



Thank you

*You planted a seed of hope
in Bolivar.*

Watch it bloom.

The Seed

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

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

Lifeline of a pipeline

Calixta, 15, used to fear her 300-metre walk to the bottom of the mountain to collect water for her family. With a heavy bucket on her head, the rocky walk home was even worse.

With your sponsorship, local fathers persuaded community elders and local suppliers to provide them with equipment and technical help to build a pipeline.

Families now enjoy clean water pumped to their homes, and Calixta doesn't need to make her daunting walk – all thanks to you.

Now local families have more than just fresh water on their doorstep. They have worked together to build a stronger community. They use their combined voices to get what they need and to fight for their rights. Bolivar community has firm foundations for a brighter future, thanks to your support.



ABOVE: Families don't worry about getting ill now they have clean drinking water close to their homes. © 2016 World Vision. **RIGHT:** Thanks to you, Calixta, 15, can get water without a dangerous walk. © 2016 World Vision

“It is so great you helped us. We now have clean water and this is very valuable to us.”





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

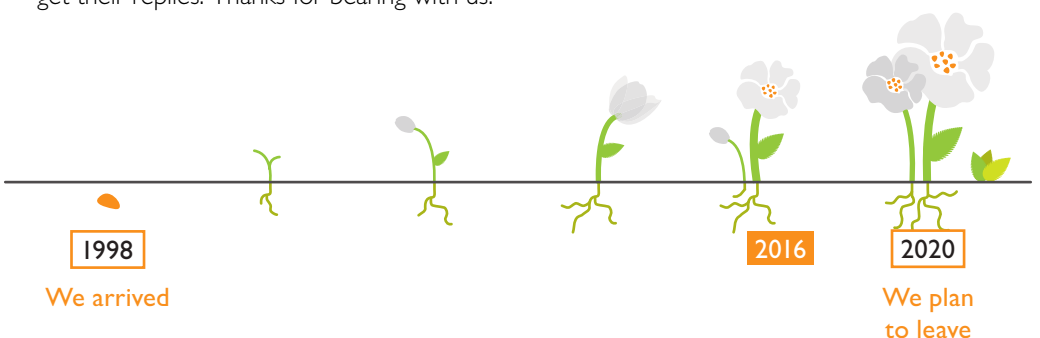
We've been working with the community of Bolivar since **1998**. Back then, children faced many problems: the fear of catching a preventable disease; malnutrition; poor education; and low household incomes.

Since then, things have begun to change for the better. Families have learned how to feed their children nutritious meals so they grow up healthy; children are being vaccinated and protected against preventable diseases; most children can drink safe water and are less fearful that quenching their thirst will make them sick; and new ways of teaching have improved children's schoolwork.

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.

Just to say: The landscape means villages are far away from one another with hills and dirt tracks in between. This means it can take longer to deliver letters and cards to children and get their replies. Thanks for bearing with us.



How you have helped this year...

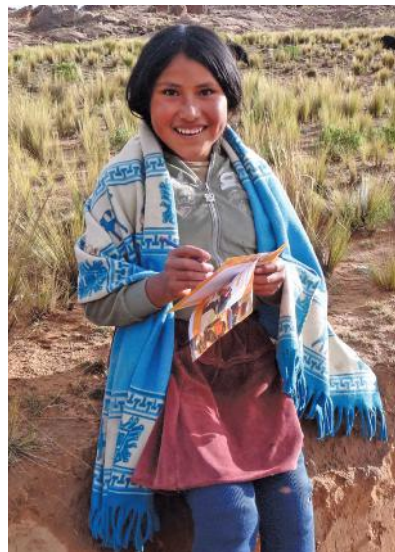
We've picked out a small selection of the ways you have helped to bring hope to your sponsored child and their community. The reality is that you've helped us achieve much, much more.

- * Families don't need to walk far to get clean water now they can use the new water pipeline.
- * Children enjoy reading and gain confidence by going to reading groups.
- * Children are getting better at reading and maths thanks to extra lessons.
- * Parents share childcare more since attending equality workshops which have brought families together.
- * If children get sick they have the best medical care at **2** new community health centres.
- * A local water management group looks after the water pipes and makes sure everyone gets safe, clean water.
- * Children learn, play and make friends in a safe environment at **10** new nurseries.
- * Families in Bolivar work together to celebrate their community with games, music and activities.

“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. See back cover for more details.



TOP LEFT: Families have community support and are healthy, thanks to you. © 2016 World Vision.
BOTTOM LEFT: Ricardo, 4, loves playing and drawing at the Children's Centre, set up with your support.
BOTTOM RIGHT: Elizabeth, 13, loves exchanging letters with her sponsor and sharing her dreams.



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 Margarita, from Bolivia. © 2015 Eugene Lee / World Vision.

"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

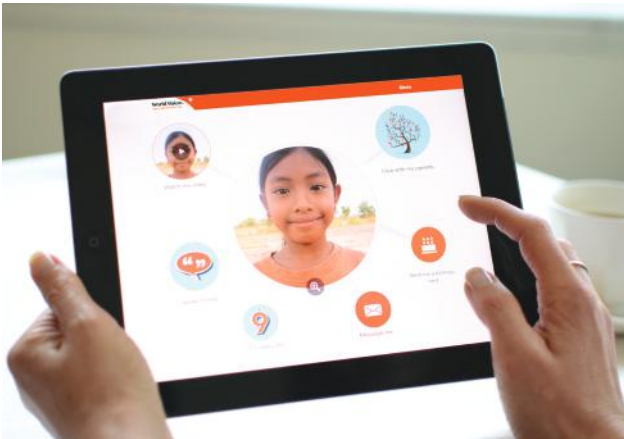
You're already creating a legacy by giving real hope to your sponsored child and their community. A legacy of permanent, positive change. By leaving a gift in your will, you can continue to bring life in all its fullness to vulnerable children for generations to come.

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



Feel closer than ever before



“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.

Go to My Sponsorship today

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 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

#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.

FRONT COVER: Darwin, with his sisters, Ofelia and Maritza, from Bolivia.

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