



Thank you

*You planted a seed of hope
in Comunidades Solidarias.*

Watch it bloom.

The Seed

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

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

“I have learned to overcome fear and to express myself better.”

Dilmer, 12, is in grade seven. School used to be a hard place for him to go, and he would worry about what others thought of him.

Now, thanks to you, he enjoys going to school and is enthusiastic and helpful in class. He is so confident that he's tutoring other children who have learning difficulties. He supports boys and girls, helping them grow in self-confidence and teaching them to read and write. Now Dilmer is on the school government and is a voice for those who had none.

Dilmer has recently become the leader of a group speaking out for other boys and girls who need help and support from their community. He organises activities for them, giving them an opportunity to learn and take part in games, making them feel included and valued. "I'm happy to meet people from different places, as well as with boys and girls from other schools," he says.



TOP RIGHT: Dilmer with his family, who have helped support him so he can support others. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Thanks to sponsorship, Dilmer has become more self-confident. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Dilmer and his friends presenting their new ideas to a panel at school. This page and opposite: © 2016 World Vision



“I thank God, my family, teachers, friends and sponsor for making this possible. I’m proud to be part of this and will fight for the boys and girls,” says Dilmer.





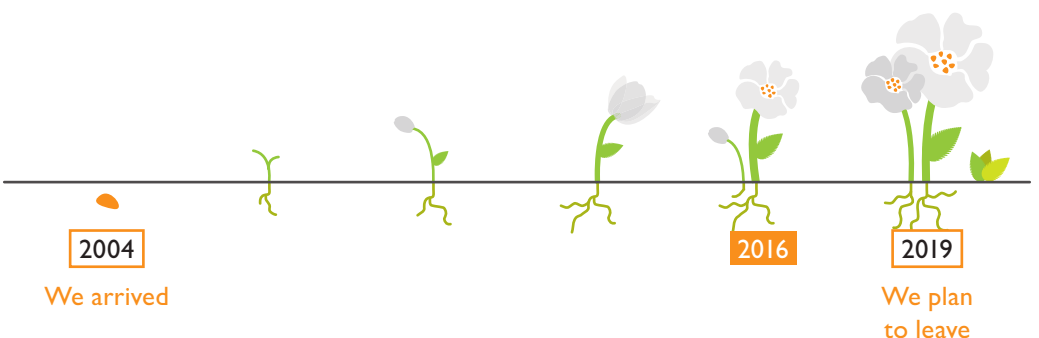
We've come a long way, and we're still making progress — *all thanks to you.*

We've been working with the community of Comunidades Solidarias since **2004**. Back then, children faced many problems: malnutrition; lack of sanitation; poor education; and feeling unsafe owing to high levels of violence.

Since then, things have begun to change for the better. Fewer children are malnourished, and immunisation against preventable diseases has led to less fear about falling ill; schools are more welcoming places for children, and families are learning to keep their children safe. Despite these improvements, life is still hard for children like your sponsored child.

Families are being hit hard by El Nino. With weather changing abruptly from drought to floods, they are finding it hard to grow crops and plan for their futures. But thanks to you, we're able to work alongside families, to help them cope. We really need your continuing support to ensure all the good we have managed to achieve isn't lost.

Thanks to your incredibly generous sponsorship of your sponsored child, we can stay in the area for another three to four years. We plan to leave in **2019**, 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.

- * A community group looks after the most vulnerable children.
- * **199** families have safe drinking water near their homes.
- * More children go to school because their parents can earn enough money.
- * **341** families grow their own vegetables so their children enjoy healthy meals.
- * **552** families live in safe homes, with new roofs and clean water.
- * **238** families joined savings groups and started their own businesses.
- * Boys and girls have formed children's groups to learn about their rights.
- * Budding entrepreneurs are learning about new projects helping change their future.

"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: Thanks to you, these children can meet in a safe place to learn about their rights and express themselves through play. **BOTTOM LEFT:** A decent education should be every child's birthright. Thanks to you, these children are able to fulfil their potential. © 2016 World Vision. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Thanks to you, children like Erika can get the medical care they need to stay healthy.



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



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 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.

#WorldVisionUK



FRONT COVER: Sevin, 12, and his brother Lester from Honduras. © 2013 Laura Reinhardt / World Vision

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