

WorldVision

SPRING 2021



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STEPPING FORWARD

How a \$1 billion campaign aims to make life, hope, and a future possible for 60 million people

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RESPONDING TO
COVID-19 IN THE
NAVAJO NATION

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THE SYRIAN
REFUGEE CRISIS
AFTER 10 YEARS

Share your legacy with vulnerable children



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ON THE COVER

Mary, 4, is a sponsored child in central Malawi who also benefits from World Vision's Every Last One campaign.

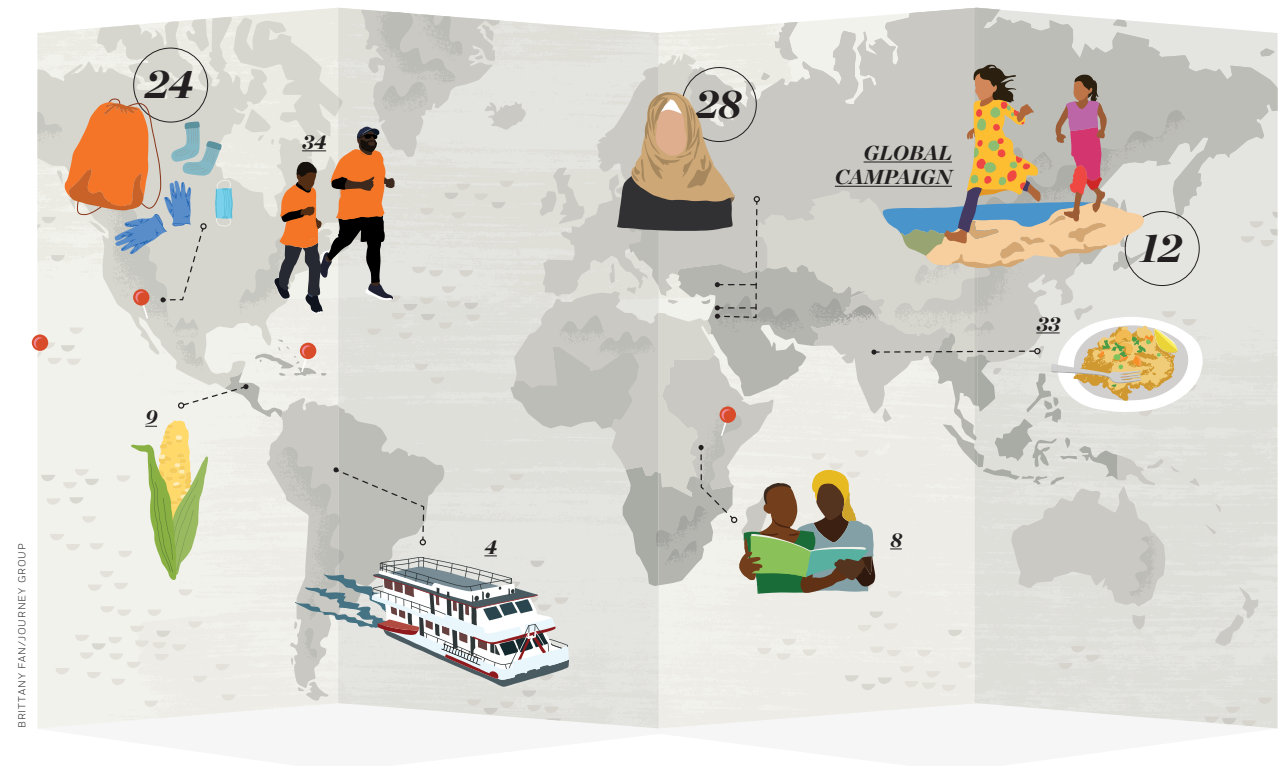
JON WARREN/WORLD VISION

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"My prayers have been answered. The water is very close now."

—Ireen in Malawi, who we introduced you to last spring



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EXPLORING OUR WORK

Each icon below corresponds to an area of World Vision's work. Use these to guide you topically as you explore this issue.

- Health
- Education
- Child protection
- Child sponsorship
- Poverty in America
- Christian faith
- Gender equality
- Economic empowerment
- Emergency response
- Disability inclusion
- Clean water
- Hunger and food security
- Refugees
- Prayer



If we believe, we can achieve

By Edgar Sandoval Sr.

A FEW YEARS AGO IN DURAME, ETHIOPIA, I drank clean water from what locals call the Well of Prayer. The water was good, but the story of how the well got its name was even better.

Other organizations had drilled six times for clean water in this arid place, without success. When World Vision arrived to make our attempt, the people might have said not to bother, since everyone else had failed. Instead they said, “We must pray and fast, and the Lord will bring us water.”

So that’s what they did, for three days. The drilling started, descending 100 meters, 150 meters, 200 meters, 280 meters deep—no water. Undaunted, people kept praying. And the team resumed drilling, deeper and deeper, down 300 meters, and kept going.

Finally, at the significant depth of 318 meters, water gushed up! And the Well of Prayer got its name.

Yes, there were water technology experts on the job, armed with the best drilling machinery. And clearly the water was there. But without faith, we couldn’t reach it.

Belief is at the heart of any important effort. Belief in God, that He is who He says He is, and that His promises are true. Belief in our identity as God’s creation, chosen for a special purpose. And belief that every last one of God’s children deserves life, hope, and a future.

Jesus himself told us, “Everything is possible for one who believes” (Mark 9:23).

World Vision U.S. President and CEO Edgar Sandoval Sr. visits the Well of Prayer in Ethiopia. (Photo taken prior to COVID-19.)

**Includes the number of unique participants in each of our Signature Initiative programs. Because of World Vision’s multi-sector approach, some people will participate in more than one program.*

Faith in Jesus Christ motivated World Vision to take a bold step 10 years ago, to stand up against extreme poverty around the world. In 2011, we set an audacious goal to raise \$500 million and help 20 million people worldwide. We believed in the overwhelming generosity of our donors and in the hard work of the families we serve. By God’s grace and answered prayer, we exceeded our goal and reached more than 25 million people, half of them children.

Today, we’re aiming to reach 60 million* more people with practical help and tools to empower them to lift themselves out of poverty. Why go further? A better question is, why not? If we believe Jesus is “the same yesterday and today and forever,” as Hebrews 13:8 says, then we know Jesus was not only the Miracle Worker in biblical times but that He continues to work miracles today, through His people, for the glory of God.

We have unbeatable partners—supporters like you and the families we’re working alongside. You are all world-changers. Together, we can’t stop at “good enough” when we’re capable of so much more.

Even today, confronted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, we must press on. We’ve seen the Lord’s faithfulness over seven decades of ministry around the world. That gives us full confidence that He will continue to use us today, in the here and now. To take on extreme poverty, a goal made harder by the coronavirus. To go to the world’s toughest places, where God is already at work.

The people of Durame, Ethiopia, exemplified that believers pulling in the same direction with persistence and prayer are a powerful force. That’s why I truly believe that you, I, and every last one of us can be God’s instrument in transforming lives. So let’s press into the miraculous, yielding to the Holy Spirit to do His transformative work around the world. 🙏



Edgar Sandoval Sr. is president and CEO of World Vision U.S. Follow him at twitter.com/EdgarSandovalSr.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
—ROMANS 15:13

Embark

COME IN AND SEE THE WORLD

PRAYER

Almighty God, we trust in Your sovereignty. Fill us with Your hope and peace despite any challenges we face.



Haiti

Six-month-old Djennayson gets weighed at a World Vision health event. Healthcare workers weigh children to ensure they’re not malnourished, monitor other vital signs, and provide needed vaccinations. Djennayson is the youngest of his mom Nanise’s six children. The 33-year-old brought him to get the vaccinations he was due for and says, “I want him to be in good health—that’s why I came today. It took me one hour to come here, but it’s worth it.”

(Photo taken prior to COVID-19.)



STAFF ON THE SOLIDARITY
HAVE DISTRIBUTED

2,600

FOOD BOXES, **2,700** HYGIENE
KITS, **2,800** CHILDREN'S KITS,
AND **2,000** DENTAL HYGIENE
KITS TO HELP **2,100** FAMILIES.



Brazil

The Amazon River teems with life, traveling more than 4,000 miles through eight South American countries. Brazil's had more than 11 million coronavirus cases, causing over 287,000 deaths. As cases increased along the Amazon, so did fears about loss of life. "We are seeing people in need like we have never seen them before," says Pastor Francisco Chaves dos Santos of the Presbyterian Church of Manaus. The church has partnered with World Vision for 15 years to help vulnerable communities. Among the millions of people who live here are Indigenous families who draw sustenance from the water that also brings outside travelers—and with them, the coronavirus. Ferrying in hope is a team of healthcare workers and volunteers aboard a medical ship called the *Solidarity*, operated by World Vision. The *Solidarity* has sailed to isolated communities to deliver food boxes, issue essential first-aid supplies, and provide medical care to 2,100 families in Brazil hit hard by the pandemic.

