



## **Christie Vilsack Senior Advisor for International Education**

Christie Vilsack joined the U.S. Agency for International Development as the Senior Advisor for International Education in March 2013. Christie supports USAID's Education Strategy goals to improve children's reading skills, strengthen workforce development, and provide equitable access to education in crisis and conflict settings.

Christie has committed her life to education and public service. For 25 years, she taught secondary and college English and journalism. Her experience inside the classroom led to a focus on education as Iowa's First Lady, as a candidate for Congress and now as the spokesperson for USAID Education.

In her current role at USAID, Christie works with education sector partners and education leaders worldwide to build understanding of and support for international education solutions. She travels the world visiting and learning about USAID programs so she can tell the story of USAID Education to anyone she meets from Main Street to the halls of Congress.

Born and raised in Mount Pleasant, Iowa, Christie is a graduate of Kirkland College in Clinton, New York. She earned a master's degree in journalism from The University of Iowa. She and husband Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack have two married sons and two grandchildren. They have enjoyed a lifetime of public service together.