



Thank you

*You planted a seed of hope
in Sacaca.*

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.

How Elsa is about to make history

Elsa, 16, is soon to make history. She'll be the first in her family to graduate from high school, a milestone only possible thanks to you. Elsa and her friends are studying hard for their exams, but it hasn't been an easy journey. Elsa used to wave goodbye to her parents at 6am and begin the two-hour walk along unpaved hilly tracks to school.

After school, Elsa would make the two-hour walk back and start her homework. Her home didn't have electricity and the light she used was so dim it would give her headaches. Elsa's mother tells us, "We wanted to take her out of school. It was dangerous for her to walk so far, but Elsa didn't want to drop out of school."

Thanks to you, Elsa's future is much brighter. Her school and home both have electricity, and she no longer fears getting headaches as she does her homework. There is now a school just a few minutes' walk from her home, so Elsa and her friends don't have to walk the dangerous and dark paths leaving early in the morning and getting home late at night. "I want to be a teacher and teach every girl how important studying is," Elsa says.



TOP RIGHT: Elsa shows off her workbook. © 2016 World Vision. **BOTTOM:** Elsa (left) with her cousin. "I want to be a teacher and teach every girl how important studying is," Elsa says. © 2016 World Vision



“I walked with the children from my town. We were always laughing and playing but we never separated from each other because sometimes it was dangerous,” Elsa says.





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

We've been working with the community of Sacaca since **2003**. Back then, children faced many problems: hunger and malnutrition; lack of clean water; risk of disease; and poor education.

Since then, things have begun to change for the better. More children now drink safe water and are less fearful of catching diseases; parents can now prepare nutritious meals, protecting their children's health so they develop properly; new farming methods mean that children are less fearful of hunger; and teachers are using new teaching methods, so children are doing better at school.

Thanks to your incredibly generous sponsorship of your sponsored child, we can stay in the area for another year. We plan to leave next year in **2017**, as we are confident that by then the change you have made, and the hope that you have given, will continue after we have left.

Just to say: The landscape 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 children and get their replies. Thanks for bearing with us.

2003

We arrived

2016 2017

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.

- * Families are enjoying nutritious meals because they have learned to grow lettuce, parsley, tomatoes, radishes, spinach, beans and cabbage.
- * Children have been given school equipment so they can go to school and get the best start in life.
- * Children are protected from life threatening diseases because they are getting vaccinated.
- * 6 local health centre committees have been set up so families can all have access to good health care near their homes.
- * Families now have greenhouses where they can grow vegetables to cook their children nutritious meals.
- * Water taps are being built near homes, so families can enjoy clean drinking water whenever they want.
- * Farmers have been taught how to build irrigation systems so they can grow crops all year round to sell at the market.
- * Over **2,000** children had dental check-ups and were given toothbrushes and toothpaste to help keep them healthy and well.

“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: “I’m a youth group member and with my teacher we performed to other school children; they were really happy and so was I,” says Celso, 17. **BOTTOM LEFT:** “I am glad for the help I have received. With this I know I can improve my life,” says Cesar, 15, with the bull he received to help his family. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Thanks to you, children now know about their rights and the importance of education.
© 2015 Andy Reed/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 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

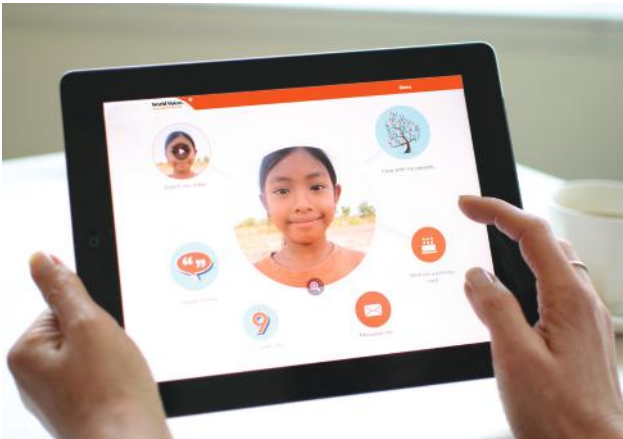
You're already creating a legacy by giving real hope to your sponsored child and their community. A legacy of permanent, positive change. By leaving a gift in your will, you can continue to bring life in all its fullness to vulnerable children for generations to come.

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



“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 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 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.

#WorldVisionUK



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

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