ÁLVARO JÚNIOR/WORLD VISION



BECAUSE OF OUR
COMMUNITY-FOCUSED
SOLUTIONS, FOR EVERY
CHILD YOU HELP,
4 MORE CHILDREN
BENEFIT, TOO.



Kenya

While the world turns its eyes to the Olympic Games this summer, we think of everyday athletes we met before the COVID-19 pandemic began. After school while hanging out with his friends, a 16-year-old effortlessly catapults himself in the air while pole vaulting, creating a cloud of dust when he lands. At Kwakaturge Primary School in Mwala, students benefit from World Vision child sponsorship whether or not they're sponsored. World Vision built a water tank at the school and supported students with new study books.

(Photo taken prior to COVID-19.)

HEATHER KLINGER/WORLD VISION



Rwanda

Eleven-year-old Keza reads a book to her adoptive mother, Dativa. The book comes courtesy of World Vision's Unlock Literacy program. Dativa dreamed of getting an education, but due to family struggles, she left school and never learned to read. She spent 20 years caring for her mother, until the Rwandan genocide took her mother's life. Her husband died too, leaving her to raise their children alone, but she has scraped together enough money to send her oldest child to secondary school. Her second child is in ninth grade. She wants to send both to university so they have opportunities she never had.

(Photo taken prior to COVID-19.)

LAURA REINHARDT/WORLD VISION

82,880

STORYBOOKS
PURCHASED



SCAN THE CODE

to watch a video about two women and two girls on different paths because of literacy.

COVER STORY | 12

World Vision's launching its most ambitious campaign ever. Learn more about how we're already empowering people and how you can get involved.

Discover

EXPLORE THE ISSUES FACING PEOPLE IN POVERTY

"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."
—MATTHEW 25:40



Honduras

In Yoro, Miguel Guzman, 42, proudly displays the corn he grew with help from a World Vision agricultural kit that included fertilizer, seeds, and germicide. Not only did the 44 farmers who used the kit grow more corn, they were each able to give 200 pounds of corn to families affected by back-to-back hurricanes, Eta and Iota, that devastated Honduras in November 2020.

RAFAEL ZALVADAR/WORLD VISION



HEYDI ORTEGA OROZCO/WORLD VISION

DISASTER RESPONSE

Aftermath of Hurricanes Eta and Iota

In November 2020, our emergency response teams raced against time to prepare communities in Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatemala, and El Salvador for Hurricanes Eta and Iota.

Eta made landfall in Nicaragua as a Category 4 storm on November 3. Iota then struck—about 15 miles south of Eta—as a Category 4 on November 16. The storms packed powerful winds and caused heavy rains, flooding, and mudslides. The devastation left hundreds dead and more than 2 million people homeless in Central America.

World Vision has assisted 266,161 people in Central America with humanitarian aid, which includes child protection programs; clean water, sanitation, and hygiene behavior-change support; shelter; food supplies; and COVID-19 protection kits for children and their families. Our pre-positioned supplies worldwide ensure emergency relief teams can respond immediately to disasters like Hurricanes Eta and Iota. —Sevil Omer



GESLER SEREN/WORLD VISION



WINAI SITTINUKULCHAI/WORLD VISION

Children in Phuket province in southern Thailand learn how to properly wash their hands to help prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Hope in spite of COVID-19



WORLD VISION'S GLOBAL COVID-19 RESPONSE HAS REACHED 59.5 MILLION PEOPLE WITH SUPPORT, SUPPLIES, AND STAY-SAFE MESSAGING.



MORE THAN 66,000 FAMILY EMERGENCY KITS, SERVING OVER 223,000 CHILDREN AND ADULTS IN THE U.S., HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED THROUGH A NETWORK OF OVER 1,300 CHURCHES.



IN THE U.S. ALONE, WORLD VISION HAS DISTRIBUTED MORE THAN 2.2 MILLION FRESH FOOD BOXES TO 7.5 MILLION CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES.



WORLD VISION IS RESPONDING IN OVER 70 COUNTRIES.



JON WARREN/WORLD VISION

Children walk for water in Malawi. (Photo taken prior to COVID-19.)

Spoken

By Lauren Reed

Kids have a way with words and an affinity for hope. Travel with us around the world to hear the hopes and dreams of children spoken in their own words.

Glad you asked

You've got questions, and we have answers.

Q. If people have to walk so far for water, why don't they move closer to where there is water?

A. It's understandable that we'd get this question, but it's never easy to leave your home, pick up, and move.

Most people World Vision serves are farmers, and they depend on their crops to survive. They may not be able to purchase land in a new place, so moving isn't an option for them. In addition, in areas with water shortages, water sources frequently change with the season, so people may have to move multiple times a year to be close to a water source. The solution is to get a permanent clean water source near their home. World Vision's able to do that as well as promote safe hygiene practices and improve sanitation for only \$50 per person.

—Greg Allgood, Ph.D., vice president of water, World Vision U.S.

Have a question you'd like answered about World Vision's work? Email us at editor@worldvision.org.



MANUEL ANDRE GUARDIOLA/WORLD VISION

"I used to tell God, 'Lord protect my mother, protect my sister, protect my father.' ... Now I say, 'Thank you, Lord,' because He saved my mom, Joselyn (his sister), my dad, and Bear (his dog). God is good, and so are you."

JOSÉ, 7, Hurricane Eta survivor, Honduras



MERON BELAY/WORLD VISION

"God is seeing us," Metadel says about how sponsorship makes her and her mother feel.

METADEL, 13, a sponsored child, Ethiopia



AIMONA FOTOVA/WORLD VISION

"In the midst of the hard situation we went through, I didn't expect my sponsor to remember me. I am very delighted to receive a greeting card from him in this moment. ... I will save this card forever."

XHESIKA, 15, a sponsored child, Albania

THIS IS OUR TIME to empower every last one
of us with LIFE, HOPE, and a FUTURE.

Called by God

Children play on the banks of the Naf River in Bangladesh. Across the water is Myanmar, which many thousands of Rohingya fled to find refuge in Bangladesh. World Vision is working to help refugees and also opened an area program for the host community.

(Photo taken prior to COVID-19.)

JON WARREN/WORLD VISION

EVERY LAST ONE
CAMPAIGN FACTS:

8
YEARS

\$1
BILLION

MORE THAN
50
COUNTRIES

MORE THAN
60
MILLION PEOPLE*

*Includes the number of
unique participants in each
of our Signature Initiative
programs. Because of World
Vision's multi-sector approach,
some people will participate in
more than one program.

Throughout World Vision's more than 70 years of work, our roots have run deep in helping where people are suffering, where poverty seems undefeatable, and where the needs are great. With God's sustaining hand and faithful support from people like you, we were there in the wake of the Vietnam War with Operation Seasweep, sailing the South China Sea to pick up Vietnamese refugees that the world had turned its back on. We were there during the Ethiopian famine, feeding starving children and doing the much harder work of helping to establish long-lasting systems that have transformed lives and the region. We cried out for the church to respond when the AIDS crisis was creating orphans at an astonishing rate. We've been helping countless families since the Syrian civil war resulted in the largest refugee crisis of our day. And today, we're responding to the crippling needs brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic in every country we work in while our staff are all equally affected by this crisis.

In 2010, we embarked on a mission unlike any we'd ever undertaken. In the middle of a major economic crisis, we launched World Vision's Campaign For Every Child (FEC). Our goal was to empower 20 million people worldwide with life-changing resources. We felt God calling us to make this bold move, and many of you felt the same call. Because God honored our joint efforts, this groundbreaking campaign had an incredible global impact. We exceeded our goals, reaching more than 25 million people—half of them children—in just five years.

Each of these challenges seemed insurmountable—the numbers too big, the need too great. But World Vision instead said “together, we can do this, because this vision is from God.” He is our confidence who has guided us and provided for us for over 70

years. And He has stirred in your hearts and inspired you to be part of His great work of empowering children and families to raise themselves out of poverty so they can have life, hope, and a future—even amid crises like a global pandemic.

And that's why we're not backing down, and instead we're setting an even more audacious goal. At God's prompting in late 2015, World Vision launched Every Last One (ELO)—a \$1 billion capital campaign over eight years to reach more than 60 million people. It's over twice as large as FEC was, and it builds on our global child sponsorship foundation—accelerating development in places where sponsorship projects already have a firm footprint. In these communities, campaign projects—funded by private donors and philanthropists—help us make an even bigger impact even faster, meeting a family's needs through three areas of focus:

- **Life** through clean water and mother and child health
- **Hope** through child protection, emergency response, and Christian discipleship
- **Future** through economic empowerment and education

Come with us on a journey to discover what's been accomplished so far. See the lives that have been transformed—both those of people here in the U.S. who said yes to God's call to help, and those of the children and families we serve around the world. And continue the journey by partnering with us to make life, hope, and a future possible for every last one during a time when all three of those ideas seem questionable. The needs today are even greater because of the pandemic, but by the grace of God and with your compassionate generosity, we're committed to empowering millions of children and families to transform their lives.

