



***On April 4<sup>th</sup>, The United States Campaign to Ban Landmines is asking you to Lend Your Leg and Stand with Survivors!***



### ***What is *Lend Your Leg*?***

Long after wars are waged some weapons remain a lurking threat to civilians in the peacetime that follows. Landmines are indiscriminate weapons that wait underground for years and sometimes decades maiming and killing children, farmers and everyday citizens who happen upon them. In 2010 there were 4,200 victims of landmine's devastating effects-11 people a day.

Last year, in Colombia, a small group of motivated citizens rolled up their pant leg in a symbolic gesture of solidarity with landmine survivors across the globe that have lost limbs to this deadly device. What began as a grassroots campaign to raise awareness of this ongoing humanitarian crisis soon spread via social media and gained support from celebrity endorsements, NGO's and government officials including Colombian President, Juan Manuel Santos. On April 4<sup>th</sup>, the **U.N.'s International Day for Mine Awareness**, private companies unveiled billboards of their logos "rolled up" in support of the cause while students, teachers, workers and professionals of every stripe rolled up their pant leg in what became a national phenomenon to declare to the world, NO MORE LANDMINES!

This year, the ***Lend Your Leg*** campaign is going global and we are asking you to do your part to bring awareness to this man-made crisis. The International Campaign to Ban Landmines and the United Nations Mine Action Service are partnering with Fundación Arcangeles to mobilize the hundreds of organizations in at least 138 countries to "Lend their Leg." The mission is simple - on April 4, 2012 we are asking private companies, celebrities and politicians to join the everyday citizens around the world who will be rolling up their pant leg to stand with survivors and declare with one voice NO MORE LANDMINES. Together we urge the remaining 37 countries, including the United States, who have not yet acceded to the 1997 Mine Ban Treaty to do so immediately and bring forth a mine-free world.

### **Why should I Lend My Leg?**

Here in the U.S. we don't have to worry about our next step being fatal, but hundreds of thousands of our fellow citizens around the world are not so lucky. If you were to lose your leg commuting to work or school due to an undetonated weapon, wouldn't you want the world to take one day to stand with you and say, "this isn't right." Landmines aren't a partisan issue; they are a humanitarian one. It is not about politics or parties, it is about making sure kids can play and farmers can grow their crops safely. This problem can be fixed and landmines can be put in the dustbin of history. On April 4<sup>th</sup> will you lend your leg?

### **What are The U.S. Campaign to Ban Landmines and the International Campaign to Ban Landmines?**

The USCBL, currently coordinated by Handicap International, is a coalition of thousands of people and U.S. nongovernmental organizations working to: (1) ensure no U.S. use, production, or transfer of antipersonnel landmines and cluster munitions; (2) encourage the U.S. to join the 1997 Mine Ban Treaty and the 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions; and (3) secure high levels of U.S. government support for clearance and assistance programs for victims of landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war. The International Campaign to Ban Landmines is a global network that works for a world free of antipersonnel landmines, where landmine survivors can lead fulfilling lives. The Campaign was awarded the **Nobel Peace Prize** in recognition of its efforts to bring about the 1997 Ottawa Treaty.

### **What's a landmine?**

Landmines are explosive devices designed to injure or kill people. They lie dormant for years and even decades under, on or near the ground until a person or animal triggers their detonating mechanism. To learn more visit [www.uscbl.org](http://www.uscbl.org).