, and to allow others to do the same. **Enter the 100 Strong Mentoring Program pilot, which just launched this fall and will go through spring 2022!**

The initiative is spearheaded by 100 Strong member Dr. Diana Kirschner, who designed the pilot with her husband Dr. Sam Kirschner, employing their expertise as psychologists and mentoring professionals. Each of the eight participating 100 Strong members is mentoring a “rising star” at Save the Children – a strong woman staff member who is leading a team and growing in her responsibilities. Mentees include U.S. State Directors and Directors of Operations based in Australia, Iraq, Nigeria, Panama, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States and Vanuatu.



Mentors have received a Toolkit designed by the Drs. Kirschner, connect with one another and practice new exercises in monthly mentor meetings, and are supported each step of the way, all with the goal of empowering their mentees to reach their potential as individuals and leaders in the Save the Children movement.

We are so grateful to Dr. Diana, Dr. Sam, and each of our amazing mentors for their dedication to this extraordinary program, which we hope to offer to additional mentors and mentees next year!

A Growing Global Sisterhood: *Our UK Friends*

Save the Children’s UK Women’s Network (UKWN) launched in 2020, inspired by 100 Strong US. Serving as co-chairs are Natasha Kaplinsky OBE, Rasha Khawaja, Dr. Sophie McCormick and Cuppy Otedola. The network now has nine members and helped to create the new Girls’ Impact Fund at SCUK, in which all UKWN members

pool their funding toward Save the Children's gender-equality work, supporting girl-led initiatives and girls' empowerment efforts around the world. [Learn more about the UKWN here.](#)

Recently, the UKWN participated in a number of insightful discussions including one about the Right to Education for girls and a Dubai Expo event to raise awareness of gender-based violence, including child marriage.



In October 2021, ten members of 100 Strong US were delighted to join the UKWN in a private briefing, moderated by Natasha Kaplinsky (left), about the situation for girls and women in Afghanistan. Members of 100 Strong US and the UKWN enjoyed the opportunity to speak with one another and look forward to getting together in person soon. There is discussion of planning an intimate US/UK gathering in 2022 – more to come.

Ending Child Marriage Pilot in Sierra Leone: *We Have Lift-Off!*

We are thrilled to announce that the Ending Child Marriage pilot launched officially in September 2021! Ramatu Jalloh, Advocacy & Communications

Director for Save the Children in Sierra Leone, shared a [brief video message](#)

thanking 100 Strong for making this exciting work possible.

The Project: We are partnering with the First Lady of Sierra Leone, who has inspired actions against gender-based violence and child marriage since 2018 with her *Hands off Our Girls* campaign. The Ending Child Marriage pilot will use an integrated approach to create a shift in beliefs, behaviors, societal norms and policies to end child marriage in Sierra Leone. We, members of 100 Strong, make up the vast majority of supporters of this important two-year project ***which, to date, has garnered \$870,000 in funding toward the total goal of \$1.5 million.***

Says Ramatu, “We’re bringing men and boys on board. As leaders, fathers, brothers, they can help shift the belief that the only space for a girl in our world is as a wife and a mother. We will engage paramount chiefs and traditional leaders as champions. As power brokers and local lawmakers, they can facilitate change in communities by enforcing laws to end child marriage.”

We’re especially grateful to Heather Campbell, who is transitioning out of her role as Save the Children’s Sierra Leone Country Director to a new position as Nepal Country Director. Heather was instrumental in forging our 100 Strong partnership with the First Lady and setting us on a path to success.



The First Lady offers her thanks to 100 Strong and her best wishes to Heather [in this video tribute](#) – a testament to our shared determination to protect the right of every girl to grow up, access education and have a say in determining her path in life.

We look forward to sharing more details about the project as they unfold!



Member Spotlight:
Sitting Down with Sue Mirza,
20 Years A Champion for Children
by Julia Tolstrup, Save the Children

Sue Mirza's passion for Save the Children is palpable the moment we move past the small talk. Like many conversations these days, we speak over Zoom, but that does nothing to dampen the enthusiasm she exudes when discussing her 20-plus years as [a supporter and deeply engaged partner...](#)

Our Members in the Media:
Cokie and Gabi



Cokie: A Life Well-Lived

been just over two years since we
our dear friend, 100 Strong co-
der Cokie Roberts. [In this
mber 9, 2021 PBS NewsHour
iew](#), her husband of 53

Steven Roberts, celebrates her
d legacy, in particular as a mentor
omen in journalism. Steven has just
hed an endearing book, "[Cokie: A
Vell Lived.](#)" Many of us will

only look forward to reading it! (The
ere was taken in Vietnam, on one of Cokie's
rips with Save the Children. Cokie was a
ed member of Save the Children's Board of
s.)



Gabriela Hearst Recognized for Sustainability Efforts in Fashion

Congratulations to I 00 Strong co-Founder Gabriela “Gabi” Hearst on her groundbreaking efforts! The British Fashion Council awarded Gabi as an Environmental Honoree in 2020 for her contribution in creating positive change within the industry. And most recently in 2021, she was given The Frank Alvah Parsons Award for Sustainability. A trip several years ago with Save the Children to northeast Kenya gave Gabi a first-hand view of the human toll of the climate crisis. Severe had drought taken an enormous toll on the children and families she met. Gabi says that experiences like these that have motivated her to take action. “I see too clearly what the outcome is if we don’t act, and I can’t turn a blind eye to it.” [Read more in this November 5, 2021 CNN article.](#)

Looking Ahead:

Closing out 2021 and Jumping into 2022

Please save the date for two upcoming virtual events!

[Year-End Toast to 100 Strong,](#)

[on Thursday, December 16, 2021 from 5-6pm ET](#)

State of the Agency Discussion with CEO Janti Soeripto,

on [Thursday, January 20, 2022 from 12-1pm ET](#)

And be on the lookout for information about

Save the Children's Fall 2022 Celebration in Seattle!*

**We hope to come together at the event, and to plan an intimate gathering for 100 Strong and a program visit in a rural Eastern Washington community at the same time.*

100 Strong Women's Philanthropic Leadership Network at Save the Children