—Kristy J. O'Hara-Glaspie

(Photos taken prior to COVID-19.)

All statistics throughout this story are accurate as of press time.



Syrian refugee children in Lebanon benefit from World Vision's Child-Friendly Spaces and other programs.



A World Vision child protection program in Bangladesh helps participants learn life skills—decision making, problem solving, and creative thinking.



Bernard Kivuwa is a World Vision community engagement and sponsorship officer in Kenya. He works with students, many of whom are sponsored and attend World Vision Bible clubs.



SCAN THE CODE
to read and
watch ELO
stories online.

LIFE

Every human being deserves clean water and access to essential healthcare.

Still, women and children in developing nations walk an average of 6 kilometers—3.7 miles—each day to get bacteria-filled water. And a child under the age of 5 dies every seven seconds, most from preventable causes. That’s why World Vision is committed to reaching 25 million people with access to clean water and 2 million mothers and young children with health and nutrition services by 2023.

Ireen gets water at the new borehole well installed in her community. Having clean water will be a game changer for her future.



ATLAS PRODUCTIONS FOR WORLD VISION

From problems to prayers answered

By Kari Costanza

NINE-YEAR-OLD IREEN from Malawi was *World Vision* magazine’s cover story in spring 2020. Her mother, Chimwemwe, the Chichewa word for happiness, is a single mother raising four children on her own. She desperately needed the change that comes with clean water. She didn’t want her bright daughter, Ireen, to follow the rugged path she’s had to walk: dropping out of school early to work on farms, marrying too young, eking out a living, and rising before dawn to collect water from a dirty stream, one of many trips per day to satisfy the needs of her family.

In August 2020, World Vision Malawi’s drilling team did the unthinkable as COVID-19 raged. Masked for safety, with 150 excited villagers watching from a distance, the drillers struck clean water. It took persistence and prayer.

“God has fought for us,” says lead driller Golden Bhikha. “We have been praying for Ireen to get water. And now God has helped us and now we have water.”

But it wasn’t easy. Drilling Ireen’s well took days.

“We did meet a lot of problems,” says Golden. “We had to drill at least three places. We didn’t find water.” The fourth try—drilling 150 feet into the earth—was a charm.

“I am very happy in my heart,” says Golden. “Our whole group. We know that now Ireen has clean water. That is going to be very helpful in her upbringing. More especially, when you look at her health. More especially, when you think about the coronavirus. She will now have clean water to be using during this period.”

Ireen is overjoyed.

“I was so happy, like I’ve never been in my life,” says Ireen. “My prayers have been answered. The water is very close now.”

The drillers already know the impact their work will have as well.

“She will no longer be late for school,” says Golden. “She will no longer have to walk

a long distance, meeting all kinds of things (such as snakes and hyenas) along the way. She is going to live a very healthy life.”

And a happy life too. Ireen’s now sponsored by Ruth in Washington state, who read her story in *World Vision* magazine. Other children in Ireen’s village are now sponsored too.

Instead of walking what the average woman in developing countries walks for water daily—6 kilometers, or about 3.7 miles—Ireen and her mother now walk less than four minutes for clean water right in their village.

Happiness, who had been the number one student at school before she had to drop out, has a new calling as a member of the water committee that will ensure the borehole lasts.

“We were taught how to fix this thing,” she says. “So, we know what we are supposed to do.”

For Happiness, clean water is an answer to prayer. “I am so happy that God has actually answered my prayer,” she says. “I will continue praying so ... He can take care of us and He will take care of our borehole.” 🙏

Since late 2015, through the ELO campaign:



CLEAN WATER

20M+
people gained access to clean water

10M+
women and girls gained access to clean water close to home



MOTHER AND CHILD HEALTH

917K
women and young children gained access to essential health and nutrition services

7,629
community health workers and volunteers were trained

WITNESS TO TRANSFORMATION



JON WARREN/WORLD VISION

Laura and Robert Abernathy teach Sunday school in Uganda during a 2016 visit.

A new purpose

By Heather Klinger

Laura and Robert Abernathy had no idea what God had in store for them when their neighborhood Bible study read *The Hole in Our Gospel* by World Vision U.S. President Emeritus Rich Stearns. Laura says, “It really touched our hearts. Both Robert and I have been Christians since we were children and been involved in mission projects, mission programs, our churches, and other organizations. But we were convicted that we were not really touching ‘the least of these.’”

Within six months of that deep conviction from the Holy Spirit, Laura and Robert joined World Vision’s National Leadership Council and made their first philanthropic gift to World Vision. “We were all in,” says Robert, a former senior vice president at Kimberly-Clark and retired CEO of Halyard Health Inc.

They also began sponsoring two girls who shared birthdays with their granddaughters. Laura says, “We pray for our sponsored children as we pray for our granddaughters. And we celebrate their lives as we do our granddaughters.” Excited, Laura and Robert told their two adult children about World Vision and its child sponsorship programs. They were surprised to find out that both already had sponsored children.

But their transition to being “all in” also came with due diligence. They first wanted a Christian organization. Next came a closer look at World Vision’s finances to make sure their investment would be used responsibly.

“Once you really get into World Vision and understand it at a deeper level, you start to understand the multiplying effect,” Robert says. “World Vision is able to take your gift and then leverage it with corporations, foundations, and government grants. They really can multiply your gift many times, and not many organizations are able to do that. You don’t feel like what you give is just a one-time investment. It feels bigger.”

Laura adds, “We are told not to bury our talents, but to multiply them.” Lastly, they looked for the ability to get results. World Vision has proven, community-based health approaches aimed at the first 1,000 days of life. We feature basic health interventions for mothers and babies and the delivery of timed and targeted counseling and education through local volunteer community health workers. World Vision supports one of the largest community health worker networks in the world, with more than 184,000 in 46 countries. We’re trusted by the community and can reach even remote villages, delivering frontline care cost-effectively.

“When we decided to give [to World Vision], we knew of terrible, terrible situations that were in desperate need of help,” Laura says. “So, there was no need to wait.” 🙏

Students at St. Elizabeth Girls Secondary School celebrate their culture with a traditional Pokot dance. A number of the students are there on scholarship, having fled home to escape child marriage and female genital mutilation. (Photo taken prior to COVID-19.)

HOPE

Once people are healthy and have access to clean water, it opens up new possibilities and builds hope. This is where World Vision builds on our work by integrating child protection initiatives and leading emergency response programs. When people are safe, it frees them from worry and creates space for spiritual nurture. Christian discipleship is the third component of our Hope work. Through these three initiatives, we're aiming to reach 28 million people by 2023.

JON WARREN/WORLD VISION



Since late 2015, through the ELO campaign:



CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

463K

children and youth participated in Christian discipleship activities



CHILD PROTECTION

1.6M

children and youth benefited from child protection programs



EMERGENCY RESPONSE

9M

people were reached with emergency supplies and support

From child marriage to freedom

By Sarah Ooko

AS A CHILD, MARY* LOVED going to school and yearned to rise out of the poverty she grew up with in West Pokot County, Kenya. As one of eight children, she saw her parents struggle to provide, and her father's alcoholism worsened their situation. When she was 10, she and her younger brother John* dropped out of school to work at gold mines in neighboring Uganda to make money for their family.

"Life was so hard, and we were suffering so much," Mary says. "I asked God what we had done for Him to allow that."

As her family's poverty deepened, her father decided it was time for her to undergo female genital mutilation (FGM) and then marry. An elderly man offered Mary's father a bride price of herds of cattle to marry her. FGM is a common

rite of passage for girls in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia; it indicates that they're eligible for marriage. But Mary, 15, refused.

Soon after, as she was walking to gather water, she was abducted and taken to the elderly man's house. Her parents had accepted the bride price, and she was forced to consummate the marriage that night. "I didn't want to believe this was the end for me," she says. "I had to find a way out."

Four days later, when she went to gather water, she instead ran in the opposite direction. The first night, she slept in a tree. The next three days, good Samaritans helped her, providing food and accommodation. In the last home she stayed at, she learned about a local school founded by World Vision to provide refuge to children fleeing FGM and child marriage. Now with a destination in mind, Mary left, asked for directions along her way, and arrived at the school. "It was like a dream come true for me," she says.

Staff welcomed her in, giving her food, clothes, soap, and a place to stay. She felt loved, supported, encouraged, and—most of all—safe. She resumed her education at the

school and is now one of the top students in her class. And she discovered a hidden talent—singing, so she joined the school choir. The school has also strengthened Mary's faith. "As I was suffering, I used to wonder where God was," Mary says. "But now I know that He never left me. I want to encourage those going through problems to never give up."

