Commitee: UNICEF

State: USA

Topic: Impact of Covid-19 On Children

United States of America has been affected by Covid-19 just as any other country. We have been doing our best to decrease the negative consequences of it since late-February of 2020. We’ve seen 81,5 Mn cases in total with 1,01 Mn of them ending with death, which has of course brought many affects with them. For example: social isolation, poor nutrition, intimate partner violence etc. We try to give our citizens better life standards but at some cases we’ve ignored children’s voices. But now we’ve decided to focus back on them and their demands. Sadly, USA’s youth has been scarred by the lack of treatment. Even though we’ve tried to help via associations, online education and more there were still some situations we couldn’t control, and the damage has started to show in many ways than one. After the pandemic, unemployment rate went from ~4% to 14.7% which has affected many children’s home life, some even being forced to child labor. Children who are food insecure increased by ~13%. Lastly, 1 in 4 young people said they often feel depressed because of being surrendered by these traumatic events. And considering that the lost contribution to economies due to mental disorders is $64.7 billion in US, we believe that we should start focusing on mental well-being also. In order to decrease the economic downturns and child labor’s rise, we must guarantee social protection services to families. For mental health issues, we must start by breaking the silence and misconceptions surrounding them. After that, we can invest in child and adolescent mental health across.