

Melinda Gates

Co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Philanthropist. Businesswoman. Mother.

Summary

I'm co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, an organization based on our belief that every life has equal value. The foundation primarily focuses on the fight against disease and poverty in developing countries and in high-quality education for low-income students in the United States.

My goal is to break down the barriers that prevent so many people, especially women and girls, from reaching their full potential. In addition to my focus on the foundation, I'm learning about the rapidly changing world of work and how outdated cultural norms about men's and women's roles at work and at home are preventing many people from thriving personally and professionally. I believe in the power of diversity to supercharge innovation across our economy and world.

Experience

Co-chair at Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

2000 - Present

As co-chair with Bill, I help set the overall direction of the foundation. Specifically, I concentrate on family planning, maternal and child health, and applying the principles of user-centered design to the field of global health and development.

Board of Trustees Member at Duke University

1996 - 2003 (8 years)

General Manager of Information Products at Microsoft

1987 - 1996 (10 years)

During my time at Microsoft, I managed teams that developed multimedia and interactive products including Expedia, Cinemania and Encarta.

Education

Duke University - The Fuqua School of Business

Master of Business Administration - MBA, 1987

Duke University

Bachelor of Science - BS, Computer Science, 1986

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