Mary has also gone through World Vision's Alternative Rites of Passage training. It provides a different way to celebrate moving into adulthood and teaches children, families, faith leaders, and government leaders about the adverse impacts of FGM. From 2012 through 2019, 2,573 girls participated in Alternative Rites of Passage rather than undergoing FGM, and a 2015 survey in West Pokot County indicated that more than nine in 10 people want the practice of FGM to end.

World Vision's Every Last One campaign will play a large part in that. And the next generation of women will also be key to this cultural change. Mary now wants to be an anti-FGM advocate and says, "I want to help them (children) when I finish school so they can live happily." 🙌

WITNESS TO TRANSFORMATION



LINDSEY MINERVA/WORLD VISION

Margo Day smiles with a friend named Lillian during Margo's 2014 trip to Kenya to celebrate an expansion of the school she funded. She initially met Lillian during a 2009 visit at the rescue center.

Miraculous transformation

By Margo Day

In 2009, I'd been in turmoil for months, feeling a deep calling to step out in faith and for God to use me to show His love in the world. But I couldn't figure out how to do that. Then in May 2009, God clearly said to me, "Five loaves and two fish: What you have is enough." I was reminded of the miracle in John 6 when a boy offered all he had—five loaves and two fish—because people were hungry. The disciples were skeptical, but Jesus took the food, and everyone ate and was filled. As I recalled this miracle, I immediately had peace. I knew that if I brought everything to God in childlike faith, it would be enough.

Three months later, I traveled to Kenya to see World Vision's work. On our first morning, I joined the World Vision team for devotions. The leader started by saying, "As I was praying last night about this devotion, God put on my heart the story of five loaves and two fish." I burst into tears of gratitude, knowing this was confirmation that I was where God was calling me to show His love.

On that trip, I visited the Morpus Rescue Center, where I met 34 young girls aged 8 to 12. The center helps girls fleeing the traditional practices

of female genital mutilation (FGM) and child marriage. While these girls could complete primary school at the center, without access to a secondary school, their prospects remained bleak. When I looked into their eyes, I saw two things: fierce determination for a better life through education and the longing to have someone validate that they are valued and loved. I knew in my soul that God wanted these girls to know He loved each deeply.

Back in the U.S., I shared about these girls' yearning for education, and others joined me in raising the funds to build St. Elizabeth Girls Secondary School. When the school was commissioned, I was privileged to experience the girls' deep joy born of tangible hope for a better life. Today, 400 girls attend the school—and this number's continuing to grow as the culture changes. In 2009, the FGM prevalence rate was about 95% in this area of West Pokot County. After a decade of World Vision's work there, it's now under 5%. It is possible to end FGM. That's the basis of World Vision's Kenya Big Dream. It's based on the last decade of work in West Pokot, and it seeks to eliminate FGM everywhere World Vision works in Kenya.

What's transpired here is nothing short of a miracle—one that God is multiplying, just as He multiplied five loaves and two fish so many years ago. 🙌

Jose Luis' wife, Kenia, oversees the harvest and preparation for market of the family's abundant tomato crop. (Photo taken prior to COVID-19.)

FUTURE

As hope builds, people begin to dream of a brighter future. ELO's Future work is centered around economic empowerment and education. World Vision's award-winning Unlock Literacy program empowers parents and children to value education and its life-changing potential. And parents struggling to make ends meet gain the knowledge and tools to farm better, learn new skills, and gain access to financial services like loans and savings groups. Economic resilience is critical to helping families weather natural disasters and other emergencies like the COVID-19 pandemic, and it also helps them navigate unexpected expenses that life often brings without being financially devastated. Our aim through ELO is to brighten the futures of 5.4 million children and hardworking adults by 2023.

LAURA REINHARDT/World Vision



From migrating to managing

By Laura Reinhardt

Since late 2015, through the ELO campaign:



ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

1.5M
people benefited from economic empowerment programs

57K
people are now in savings groups



EDUCATION

608K
people benefited from education programs

82K
storybooks were purchased for children

ACTIVITY BUZZES IN THE FIELD on a warm November day. Down each row, workers pick tomatoes from plants about 5 feet tall. Others balance baskets heavy with produce, carrying them to a station where they'll be weighed, washed, then loaded for transport to the supermarket.

It's a good harvest, and because of it, many people have work. At the day's end, Jose Luis and his wife pay their workers. Smiles light up faces. But that wasn't always the case for the now 33-year-old Jose Luis.

Two hours from the Honduran capital of Tegucigalpa is Jose Luis' home in Jamastran. There, most residents used to eke out a living by farming beans and corn—growing enough for their family with little left to sell. Working at the local tobacco factory earned about \$80 a week. Migrating offered the promise of jobs earning nearly quadruple that amount.

At the age of 18, Jose Luis decided to leave his parents and his brother behind to seek better financial opportunities. But his bus was stopped

in Guadalajara, Mexico, where he was deported. Back at home, he farmed corn and beans alongside his father.

But change was coming in his community, and with it, the promise of a better future.

Community members created an agricultural growers' organization and partnered with World Vision. Jose Luis' neighbor, Nortie (pronounced Nor-tea-a) Sosa was the organization's president. He learned new farming techniques from World Vision's agricultural experts.

That program, starting in 2011, has generated more than 22,000 jobs, multiplying the incomes of farmers previously making \$2 to \$4 a day.

THRIVE—World Vision's biblically based, resilient livelihoods program—built upon that and is improving the lives of 70,000 people by generating jobs, increasing household incomes to what the United Nations considers middle class in rural Honduras, and eliminating the need for migration by creating a livable income.

Through THRIVE, farmers learn about drip irrigation and receive better seeds and fertilizers, improving their output. Then World Vision helps them gain direct access to markets, which increases profits by eliminating the middleman.

Nortie and other organization members started a farming school to share their learnings with other community members.

Jose Luis was one of the students, and he's done very well. Now he employs 11 people full time, but during harvest that number can reach 50.

Jose Luis has his own family now. He, his wife, and their 6-year-old son, Jose David, have lived till now with Jose Luis's parents. But soon they'll move into a home of their own, right next door.

Jose Luis sends his son to a bilingual school. That education will offer him choices for his future—choices that Jose Luis didn't have growing up. Jose David won't agonize over the decision of whether to migrate or not, which his father once did.

"I believe that because he has a better source of income now, my son won't leave," Jose Luis says.

He hopes his son will continue the family business, but adds: "It won't be what I want anymore. When he grows up, he will decide what he wants to do."

That's the beauty of World Vision's economic empowerment work—it sows possibilities that will be reaped for generations to come. +

Tom Costanza of World Vision's U.S. staff and Johnny Lopez of World Vision's Honduras staff contributed to this story.

WITNESS TO TRANSFORMATION



HEATHER KLINGER/World Vision

Sherrie Woodring listens to a roundtable discussion at a conference. (Photo taken prior to COVID-19.)

A purpose to fulfill

By Margot Starbuck

After a robust 26-year career in information technology, Sherrie Woodring was exhausted from the demands of corporate America. Then her mother, Leila, suffered a severe stroke and required full-time care. So Leila moved in with Sherrie. Though the new journey was radically different than what Sherrie had accomplished professionally, the two discovered an unexpected satisfaction in their new life together. On the most difficult days, Sherrie's mother would ask what so many who suffer ask: "Why me?" Gently, humbly, Sherrie would answer, "There's a purpose that needs to be fulfilled. We'll have to see."

Sherrie had been sponsoring children through World Vision: first one, then three, then six. The faithful pen pal began to notice how her mother connected with the children, especially through the photos with their mothers, and would ask questions. Seeing these mothers struggle to provide for their children broke Leila's heart. Sherrie, the consummate businesswoman, knew they could do more. She donated to help them start businesses. The women received several letters a week from these precious families. Sherrie explains, "We walked the journey with them, and they walked the journey with my mom's illness. They were attached, through letters."

When the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting broke the world's heart at the end of 2012, Sherrie and her mother increased their commitment to sponsor 26 children, representing the victims of the shooting. In the wake of so many children's lives being cut short, Sherrie wanted to help ensure that children around the world had the chance to live.

Then Sherrie's world shifted seismically once again when her mother passed in 2014. She picked up the phone to call World Vision, interested in identifying a program that could empower families to start small businesses. After a Vision Trip to Tanzania and the Dominican Republic, where she met many families of farmers, Sherrie joined the National Leadership Council and began offering her time and talents to World Vision's economic empowerment programs.

