



Thank you

*You planted a seed of hope
in Patiana.*

Watch it bloom.

The Seed

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

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

Clean hands mean a brighter future for Amena

Amena, 11, loves going to school. She particularly enjoys science but used to regularly miss classes because she was ill. With no taps at school, she couldn't wash her hands before eating lunch or after using the latrines. She lived in fear of getting diarrhoea and, even more, falling behind in her studies.

Thanks to you, a community group were trained in the importance of hand-washing and learned how to make a 'tip-tap' – a free-standing frame with a pedal attached to a container that tips water to wash with. So simple, yet life-changing.

Children and their families now wash their hands with clean water and soap. Mothers used to clean cooking utensils with sand but now they use the tip-tap and are much happier and healthier.

Thanks to you, Amena can now enjoy a happy and healthy childhood, playing with her friends and studying for a brighter future.



TOP RIGHT: Amena, 11, shows her friends how to use the tip-tap at school – thanks to you, she is no longer afraid of missing school because of diarrhoea. © 2016 World Vision. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Saliou, 19, in the green top, teaches other children about the importance of only washing with clean water from the tip-tap. © 2016 World Vision



“There is less diarrhoea and fewer skin infections among our children,” Amena’s father, Hamady, says, “Parents understand the importance of hygiene and they buy soap now.”



TOP MIDDLE: Families can now provide for their children. Growing onions on their small plots of land means they can keep some for meals and sell the rest at market. **BOTTOM MIDDLE:** Nurseries have new swings and playground games so children can enjoy break times playing with their friends. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Sagna, 8, washes his hands using the tip-tap. It’s a simple technology that makes a big difference to these children’s health. Thanks to you. © 2016 World Vision



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

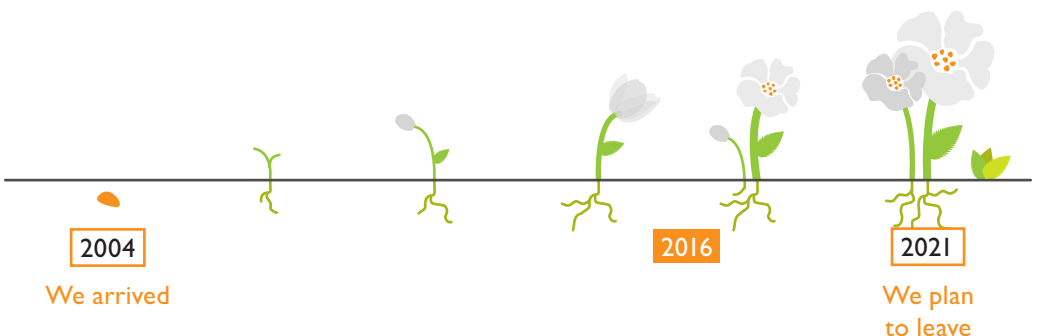
We've been working with the community of Patiana since **2004**. Back then, children faced many problems: poverty; lack of food; malnutrition; fear of illness; and poor education.

Since then, things have begun to change for the better. Children who are malnourished receive care and extra food to help them recover, develop and grow as they should; healthcare services have expanded, so families and children can get medical care when they need it; and new classrooms and resources are helping children improve in school, giving them hope for a bright future.

Despite these improvements, life is still hard for your sponsored child, and we really need your continuing support to ensure all the good we've achieved for them isn't lost.

Thanks to your incredibly generous sponsorship of your sponsored child, we can stay in the area for another five to six years. We plan to leave in **2021**, 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: Most families struggle with reading and writing, and with only dirt tracks for volunteers to travel on, replies to letters and cards can take a long time. 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.

- * More births than ever are being registered, meaning children can enrol in school and get an education.
- * Children's councils have been set up, teaching children about their rights.
- * More boys and girls are in school getting an education.
- * Latrines have been built at schools to improve hygiene and encourage more girls to stay in school.
- * 5 fully equipped health centres have been built in remote villages.
- * The number of mothers giving birth at their local health centre has doubled.
- * We've trained 52 women to make soap, helping them increase their income.
- * Women are growing vegetables in their gardens, so they can cook their children nutritious meals.

"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, savings groups like this one are changing women's lives. It means they can earn a small income to better care for their children. **BOTTOM LEFT:** More babies get life saving immunisations, thanks to you. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Children and their parents gather round to see how to use a 'tip-tap' to wash their hands, so they can stay healthy. © 2016 World Vision



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

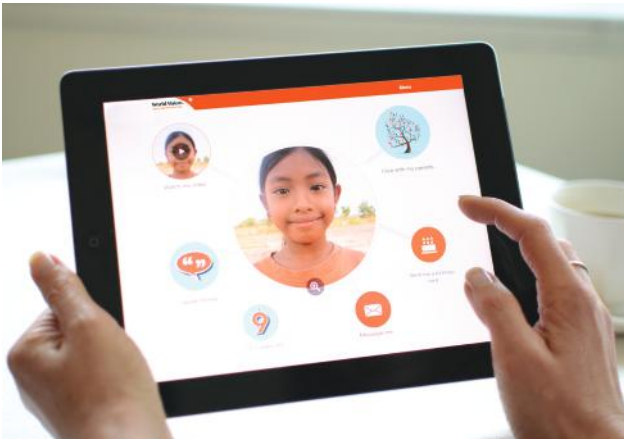
You're already creating a legacy by giving real hope to your sponsored child and their community. A legacy of permanent, positive change. By leaving a gift in your will, you can continue to bring life in all its fullness to vulnerable children for generations to come.

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: These children from Senegal have hope for the future. © 2016 World Vision

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