



*Thank you*

*You planted a seed of hope  
in Bhojpur.*

*Watch it bloom.*

The Seed

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Your 2016 sponsorship update  
from your sponsored child's community in India.

# Thank you for helping to bring hope to your sponsored child's community.

## A new future for children like Tanu

Tanu, 8, belongs to a low-caste group in Indian society. The children are least likely to attend school, owing to discrimination. Tanu and her friends were bullied by other children because they were unclean. She ran away from her local children's club the few times that she went because of how the other children treated her. Because the community excluded children like her, Tanu couldn't go to school.

Thanks to you, Meenu, 11, learned about life skills at her children's club. Meenu and her friends then got involved in the health and hygiene campaign with Tanu's community, and taught them about hygiene. After six months, Tanu's community began to manage the cleanliness of their homes and village.

The ripple effect of those life skills sessions means local children now stand up for themselves and support other children's development. Thanks to you and to the efforts of children like Meenu, Tanu's life has changed dramatically.

"While visiting the lower caste children, I felt some were ready to join primary school," says Meenu. Now Tanu and 13 other children from her community go to school.



**TOP RIGHT:** These formerly excluded children are happy to be learning at their local tuition centre.  
**BOTTOM:** Health education helps the community cope with the health problems that come from their traditional work of picking rubbish.





*“I am very happy to be part of this centre, now I am able to read, write and do simple maths. I have also learned how to keep clean,” says Tanu.*





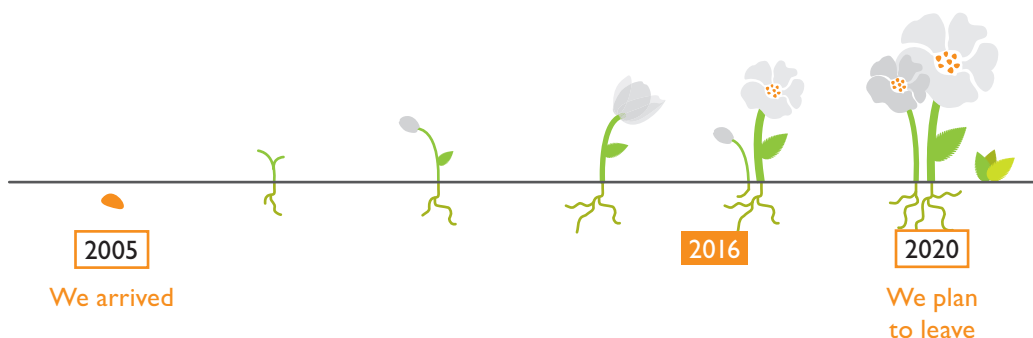
# We've come a long way, and we're still making progress — *all thanks to you.*

We've been working with the community of Bhojpur since **2005**. Back then, children faced many problems: poor education; poor knowledge about personal hygiene; malnutrition; and vulnerability to abuse.

Since then, things have begun to change for the better. The community wants to change the situation of inequality; parents have learned business skills, helping them provide for their children; families have received farming advice to help grow more food; there is better access to primary school education for children; and nutritious foods help children recover from malnutrition.

Despite these improvements, life is still hard for your sponsored child, and we really need your continuing support to ensure all the good we have managed to achieve for them isn't lost.

Thanks to your incredibly generous sponsorship of your sponsored child, we can stay in the area for another four to five years. We plan to leave in **2020**, but we will only go once we are confident that the change you have made, and the hope that you have given, will continue after we have left.





# How you have helped this year...

We've picked out a small selection of the ways you have helped to bring hope to your sponsored child and their community. The reality is that you've helped us achieve much, much more.

- \* Attitudes have changed and the community now sees how education gives their children opportunities.
- \* **95%** of the most vulnerable families now give their children milk to drink, keeping them strong and healthy.
- \* The community works together to fix the problem of teachers coming late to school.
- \* **40** boys and girls have passed a course that prepares them to apply for banking jobs.
- \* **15** families have enrolled their daughters in skills training this year.
- \* Children are bullied less and are gaining confidence now families understand good hygiene.
- \* Families use income from selling buffalo milk to buy healthy food and send their children to school.
- \* More children enjoy school and can say, like Anjali, "School is like a temple for me".
- \* Life skills classes in leadership and teamwork have given **600** young people confidence to make better life choices.

*"Seeing the video is very touching and makes my sponsorship more real to me."* Gillian, Newtownabbey.

Have you seen your video from your sponsored child's community showing just how much your support means to them? Watch it today.

Register now at [www.worldvision.org.uk/my-sponsorship](http://www.worldvision.org.uk/my-sponsorship).

See back cover for more details.



**TOP LEFT:** Thanks to help from sponsors, many children are now better fed and go to school. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Thanks to you, local children's centres help children to build their skills and confidence so they have a voice now, and into the future. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** 14 years old Anjali and Preshika find the library, provided by sponsors, invaluable for their studies.