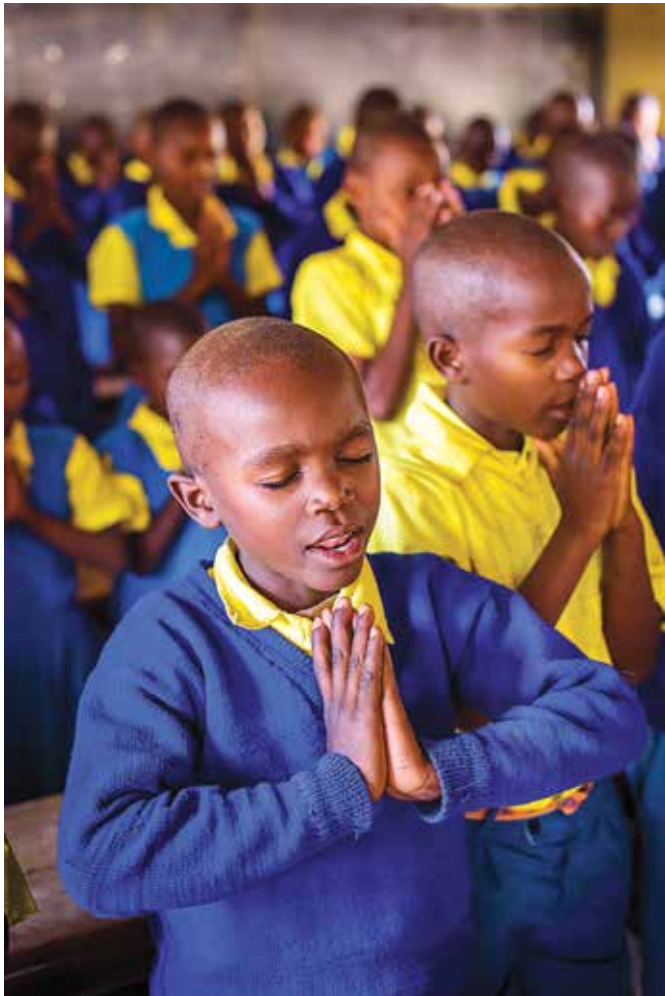
Her passion is to improve the livelihoods of vulnerable rural households through a biblically empowered worldview message; access to improved agricultural technology, knowledge, and fair markets; and access to small loans to finance diverse forms of resilient, sustainable income. All of this is for the direct benefit of children's well-being. Sherrie's most recent passion is for World Vision's Recovery Lending for Resilience program, which provides poor families with recovery business loans to bounce back from the economic challenges caused by COVID-19.

That's the purpose Sherrie and her mother are now fulfilling. +

Right: Students pray together at a Bible club meeting in Kenya. The students, many of whom are sponsored, learn Bible verses, sing, hear the Word of God, and plant and care for fruit trees through the ELO Christian discipleship program.

Below: Lydia Atugonza, 23, holds her newborn daughter, delivered that night in a clinic funded by ELO in Uganda. With her first two children, she had to travel a long way to give birth and then go home right after. The clinic has delivery rooms with clean water as well as a new mothers room for her to stay.

THE



JON WARREN/WORLD VISION

A World Vision staff member in Ecuador provides food aid to Kassandra, a Venezuelan refugee and mother of six. Her family has faced hunger because the COVID-19 pandemic has kept her husband from his work as a street vendor.



CHRIS HUBER/WORLD VISION



LAURA REINHARDT/WORLD VISION

Arpine Sargsyan, center, leads a Caring for Equality training session in Armenia in 2017. This ELO program, which ended in 2018, taught the value that girls and women bring while uprooting deeply held ideas about gender roles in this traditionally patriarchal society.

FUTURE



LAURA REINHARDT/WORLD VISION



LAURA REINHARDT/WORLD VISION

Choity, 15, makes a dress using the sewing machine she received through an ELO child protection program in Bangladesh. She dropped out of school at age 13 to help support her family. The program helped children who were working return to school, or for those far behind like Choity, it provided life-skills training for safe work.

HOPE

Pertonile uses a blackboard in her home to help her daughter, Christine, with her lessons. She also sent Christine to attend a reading camp, which is part of World Vision's Unlock Literacy program. While many adults in her area of Rwanda can't read, Pertonile learned to read as a child, and now she has opportunities because of it.



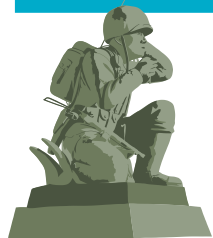
Join us as we empower over 60 million people with tools to lift themselves out of extreme poverty. See the envelope between pages 18 and 19, call 1.866.332.4453, or give online at wvmag.org/ELOGive.



JON WARREN/WORLD VISION

(All photos except Ecuador taken prior to COVID-19.)

FAITH AND SUPPLIES
SUPPORT THE NAVAJO
NATION FRONTLINE
WORKERS IN
THE FIGHT
AGAINST COVID-19



STORY AND PHOTOS BY
LAURA REINHARDT

THE NAVAJO NATION has a rich history of resilience and service.

In 1864, nearly 11,000 Navajo surrendered to the U.S. military and began a 400-mile walk, called The Long Walk, to a New Mexico reservation. Over four years, 2,000 people died due to disease, exposure, or starvation.

The Navajo people didn't give up. On June 1, 1868, they signed a treaty and returned to a portion of their lands over which they remain sovereign today.

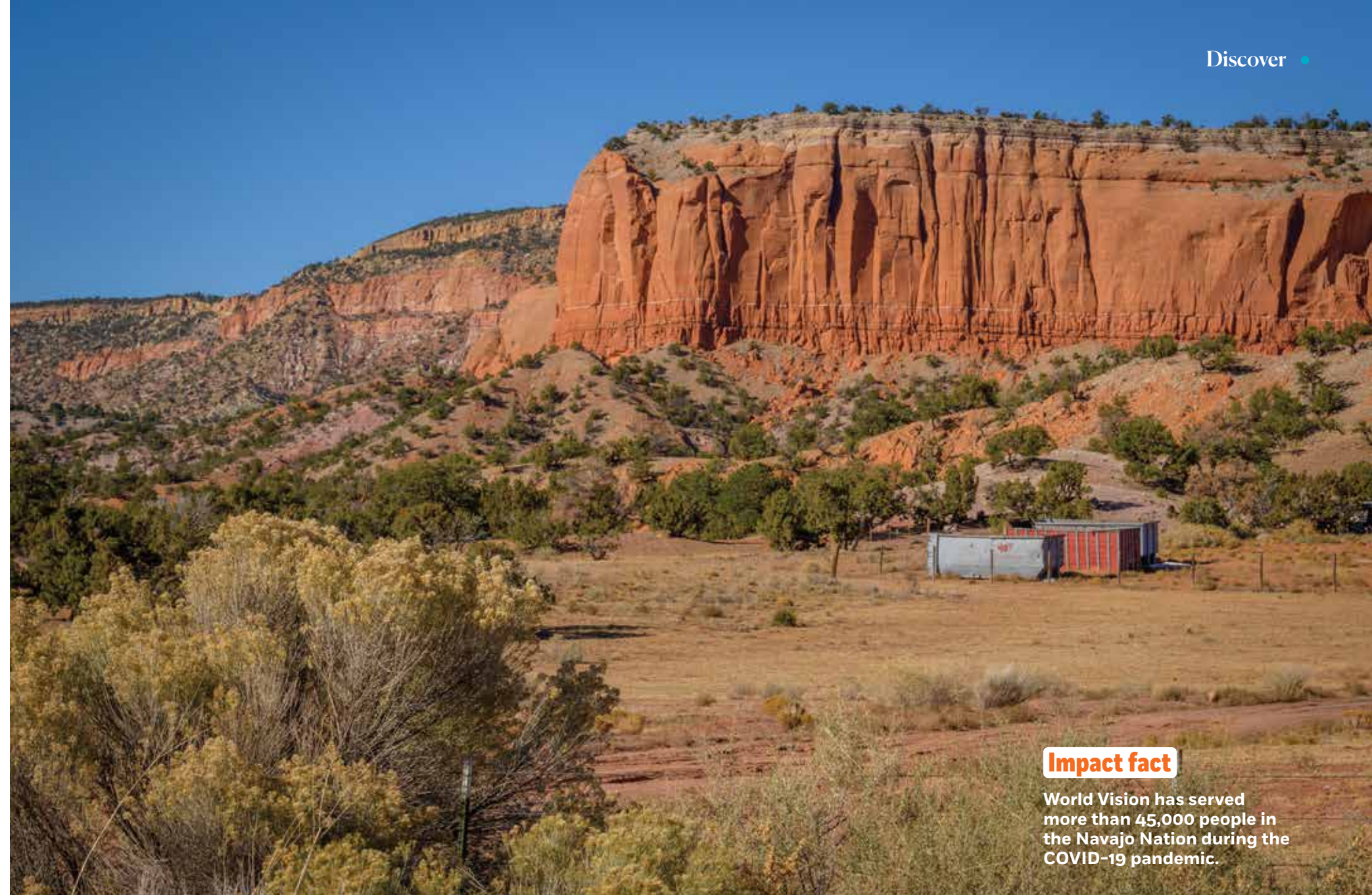
During World War II, Marine Corps leadership selected 29 Navajo men who created a code based on their language. Their code was never cracked and was critical to the victory at Iwo Jima.



