Vulnerable Children

State, Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill
U.S. Agency for International Development
Title III
Funded through Global Health Programs

What is the Vulnerable Children account?
The Vulnerable Children account supports programming that reduces risk to children who experience serious deprivation and danger by delivering essential, life-saving services and increasing governments’ capacity to assess and monitor childcare systems. Vulnerable children are those who are living outside of family care; have been trafficked; are experiencing violence; are affected by humanitarian crises; have disabilities; are orphans; or are otherwise vulnerable because of HIV/AIDS, acute illness, or premature birth. This account also finances programming focused specifically on the objectives of the U.S. government’s Advancing Protection and Care for Children in Adversity (APCCA) Strategy.

What do the funds support?
- Implementation of the APCCA Strategy to invest in the development, care, dignity, and safety of vulnerable children and their families.
- Strengthening child-protection policies and practices, capacity building for governments to assess and monitor childcare systems, and social service workforce capacity strengthening.
- The Child Blindness Program to improve eye health through screenings, corrective surgery, distribution of eyeglasses, and training for pediatric eye care.
- Implementation of child safeguarding initiatives, both online and offline, among USG personnel and partners.

Foreign Aid Delivers
USAID leverages their health, education, and economic programming to strengthen resilience amongst vulnerable adolescents and youth. In FY2021, the Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance funded child protection, prevention, and response interventions that supported over 1.6 million people in 41 countries. Additionally, the Center for Children in Adversity led USAID’s efforts to promote responsive care practices and create early learning opportunities for children under the age of eight in seven countries.

Funding History
Funding levels may not accurately reflect those in the appropriations bills and/or reports due to rounding.