



Thank you

*You planted a seed of hope
in Kilimatinde.*

Watch it bloom.

The Seed

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

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

Joan* escaped early marriage to continue her education

Joan* is 13 years old. During a holiday at her grandmother's, she was introduced to a man much older than her and then forcibly taken to his house and kept a prisoner for three days.

In the end, Joan managed to escape, running barefoot from the house in the middle of the night. "I spent the night in a tree: I felt this was safer than being caught trying to leave," Joan says.

She made her way back home to her aunt's house the next day, arriving exhausted and frightened. Through sponsors' help, Joan had been taught about child rights in the community and understood that what was happening to her was a violation of her rights.

Thanks to you, Joan received psychological support and counselling from the World Vision child protection team. She soon started to feel safe again under her aunt's protection. Now she is in school and studying hard to realise her dream of becoming a teacher. "I really would not like to see this happening to any other children again. I advise fellow children to be courageous, just like I was," Joan says.

* Joan's name has been changed to protect her identity.



TOP RIGHT: Joan (right) and her aunt, Maria (left), collecting produce together from their community garden. **BOTTOM:** Thanks to you, Joan was able to escape the fear of early marriage. She is safe, able to attend school and is working towards her dream of becoming a teacher. All images © 2016 World Vision



“I thank God for rescuing me from early marriage because otherwise I may not have been able to proceed with my studies,” says Joan.





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

We've been working with the community of Kilimatinde since **2003**. Back then, children faced many problems: lack of clean water; lack of basic sanitation; fear of illness; and hunger and malnutrition.

Since then, things have begun to change for the better. More children are recovering from malnutrition and growing up healthy and strong; thousands more mothers know how to feed their children healthier diets; children have received vitamin supplements to further safeguard their health; and better water storage is helping families to drink safe, clean water.

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 six to seven years. We plan to leave in **2022**, 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.

2003

We arrived

2016

2022

We plan
to leave

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.

- * We've given **4,653** young children important vaccinations, helping to protect them from life-threatening diseases.
- * **5,700** children are sleeping more safely at night under a mosquito net, helping to protect them from malaria.
- * We've trained **146** adults to grow nutritious crops, like rice and vegetables, and sunflowers for oil.
- * We're supporting more mothers before and after birth. **1,980** have attended clinics to help keep themselves and their unborn babies safe.
- * We're improving hygiene for **6,800** people by making sure they have better toilets, drying racks for dishes, and pits for household waste.
- * **14** savings and loans groups are helping more families to be independent and to start their own businesses. **501** people benefited from a loan.
- * **143** more children now have a birth certificate. This allows them to have better healthcare and have the best start in life.
- * **75** adults have been trained to grow drought-resistant crops to help feed their families.

"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: Sponsored child Anna, (front left), and her family celebrating the new harvest from their farm.
BOTTOM LEFT: Mariam, 48, is harvesting tomatoes at her community garden with her grandson Anuari, 4.
BOTTOM RIGHT: Rev is one of the bee-keepers trained and supported with modern beehives thanks to you. From selling his honey, he can now support his family and pay for nutritious food and school materials.



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 Letson, 5, from Zambia.

"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: Omary, 13, and his younger sister, Mwanaidi, from Tanzania. © 2016 World Vision

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