

# **Bill O'Keefe**

**Executive Vice President for Mission and Mobilization at Catholic Relief Services**

Washington, DC, US

Based on Capitol Hill, Bill O'Keefe oversees CRS' efforts to impact U.S. foreign policy in ways that reduce poverty overseas.

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## **Biography**

Based in Washington, D.C., Bill O'Keefe oversees efforts to ensure that U.S. foreign policy reduces poverty and promotes justice in developing countries where CRS works. He and his staff lobby Congress and the Administration on a range of issues, including migration, refugees, food security, and all aspects of U.S. foreign aid. Bill also works to involve American Catholics in public campaigns for policy change.

As of January 2019, Bill was named as the new Executive Vice President for Mission and Mobilization. Bill's new role will see him lead this new division to:

- Strengthen CRS' communion with the US Catholic Community and supportive entities
- Lead strategic issue-based campaigns
- Advocate for CRS' strategic objectives

Bill joined CRS in 1987 as a project manager in Tanzania, where he chaired the sub-regional task force on HIV and AIDS. He held several positions supporting CRS' work in Africa before beginning his work in advocacy in 2001. Bill has developed CRS' positions in the areas of U.S. foreign aid and agricultural trade, and ran a two-year campaign to involve Americans in improving U.S. policy toward Africa.

Bill holds a bachelor's degree from Yale and a master's degree in public policy from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard.

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## **Areas of Expertise**

International Relations, Humanitarian Aid Policy, Food Aid, Foreign Policy, Foreign Aid, Food Assistance, Development Assistance

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## **Affiliations**

U.S. Global Leadership Campaign : Member, Board of Directors

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## **Education**

**Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University**  
MA Public Policy & International Development

**Yale University**  
BS Chemistry

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