## How do children like your sponsored child feel when they hear from their sponsor?

We asked sponsored children to share their thoughts with us...

*"I keep them in my secret box, so that no one can get them."* Elina, 5, Armenia.

*"I want to spend Christmas Day at church singing songs for my sponsor so that God can bless her."* Bibian, 15, Zambia.

*"I am happy to receive a Christmas card from my sponsor in the UK. I've shown it to my friends and I keep it in my bag. I want my sponsor to visit me, and I would love to say hello to them."* Sokly, 15, Cambodia.

However you choose to stay in touch with your sponsored child – whether by writing, emailing them on My Sponsorship, sharing photos or just taking a few moments in a busy day to think about or pray for them – thank you for bringing hope to your sponsored child.

Keep an eye out in the post as we'll send a Christmas card for you to send to your sponsored child in a few weeks' time.

**ABOVE:** Christmas cards add a spark of excitement to a normal day for Promise, 12, from Bangladesh.

*"I am very happy to see that I am in your thoughts. You are so special to me. I am thankful for all you have done for me."*

Gentiana, 12, Albania.



# For the long-term, for lasting change, **for ever.**

Thanks to you, and other sponsors who are equally generous, we can work alongside a community for 15 years. That gives us time to help them bring about lasting change themselves, so they can continue to care for children long after we've left. When we do leave, it's because they're strong enough to stand on their own two feet.

Amanda (pictured below) has sponsored six children over 31 years, including Wasim, who she met in person on a trip to Bangladesh. She knows how it feels to say goodbye after so many years...

*"It was a wrench... [but it was] so lovely to have that connection with Wasim and to see him grow and progress, and now we're sponsoring Joya. So we have every hope that she will progress as well as Wasim did."*

Mary has been a sponsor for 34 years. In this time she's sponsored eight children. She tells us what this was like for her...

*"As I never married and haven't had children of my own it's been a blessing knowing that I have helped in some way to improve the lives of children a long way away and let them know that I care about them and love them. I will always be a sponsor and support World Vision even when I'm gone."*

## How you can improve the lives of children for ever

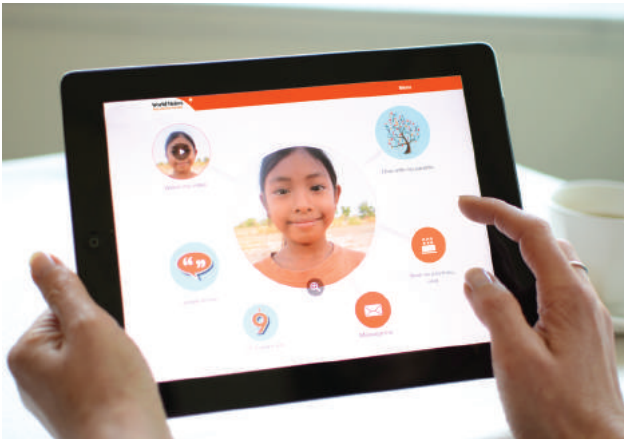
You're already creating a legacy by giving real hope to your sponsored child and their community. A legacy of permanent, positive change. By leaving a gift in your will, you can continue to bring life in all its fullness to vulnerable children for generations to come.

To find out more about this way of giving, please call our Legacy team on

**01908 84 10 60** or email [legacies@worldvision.org.uk](mailto:legacies@worldvision.org.uk)



# Feel closer than ever before



Go to My Sponsorship today

*“I love being able to send a message. It’s so easy to do and brings them closer as part of the family.”*

Ruth, Billingham.

My Sponsorship is the place on our website where you can find out more about your sponsored child, send messages, see photos and watch videos.

Here’s what sponsors like about it...

*“The video is amazing! Brought a tear to my eye.”* Joanna, Newtownards.

*“It’s great to see more photos of the community where my sponsored child lives (I went through every photo looking out for her).”* Hannah, London.

*“I love the part where I can send pictures and tell them about a day in my life. Seeing the videos of what’s happening in the communities just makes it so real.”* Kathryn, Kings Lynn.

## How to register?

Go to [www.worldvision.org.uk/my-sponsorship](http://www.worldvision.org.uk/my-sponsorship) to register today.

All you’ll need is your Supporter ID.



This Halloween, join in with other sponsors and carve a **heart** in your pumpkin as a symbol of hope for children living in fear.

For more ideas and to find out how you can get involved visit [www.worldvision.org.uk/carveaheart](http://www.worldvision.org.uk/carveaheart)

#carveaheart



CARVE  HEART

World Vision is the world’s largest international children’s charity. Every day we bring real hope to millions of children in the world’s hardest places as a sign of God’s unconditional love.

#WorldVisionUK



**FRONT COVER:** These children from India now have hope. © 2015 World Vision / Mahima Sash

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