SCAN TO WATCH

a video to meet people from the Navajo Nation and see our response.

STRONG FOUNDATIONS



Impact fact

World Vision has served more than 45,000 people in the Navajo Nation during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“**THESE INDIVIDUALS** that are here are warriors,” says Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez. He’s talking about the team working alongside him at a COVID-19 awareness checkpoint in Tuba City, Arizona. But he’s also describing all Navajo first responders putting themselves in harm’s way.

Early in the pandemic, the Navajo Nation had one of the highest per capita rates of infection in the country, in part because roughly 40% of the population don’t have running water in their homes.

“If you get [the] CDC telling you to wash your hands with soap and water on

a periodic basis and you don’t have much water, it’s pretty tough to push this virus back,” says President Nez. He reminds people of their ancestors’ resilience as encouragement.

OTHER OBSTACLES

Residents face other obstacles. The Navajo Nation spreads across 27,400 square miles in New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah, with much of the sparse population scattered in isolated pockets. Many lack electricity or internet access, which makes it difficult to get the latest coronavirus updates.

Thus, the need for COVID-19 check-

points where President Nez and his team hand out documents about coronavirus prevention. The team also provides bottles of hand sanitizer and masks from World Vision.

“World Vision is a great partner to the Navajo Nation. All over the Navajo Nation during the summer, we were able to hand out food and hygiene kits, boxes to Navajo people throughout the nation,” says President Nez. World Vision’s been a partner for 20 years.

FIGHTING A PANDEMIC TOGETHER

As COVID-19 spread in spring 2020, food

insecurity rose around the United States. World Vision responded with food donations. And throughout the pandemic, they’ve sent precious personal protective equipment (PPE) for first responders.

In autumn 2020, as infection rates rose again, World Vision’s U.S. Programs National Director Reed Slattery said, “All over the country, World Vision’s teams, over the next few weeks and months to come, will be getting as much PPE out the door to vulnerable communities.”

World Vision staff and volunteers in Fife, Washington, quickly built 800 personal protective equipment kits

designated for the Navajo Nation. The orange-drawstring bags include masks, sanitizing spray, gloves, socks, and sanitizing wipes. Before shipping, warehouse staff gathered and prayed over the kits.

FAITH TO PERSIST

On a crisp Arizona morning, Navajo Nation Vice President Myron Lizer distributes those personal protective equipment kits alongside staff from the president’s team and World Vision. They’re going out to workers from hospitals, the police department, the fire department, and emergency medical services.

“We want to express our gratitude to World Vision donors—our brothers and sisters—who provided these kits for us,” Myron says. “You sent us a love message by living out your biblical principles to love your neighbor.”

Myron offers words of encouragement for those picking up supplies.

“We have to remain optimistic and never lose hope, because eventually we will overcome this pandemic. Our God will heal and pull us through this time,” he says.

LONG ROAD TO RECOVERY

Sgt. Kara Tilden also leans on her faith during this ongoing crisis. She says, “We ask for prayers for the Navajo Nation to be able to survive through this calamity.”

A 22-year veteran of the Window Rock Police Department, Kara has never seen a greater threat to the Navajo Nation. When the pandemic first hit, Kara and her team scrambled to find protective gear.

“We had to purchase our own from the beginning,” she says. But then donations began coming in, giving the first responders a cushion. “With this distribution here, it’s going to really help us again to have extra on hand again as we respond to calls out there.”

Kara fills up the back seat of her patrol car with bags to share with members of her team. They’ll be put to use right away.

They’re not only trying to protect themselves, but also their friends

and co-workers. Kara’s lost friends to COVID-19. Some colleagues struggle to recover from a lingering weakness that leaves them unable to work.

“A few are so frail they’re unable to lift a weapon out of a holster,” she says. “The road to recovery is a long one.”

But despite the dangers, Kara continues patrolling 100 square miles per day during her shift.

She expresses her thanks for all those helping fight this virus: “I am so grateful to World Vision for helping the first responders who are in desperate need of protection.”

STRETCHED THIN

Chris Kescoli, another frontline worker, manages the Navajo Nation’s Emergency Medical Services in Window Rock. He says, “We have been inundated with COVID-19, and it’s not letting up. We are stretched, stressed.”

His department regularly logs 2,600 calls a year. After the pandemic’s onset, calls for ambulances were nonstop, he says.

Even though he feels that his team was prepared for the pandemic, they didn’t realize it would quickly overwhelm the healthcare system.

“Any [personal protective equipment] resource that becomes available we put that out to frontline personnel. That way they have that better protection,” Chris says.

In keeping with his word, he loads the back of his truck with dozens of kits to distribute.

FIGHTING TO KEEP FAMILY SAFE

Jennifer Collins, a lieutenant with the Navajo Nation Fire Department’s Station 12 in Fort Defiance, Arizona, echoes Chris’ words about the situation’s severity.

“We’re in crisis,” says the 28-year-old. “We’re hanging on by a thread, and every day the situation gets more difficult. During this time, we are also in a shortage—in resources, in people, and in protective gear.”

They take the threat of infection seriously. “When this pandemic hit, we treated it as a hazardous material,”

she says. In fact, they spend a lot of time decontaminating supplies, gear, and vehicles.

When she finishes her shift, the single mother of four takes every precaution she can to keep her children—aged 3 to 7—safe.

“Even before I get inside my house, I am peeling off layers, with the first layer placed in a plastic bag that stays outside,” Jennifer says.

She takes this extra care because as soon as she enters, her children bound toward her for hugs. “Once they hear the door opening up, that’s when the kids run straight to me [saying], ‘Mommy’s home!’”

She spends her evenings and weekends making sure her kids have completed their virtual schoolwork, fixing dinner, and collecting water for herself and her grandmother.

“It’s hard to maintain our lives at home and at work,” she says.

And so, when additional personal protective equipment arrives, she’s thankful. Jennifer says, “Everything in the World Vision kits will be used right away.”

WARRIORS’ WEAPONS

There are challenges in the months ahead, but President Nez feels that his people can rise to meet them, especially with the supplies they’re receiving from donors.

“I appreciate all the friends of Navajo Nation—including World Vision—that have been assisting us in giving relief and empowering our citizens to fight this virus,” President Nez says. “These are the weapons to fight off this monster that has swept into our communities.”

These weapons take the shape of hand sanitizer, gloves, and masks, but they provide safety and hope for battle-weary warriors. 🍎

Sevil Omer of World Vision’s U.S. staff contributed to this story.

Help World Vision respond to disasters like COVID-19. See the envelope between pages 18 and 19, call 1.866.332.4453, or give online at wvmag.org/give.

Top left: Lisa Perry is battling cancer, so personal protective equipment is especially important to safeguard her well-being as well as her family’s.



Bottom: Navajo Nation Vice President Myron Lizer (far right) says that the gifts of personal protective equipment provide hope and encouragement.

Top right: “It has become ... very hard to not only protect ourselves, but to make sure everyone around us, [our] loved ones, and [our] families are safe from exposure,” says firefighter Jennifer Collins.



🏠 THE SYRIAN CIVIL WAR began in March 2011. A decade later, about 5.6 million Syrians have fled to other countries in the region, and another 6.2 million people are displaced within Syria. Over 11 million people in Syria need humanitarian assistance.

Children bear the brunt of the crisis. About half of Syria's displaced population are children—kids who've never known their country in times of peace. Some, born as refugees, have never even seen the homeland of their parents. Child refugees seeking safety in the region's camps call tents their homes and often experience a life filled with stress. Over 2.4 million children in Syria are missing out on an education because of the conflict.

Since the Syrian refugee crisis began, we've helped more than 6.5 million children throughout the Middle East. Our work includes providing healthcare, emergency food, shelter repair kits, livelihood support, and clean water, sanitation, and hygiene behavior-change support. We also create safe spaces for children where they can learn and play, and offer psychosocial support for women and children.

To mark the 10th year of the conflict, we're sharing the voices of 10 teens from Syria. For them, life is unpredictable, and each year is different. But with the help of World Vision, they're learning skills to help them heal and getting a chance to dream of the future. ➕

10 YEARS ON, THE VOICES OF 10 SYRIAN YOUTH

BY SEVIL OMER

PHOTOGRAPHY FOR WORLD VISION

SYRIA TIMELINE

2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	CONTINUED »
The Syrian civil war begins.		The number of Syrian refugees surpasses 1 million.	Syrian refugees number 3 million in neighboring countries, and 100,000 more reach Europe.	The photo of 2-year-old Alan Kurdi shocks the world. 1 million refugees reach Europe.		More than 5 million people have fled conflict in Syria, and 900,000 more are newly displaced within Syria.		



