

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children

Children's Rights

<https://www.missingkids.org/theissues/helpidme>

Campaign and Advocacy

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Unidentified Child Remains: Analysis of Identifications

When human remains are found that are believed to belong to a child, NCMEC can assist law enforcement and medical examiners in the effort to give that child back their name. This process includes assisting in the collection and dissemination of DNA, dentals, fingerprints, and other unique identifiers to help determine the identities of these children. NCMEC's forensic artists also create facial reconstructions of what the child might have looked like in life in hopes that someone will recognize him or her.

To view facial reconstructions and read information on the cases that NCMEC is working on, visit the [Help ID Me](#) Facebook page.

This map shows cases of long-term missing and unidentified children across the US. [Click on the map](#) to view more information, search cases by location, date, and to view posters of these children. You may hold the key to giving a child back his or her name!

NCMEC is currently assisting with more than

670

cases of unidentified children's remains.

So far, NCMEC has assisted with

199

identifications of deceased children.

The oldest unidentified child case NCMEC helped resolve was from

1961.

In addition to facial reconstructions, NCMEC staff can assist in the collection of biometric data and help connect law enforcement, medical examiners and coroners with current technologies and forensic methods. NCMEC staff can also provide analytical support and case strategy on current and long-term unidentified child cases.

[View the available resources NCMEC can provide in these types of cases.](#)

NCMEC's traditional and social media teams are able to raise public awareness about missing and unidentified children by disseminating photos and information about the missing, often targeting specific geographical areas to maximize impact. [The Help ID Me Facebook page](#) is just one example of how NCMEC is using the latest in media trends to help find and protect children.

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This Web site is funded, in part, through a grant from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Neither the U.S. Department of Justice nor any of its components operate, control, are responsible for, or necessarily endorse, this Web site (including, without limitation, its content, technical infrastructure, and policies, and any services or tools provided).

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