



Thank you

*You planted a seed of hope
in Khantati.*

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.

A health group gives a new mother a lifeline

Ricarda gave birth to her first child, a girl called Ramírez. Life as a single mother was hard. With no husband to support her, she was left to fend for herself, her newborn baby and the rest of her family.

Thanks to generous sponsors like you, Ricarda was able to get vital help and support. Joining a local health group, she went along to postnatal classes and nutrition training, getting the support she so desperately needed. Ricarda can't talk owing to a severe speech impediment, but she didn't let that stop her.

"I take my little girl to the health centre for check-ups. Although I cannot speak, my neighbours understand me and help the doctors and nurses understand what I need," she said. "I help my family by taking care of our goats, sheep and cows every day." She makes sure the whole family are looked after, having three hearty meals a day.

Thank you for supporting mothers like Ricarda when they need it most. Babies are now growing up strong and healthy, and their mothers are now well equipped to look after them.



TOP RIGHT: Ricarda holds her newborn baby Ramírez. Thanks to you, both are healthy and well. © 2016 World Vision. **BOTTOM:** Thanks to your support, Ricarda and Ramírez are getting the support and care they need with the local health group. © 2016 World Vision



The local health group provided postnatal classes and nutrition training that Ricarda and baby girl Ramírez so desperately needed.





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

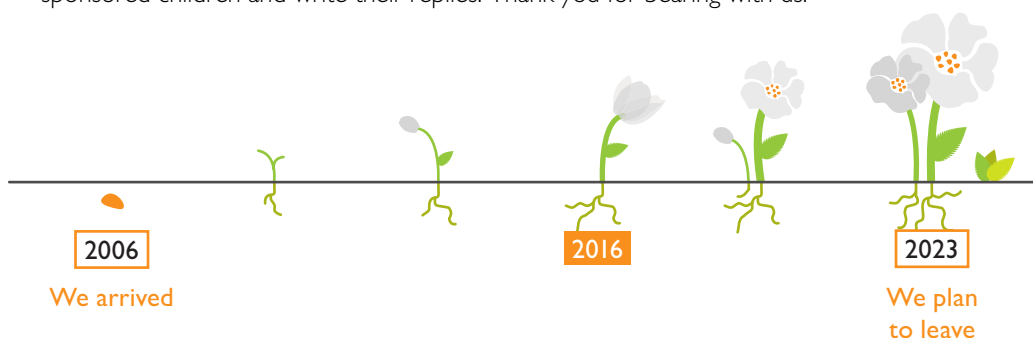
We've been working with the community of Khantati since **2006**. Back then, children faced many problems: malnutrition; low household incomes; social and emotional isolation; and, sadly for a few, little support from their parents.

Since then, things have begun to change for the better. More families grow nutritious food, so their children are better nourished; schools have new equipment and have become more welcoming places for children; and teachers have been trained, so they can help children to reach their full potential and be successful later on in life.

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 seven to eight years. We plan to leave in **2023**, 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 in Bolivia 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 sponsored children and write their replies. Thank you 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.

- * Mothers get support and training in how to breastfeed and care for their newborn babies, through new mothers' groups.
- * Children's clubs now teach children about life-skills such as self-confidence, drama and teamwork.
- * 15 teachers have had extra training, giving children the best possible chance to learn in class.
- * 86% of new mums are now exclusively breastfeeding.
- * Families have been helped to start up small businesses, providing an income for them and their children.
- * Health groups have been set up so families can access health services.
- * Families have been shown how to grow crops in their gardens, meaning their children can enjoy nutritious meals.
- * Children have learned about their rights and how to protect and keep themselves safe, giving them hope for the 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: “We love drawing and writing. We get to travel to a fantasy world and we can create and invent stories with Storyteller’s World,” says Paola, 11 (wearing red). **BOTTOM LEFT:** “I like writing letters to my sponsor because I have made a story about my community’s customs,” says Jhonny, 13. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** “I know how to harvest my own food at the school greenhouse now. It’s fun to learn with my classmates and we grow real lettuces,” says Ivan, 11.



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.

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

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