1 Dara*—Thirteen-year-old Dara had family and friends in Aleppo. “After the airstrikes intensified in my hometown, I went to the camp in a bus with my parents,” she says. Her parents separated shortly after their arrival at the Bab al-Salama border, where Dara now lives with her grandparents. She attends a World Vision Child-Friendly Space, where she’s learning “awareness and education on child issues—useful activities that have helped me to acquire skills such as handicrafts and communication.” It’s her solace, the space. “I want to teach my grandparents what I have learned and raise their awareness,” Dara says. She aspires to become a teacher.

4

Azzam—War is all Azzam has known. Now 16 years old, Azzam credits World Vision for his new lease on life, learning from the Peace Road curriculum, from which children develop life skills, values, and behaviors to maintain healthy relationships. Activities are designed to help children and teens who have experienced trauma to improve their well-being and life choices. Azzam’s sense of purpose is blossoming, and his community is growing. “Everyone knows each other, and everyone helps each other,” he says. “I feel safe and like part of one family.” Azzam wishes to become a doctor or an engineer so he can give back to the community.

3

Jumana*—If she could, 15-year-old Jumana would be surrounded by paint and clay. She loves art, both the study of it and the creation of it on canvas. “My dream is to paint and make art in the future,” Jumana says. “What I need for this is the education and material.” Jumana, her parents, and her four siblings fled Syria and traveled to Ankara, Turkey, when she was in fifth grade. “I only remember that we came to Turkey by bus and nothing else,” Jumana says. There are many moments she’d like to forget, like the time three years ago when her father left and never returned. She’s grateful for World Vision’s support. “We get to benefit from your services,” Jumana says. “You’re providing information, referring us to the services, and we go to the trips with your organization.”



2

Jameel*—Sixteen-year-old Jameel’s goal is to be a defender on the soccer field and a champion of justice in the court. He misses his home in Aleppo, a stark contrast to the ramshackle shelters that poorly house his family at the Bab al-Salama border crossing with Turkey. “My life would be much better if I were to live in a house, not a tent,” Jameel says. The brightest spot of his day is spending time with World Vision staff, who are providing teens like him with psychosocial support. During this time, he’s able to let down his guard and share his feelings and hopes for the future: “My dream is to become a lawyer so I could defend oppressed people.”



5

Ola—Seventeen-year-old Ola was barely 12 when her family lined up at the gates of Azraq refugee camp in Jordan. The loss of her home and her school felt like too much to bear, but she had an even greater fear: “I am most worried about losing a family member to the conflict,” Ola says. “Not just that, but I am also worried I would be forced to work to provide for my family.” More than 2,300 children and teens, like Ola, have participated in the Peace Center program, which aims to provide refugee children with tools to develop their character and cope with the stress and anxiety they often face. She wants to teach other children the skills she’s learning through World Vision.

6

Zaid*—Thirteen-year-old Zaid’s family is seeking asylum. “We have come to Turkey on foot. We tried to come 13 times, but the police were grabbing us and sending us back,” he says. “We walked under the wall and waited under the olive tree until 12 a.m. I was 11 years old then, and at that time I was very scared while walking.” Since 2019, World Vision has provided 8,000 refugees like Zaid with information to access essential services in Turkey. Staff also accompany refugees when they need help accessing external services such as health, education, legal, or psychosocial support. Zaid dreams of becoming a firefighter.

*Name changed to align with World Vision’s Syria office protocols

2019	2020	2021
Over 400,000 more people are displaced within Syria after increased conflict.		There are about 5.6 million Syrian refugees, mostly in neighboring countries, and 6.2 million people are displaced within Syria.

Elias Abu Ata and Alexandra Matei of World Vision's Syria response team in Jordan contributed to this article.



7 Nadine*—Nadine wants to find her place in a better world. The 15-year-old lives in one of the most refugee-dense neighborhoods in Istanbul, Sultanbeyli, where she attends World Vision's psychosocial support program. There, she's learning skills to help her cope with past traumatic events. By gaining a better understanding of the impacts of her childhood experience, Nadine hopes to help others as she heals and grows. "I want to work in the future," she says. "I would like to put an effort in order to reach my dreams."



8 Raghad—Seventeen-year-old Raghad wishes life was kinder to girls. She longs for a safe place, an opportunity to attend school, and a time when her stomach doesn't ache with worry. She's seen enough war and turmoil. Raghad made her way to Jordan in 2016 with her parents and five siblings. Like most displaced Syrians, the family had to move at least three times. "I dream of the reconstruction of my country, of Syria, so I can live in safety," Raghad says. She participates in child protection activities offered by World Vision, where she can "learn new skills, enjoy recreational activities." Raghad dreaded seeing her sister and peers become child brides, and today she advocates on behalf of other girls. "My community needs to raise awareness about adolescents, especially girls, their rights, their studies, and gender," she says. "These are very necessary for us."



9 Khaldoun*—Twelve-year-old Khaldoun misses his life in Aleppo, Syria. He wants to go back to his hometown, attend school, and play with his friends. He wants the war to end. He says he's grateful to attend a World Vision Child-Friendly Space, where he gets to be a kid. "I get to play with my friends in a clean, spacious, and safe place—to learn useful activities, to do activities with my siblings," Khaldoun says. "The best moments are when I spend time with my friends in the center. When I am in the center, I forget that I am living in this camp." He dreams of being a teacher.



Ali—Conflict shattered 18-year-old Ali's ability to complete school. Once top of his class, he's missed all of high school because of conflict and forced displacement. He and his family have lived in a Jordanian refugee camp since 2016. Some refugee children have never been to school, while others are unlikely to ever return. Ali joins 2,300 other children and teens who attend one of World Vision's child protection programs. "I go to the psychosocial support centers when I feel stressed or anxious," he says. Because of the good care he's gotten, Ali wants to work for an aid agency to provide psychosocial support.

10 Help World Vision serve people affected by this and other disasters around the world. See the envelope between pages 18 and 19, call 1.866.332.4453, or give online at wvmag.org/give.

*Name changed to align with World Vision's Syria office protocols

USE YOUR INSIDE VOICE | 36

Allmomdoes podcast host Julie Lyles Carr shares how to apply this phrase not just for our kids but also for ourselves.

Inspire

MOTIVATING YOU TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

SUMMER READING

World Vision President Emeritus Rich Stearns published a new book: *Lead Like It Matters to God*. Learn more at wvmag.org/rich.

IN THE KITCHEN: Indian vegetable pulao

By Kristy J. O'Hara-Glaspie



SCAN THE CODE to watch our cooking demonstration and get the recipe to try with your family.

When children don't get the proper nutrition, especially in the first 1,000 days of life, it causes long-lasting damage. India has one of the world's highest child malnutrition rates—which combines the number of children who are stunted (short for their age), wasted (too thin for their height), and overweight. These conditions can lead to children dying before their fifth birthday. To combat this problem, World Vision provides vegetable seeds and training to help people grow community gardens—making healthy produce

not only readily available, but also free, cushioning limited household budgets. During the COVID-19 pandemic, these gardens have been a lifeline for families in more remote areas who've had trouble accessing food and supplies. World Vision also trains mothers on how to create healthy, nutrient-rich food—such as vegetable pulao—for their families. Our staff in India recently hosted a cooking demonstration with some of our donors, and we wanted to share it with you as well. 🍋

Global 6K for Water:

How to prep your mind, body, and heart

By Kristy J. O'Hara-Glaspie

Each year, World Vision's Global 6K for Water® gives families, neighbors, friends, and churches the opportunity to run or walk 6 kilometers—the average distance women and children in developing nations walk every day to get water. Last year, the 6K went virtual to keep everyone safe in the face of the health crisis. This year's event—on May 22—will too. Here are 13 tips and activities to help you prepare for the 6K, including ways to talk about the global water crisis with your kids (scan the QR code below for the online resources!).

- Create a route:** If you've signed up for the Global 6K, map out a route in your neighborhood to walk each day for training and for the 6K itself. It's okay if you can't walk the whole distance at first—work up to it. Also, it may get boring walking the same route, but make that part of the discussion. Many children worldwide walk the same route multiple times a day for water.
- Watch a poem:** Go online to see Kenyan schoolgirls recite a poem they wrote about the blessings of clean water.
- Count your access points:** How many places inside and outside your home can you get clean water? Don't forget ones like faucets near the washing machine.
- Read a children's book:** Have story time as a family, and curl up to read *The Water Princess* by Susan Verde together.
- Do a water walk:** Fill an empty plastic container—a milk jug, a jerrycan, anything you may have—with water and walk your 6K route. How does it feel, and how difficult is it?
- Watch a water-drilling crew work:** For the little ones who love seeing big construction machinery, go online to follow a crew in Malawi as they work to empower a community with clean water.

