



*Thank you*

*You planted a seed of hope  
in Kibiga-Mulagi.*

*Watch it bloom.*

  
**The Seed**

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

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

## Agnes shows the way to a bright future

Agnes, 18, dropped out of school because of early pregnancy. She had no hope of fulfilling her dreams or completing her studies. Then she was chosen for a vocational skills course. Thanks to you, Agnes and other young people learned trades such as knitting and hairdressing.

Her new skills became her stepping stone to the future. She started a business knitting baby stockings and found a ready market for her products. She saved to expand her business and started knitting other baby clothes.

Her success encouraged more young people to join the skills course, and Agnes started to train and employ local girls.

Agnes has now used her savings to move into mushroom growing, learning from a successful local farmer. She sells to local hotels and restaurants.

Now Agnes can support her family, paying for medical bills and school fees. The girls she employs can also provide for their families. Thanks to you, Agnes has a bright future and is a role model to other girls.



**ABOVE:** Agnes started her own successful business, thanks to your support. **RIGHT:** Agnes is attending to her mushrooms. Because of your support, she has been able to use her savings and move into mushroom growing.



*“I used to rely on my mother to care for my child as I was often unable to meet all of my own needs and those of my child. I appreciate World Vision’s support which has allowed me to gain these skills. I have also been able to bless other young adults my age, who are learning from my experience.”*





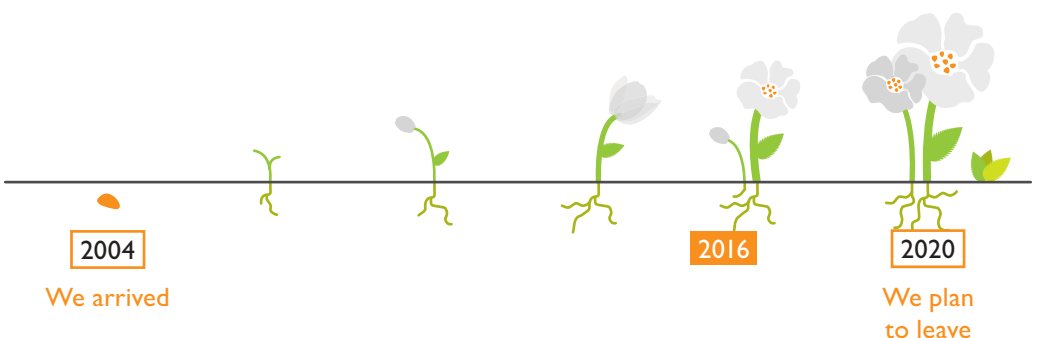
# We've come a long way, and we're still making progress — *all thanks to you.*

We've been working in the community of Kibiga-Mulagi since **2004**. Back then, children faced many problems: the grief and loss of being orphaned through AIDS; fear of sexual abuse or early marriage; poor education and sanitation; and the risk of malnutrition.

Since then, things have begun to change for the better. Children know that they have rights and are less fearful of being abused; more children are going to school and receiving a better education; and children who have lost their parents from AIDS are now being cared for by the community.

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.

- \* Children are protected from preventable diseases and family health has improved, now there are **142** trained health teams.
- \* **1,359** community members learned about child protection and now know how to keep children safe.
- \* More children are protected from malaria with fewer cases every year.
- \* **94%** of children say they feel confident that they know their rights and are able to speak out about them.
- \* **37** older children have learned vocational skills, such as knitting and hairdressing, to equip them for the future.
- \* **178** school leaders have had skills training to help them improve in their roles and strengthen their schools.
- \* **82%** of children go to children's clubs, where they learn important life skills with their friends.
- \* **2,193** children under five years old have received life-saving immunisations.

*"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 you, three-quarters of children now stay on to complete their primary education. **BOTTOM LEFT:** 430 local children celebrate the Day of the African Child and learn to express themselves with dance and song. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Thanks to you, students at the local school now have a handwashing area and know how to protect themselves from disease.



## 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.

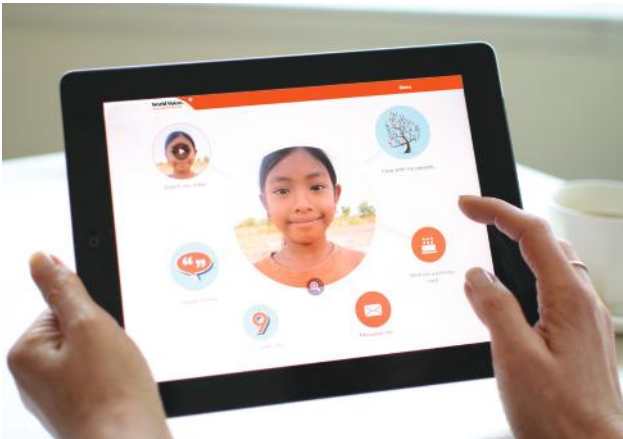
To find out more about this way of giving, please call our Legacy team on

**01908 84 10 60** or email [legacies@worldvision.org.uk](mailto: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](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 A 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:** Lillian, 9, and her half sister Milika, also 9, from Uganda.

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