



Children and families living in poverty are resilient and resourceful. They're skilled survivors. Recognizing this is an important first step in coming alongside them as they start the journey toward freedom from poverty.

For decades, World Vision staff have served communities by listening to their needs and honoring their expertise in their own cultural and environmental contexts. In partnership with them, and with the empowering support of our donors, we develop plans to help them move from poverty to plenty. See inside to learn how!

An individual community's journey may not include all of these steps in this exact order. But together, they reflect World Vision's comprehensive solution to poverty—equipping children and families to reach their full, God-given potential.



Join World Vision and be part of a community's journey out of poverty and into a fuller life.



You'll never see a community the same way again.



HOW A COMMUNITY IS
TRANSFORMED



"... I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."
—John 10:10 (NIV)



34834 Weyerhaeuser Way S.
P.O. Box 9716
Federal Way, WA 98063-9716

To learn more, visit worldvision.org

World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. Motivated by our faith in Jesus Christ, we serve alongside the poor and oppressed as a demonstration of God's unconditional love for all people. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.



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Empowering communities with a full solution to poverty





HOW A COMMUNITY IS TRANSFORMED

Beginning with the first handshake, World Vision and the communities we serve become partners in a journey toward their self-reliance. World Vision's hands-on involvement gradually lessens as community members make their own decisions and introduce solutions to break free from poverty for good.

BUILD TRUST | Social transformation starts with the building and nurturing of relationships among all partners. This includes World Vision staff and community members; members of different religious and ethnic groups; and local leadership and the community—including women and children, who are often left out of decisions that affect their lives.

COME TOGETHER | Community participation encourages a sense of ownership. Local leaders, groups, and families join each other in development activities that benefit everyone. As they work together, relationships are strengthened—helping ensure success in the steps that follow.

MAKE DECISIONS | In this phase, community members assess their needs and priorities and develop a multi-year plan of action. Together they decide how to use a large portion of the project budget. World Vision encourages local leaders to involve women and young people in this process, as the many positive effects carry over into other aspects of community life.

DESIGN SOLUTIONS | Now that the community has decided on their destination, they begin designing practical steps that will take them there. These can include agricultural, health-related, educational, and economic activities. World Vision provides oversight and help as needed, but encourages community members to work together to come up with their own solutions.

TAKE OWNERSHIP | In this final step, the community takes full ownership of their future—establishing long-term social structures such as water committees, food marketing co-ops, parent-teacher associations, and community banks. Economic and productive activities become the engine that drives the community's success without outside assistance.



Social transformation

In partnership with adults and children, local leaders, and community groups, we help change harmful beliefs and practices. Together, we address issues such as gender-based violence, disability access, and more—so the community can flourish.

Physical transformation

The steps toward physical transformation typically begin with clean water or food security and build on a strong foundation of cooperation. We empower families to create a self-sustaining local economy so they can meet all their own needs—and also help build their resilience through disaster preparedness.

Spiritual transformation

Many communities living in physical poverty are spiritually rich. World Vision strives to point people to God in all we do—whether that's partnering with the local church or offering the quiet witness of life and deed in a community where there is no Christian church. We pray for our work to reinforce people's understanding of God's love, grace, and transformational power.



EMERGENCY RELIEF
When disasters strike, our local staff and global experts help vulnerable families get back on their feet with life-saving supplies and support. Then we help them rebuild and prepare for future risks. With almost 70 years of experience and a presence in nearly 100 countries, we can respond quickly to virtually any crisis anywhere in the world.

CLEAN WATER
As the world's leading nongovernmental provider of clean water, World Vision reaches one new person every 10 seconds and three more schools every day. We drill wells and establish other water access points, help communities improve sanitation, and support families in developing healthy hygiene behaviors.

HEALTH
We train community health workers to fight preventable diseases and educate mothers about safe pregnancy and nutrition—for themselves and their kids. We also distribute medicine and supplies to clinics. Through our community-based programs, 89 percent of the severely malnourished children we treated over the last five years made a full recovery.

EDUCATION
We focus on early childhood development, literacy, safe schools, education in emergencies, equal access, and life skills and vocational training for teens. We're committed to equipping and supporting teachers and parents and partnering with governments to ensure that vulnerable kids are empowered to change their own futures through education.

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT
We provide financial services such as loans and savings groups, teach farmers about sustainable agriculture and help them access markets, and educate small business owners on risk awareness and resilience. Every 60 seconds, a family receives the tools to overcome poverty.

CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP
We demonstrate God's love to all through our service, and invest in activities that strengthen the Christian faith of those we serve. We provide children with chances to deepen their understanding of God's love, and equip parents and churches to foster their children's spiritual growth.

CHILD PROTECTION
By empowering children, strengthening families, mobilizing local leaders, and influencing governments, we help communities address the root causes of violence in the home, child labor and sex trafficking, and other atrocities against children.

DEED AND SIGN | Our staff are motivated by their Christian faith to serve all members of a community, regardless of their beliefs. These good deeds are signs pointing to God's love.

LIFE AND WORD | We're transparent in how we live and work. This integrity often causes people to ask why we do what we do—and we answer honestly about the loving God we serve.

BUILDING BRIDGES | We're known for not only fostering the faith of Christ-followers, but for building bridges with leaders of other faiths—working together to support child well-being, gender equity, and healthy family and community life.

PEACEBUILDING | Where communities are divided by conflict and violence, we promote peaceful resolution. After hostilities end, we seek to help restore broken relationships, welcoming children and youth as well as adults into the healing process.