Join the movement! Every step you take is one they won't have to. Sign up for World Vision's Global 6K for Water. You can participate from your own neighborhood on May 22, 2021, and every \$50 registration fee will help one person in need get lasting access to clean water through World Vision projects. Learn more at wvmag.org/6K-signup.



Global 6K for Water participants in Seattle walk for the children on their bibs. (Photo taken prior to COVID-19.)

- Pray for clean water:** Use our online guide for tips on how to pray for children and families to get clean water.
- Pull out a map:** Find your home on a map and identify the closest natural water source, whether it's a creek, river, pond, lake, or sea. Highlight the route you would walk to get there and calculate the distance. Discuss how it would feel to walk there to get your water each day. (And if you're feeling adventurous, take the walk with your family and collect some of the water in a container to see how dirty it is.)
- Watch videos:** Virtually travel around the world to meet children impacted by World Vision's work. Learn about how water affects their lives.
- Make a list:** What are all the ways you use clean water? Think beyond drinking. Track the ways each family member uses water throughout the day on a piece of paper.
- Create a visual:** Fill a jar with water, and add dirt to it. Place it in a prominent spot in your home, so you're reminded of the global water crisis and of the kids and families who have to drink dirty water every day. It can also jog your memory to pray. Talk about how the dirty water makes each of you feel.
- Pray for communities preparing for water:** Did you know there are several steps families in a community have to take before World Vision can drill for water? Learn what they are and pray for people making these preparations.
- Make two dinners:** Using our recipe, make two rice casseroles tonight—one with clean water and another with dirty water. Discuss how it makes you feel and why.



GET LINKS

to the resources above or sign up for the Global 6K for Water.



Loretta's legacy of love

By Sevil Omer

PROVIDING A BETTER, BRIGHTER FUTURE for children who are deaf or hard of hearing and helping them overcome poverty is at the heart of 80-year-old Loretta McDonald's mission in life.

Since 1963, the now-retired special education teacher from Honolulu, Hawaii, has remained steadfast in her commitment to serve the world's most vulnerable children. She's done that through World Vision child sponsorship—18 children and counting.

In the quietness of her heart, Loretta's heard God's call to care for children. Her prayer for each child is to know God's love and that "you're not alone in feeling alone," Loretta says.

She has overcome her share of hardships and heartache.

"I'm an only child from what today would be called a dysfunctional family," she says. "I want to let the children who feel alone to know that they are part of a family, my family."

Loretta seeks to leave a legacy of love, making sure her family lives on.

She's a member of The World Vision Society, an exceptional group of partners who are building a legacy of generosity for children in need by naming World Vision as a beneficiary of their estate plans.

Loretta was drawn to World Vision through the Korean Children's Choir—composed of musically gifted children sponsored through World Vision. The choir toured the world to sing for broad audiences. Loretta viewed a televised performance in the 1960s and was delighted to see a child singing in Korean Sign Language.

"I was fascinated," says Loretta, who at the time was beginning her career as a teacher at the School for the Deaf in Utah. "I wanted to be part of what World Vision was doing to make the world a better place for children. I signed up to sponsor a 5-year-old deaf Korean girl."

Through World Vision's holistic community development work, Loretta's sponsored children, past and present, have gained the support to attend school and develop language and communication skills early in life.

Her first sponsored child is now married with children. Loretta's also sponsored children in the Middle East and in Southeast Asia. She currently sponsors three children, two of whom are deaf, in India.

"My desire is to help where there is the biggest need," she says.

Loretta's dream is that each child gains a genuine, meaningful, and inclusive education. Significant strides have been made in getting more children, particularly girls, into classrooms, but progress lags for children with challenges.

"Deafness is not a learning disability," she says. "The children are bright. They are smart. They communicate, but not in the way we know."

During her travels abroad, she's seen the impacts of hearing loss and its emotional toll on children. In developing countries, children who are deaf or hard of hearing rarely attend school. With the inability to gain an education, they face greater challenges in the future.

"It's one of the great barriers and injustices children face and one that needs a lot of help in being tackled," Loretta says. "Sponsorship gives children a chance at a better life. I want that for all children."

To name World Vision as a beneficiary of your retirement plan or other assets, contact our planned giving experts at 1.800.426.5753 or plannedgiving@worldvision.org.



JON WARREN/WORLD VISION

The inside voice

By Julie Lyles Carr

“USE YOUR INSIDE VOICE.” It’s a phrase you’ve probably said to your kids, just like I’ve said to mine. Many times. When the noise and bickering and crazy get to be just a tad too much and the volume seems better suited to a wide-open field than the cozy yet limited confines of our kitchen. And I’m not sure what it is about my kids, but they seem louder than average humans. Particularly the later in the evening it gets.

(I’m sure they don’t get it from my side ... except I’m sure they do.)

An inside voice calls for a better understanding of the setting into which you’re speaking. An inside voice means that you’re thinking about the eardrums of others. An inside voice means you know how to communicate and explain and inspire without hollering.

But in a noisy world, an inside voice can be judged as less effective, less attention-grabbing. In our loudly opinionated culture, it’s an outside voice that often fills your ears.

Too often in my life, I’ve listened to outside voices and allowed them to influence areas to which they had no right. I find that’s the case for so many women today, where an outside voice seems most strident in belittling our efforts as moms and wives and businesswomen.

It’s why I find a big chunk of joy as the host of the allmomdoes podcast. I get to use my inside voice to encourage and challenge and inspire women in all seasons of life, from that gal who is expecting her first baby to the seasoned veteran who is launching her last kid into college to the sage who is gathering up the grandkids.

Too often, outside voices try to tell us how we should be doing it. Outside voices can set expectations that we struggle to live up to. Out-

side voices don’t always understand the context of the room, the season we’re in as women, and that judgment and doubt can echo off the walls of our hearts. Inside voices, those who have been there and who understand and who know how to both encourage and challenge, those voices are the ones that can help create true community and understanding.

That’s the beauty of the allmomdoes community. On the topics of parenting and relationships and faith and career that often clang with the noise of outside voices, we bring guests to the podcast table who know how and when to use their inside voices. Inside the hearts of women. Inside the challenges we face. Inside the doubts we carry. Inside the hopes we nurture.

It’s part of what I value so much in the partnership between the allmomdoes podcast and World Vision. World Vision understands the importance of an inside voice in the communities in which it serves, empowering the individuals in that community through education, resources, and vision. Just like allmomdoes, World Vision pays attention to the inside voices of a community, those who can best explain the needs and dreams of its community members.

I’m learning more and more to value and seek inside voices. I’m finding more and more that those who know how to use their inside voices often resonate the deepest with wisdom and maturity. Just like my kids, I need that reminder to use my inside voice when it comes to all the debate and diatribes that swirl around us today. And I’m reminded afresh that truth and kindness transcend volume every time. +



PHOTO COURTESY OF JULIE LYLES CARR

Julie Lyles Carr is a bestselling author, national speaker, and business owner. As the host of the allmomdoes podcast, she’s welcomed such guests as Beth Moore, Bob Goff, Priscilla Shirer, Max Lucado, Kari Jobe, and Kathie Lee Gifford. Last fall, she signed up to be chosen as a child sponsor with World Vision. She lives with her husband, Mike, in Austin, Texas, where they have raised their eight children.

EDITOR’S NOTE: THIS STORY AND PHOTO WERE GATHERED BEFORE THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC BEGAN.



The extreme quarantine

BEHIND A LOW WALL OF SUITCASES, two little eyes peer at me. We smile at each other and begin a language-transcending game of giggles and peek-a-boo. Her mom, Maria, tells me this 2-year-old’s name is Arleth. Cautiously leaving the safety of her mother’s mattress, Arleth leads me in a game of show and tell. She hugs a toy truck, shows me somebody’s shoes, climbs on a toy car, and scoots a short distance back and forth, sometimes pausing to stare. I bump up my camera’s ISO, captivated by the juxtaposition of

this sweet face and her peculiar context—a community center turned shelter near the Mexico side of the U.S. border, where World Vision has provided relief supplies.

With 50 other people crammed in here, they awaited court dates and visas to enter the United States for more than a year, a process made harder because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

I learn that two months earlier, a Mexican cartel brutally killed Arleth’s father and three other family members. Maria received death threats herself, so she, Arleth, and several family members fled their picturesque home, jobs, and harvest-ready crops in Guerrero, Mexico. They haven’t felt safe here either; it’s too close to the cartel. So, for now, Arleth plays inside. I’m grateful for a moment to join her. +

Written and photographed by Andrea Peer

Nikon D750

24-70mm lens, 1/160 at f/3.2, ISO 5000



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