World Vision is a Christian relief, development and advocacy organisation dedicated to working with children, families and communities to overcome poverty and injustice.

Our vision for every child, life in all its fullness.
Our prayer for every heart, the will to make it so.
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Our prayer for every heart, 
the will to make it so.
We have six core values that define us as we seek hope for the most vulnerable:

- We are Christian – our faith in Christ is central to our identity and our motivation to serve.
- We are committed to the poor – we work alongside the poor and oppressed, empowering them in a quest for justice, peace, reconciliation and healing in a broken world.
- We value people – we respect the dignity, uniqueness, and intrinsic worth of every person and prioritise people before money, structures and systems.
- We are stewards – the resources entrusted to us are not our own, so we set high standards of professionalism and accountability for ourselves.
- We are partners – we partner with communities, donors, churches and other organisations because we believe that by working together we can increase our impact.
- We are responsive – we respond with urgency to need in the world.

These six values are central to who World Vision is, as well as who we continually strive to be. Every day we work to strengthen our commitment to the most vulnerable and live up to our core values in concrete ways:

- We use transformational development indicators to monitor the impact and effectiveness of our work as we seek to realise lasting change in the communities we serve.
- We are bound by numerous international codes of conduct that set standards for governance, management and accountability.
- We hold ourselves accountable to our donors, our staff and those we serve. We invoke the highest standards of stewardship in using our resources because, as a Christian organisation, we are also accountable to God.

Despite an ever-changing world buffeted by environmental, political and economic challenges and tragedies, World Vision stays true to its values. We are called by God to serve forgotten and marginalised children, their families and communities. By staying true to our values, we continue our journey of hope alongside the communities we serve.

We are grateful to have you as a partner on this journey.

Dean Hirsch
President, World Vision International

Denis St-Amour
Chair, World Vision International Board
**Barriers to Hope**

**Every day ~** Children around the world face countless barriers to their development and well-being. Children embody hope, yet they are often the most vulnerable members of a community and are blocked from knowing life in all its fullness.

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**Poverty**
Millions of children are trapped in a cycle of poverty with no hope of escape. They are trafficked, sold into bonded labour, or simply expected to work for their family's survival. Poverty wastes children's bodies, caps their potential, and robs them of the opportunity to realise their dreams.

**Hunger and malnutrition**
Each year, millions of children suffer the debilitating effects of hunger and chronic malnourishment. Many die. Those who survive are permanently stunted, mentally and physically, and are unable to contribute effectively to their own future or that of their nation.

**Unsafe drinking water**
Contaminated water and poor sanitation contribute to the vast majority of all diseases in the developing world. Many of these diseases kill. Others cause irreversible damage, reducing mental capacity, inhibiting physical growth and damaging internal organs.

**Disaster**
The number and severity of disasters is increasing worldwide. Vulnerable children and communities are frequently the most affected, losing their loved ones, homes and livelihoods.

**Discrimination and abuse**
Every day millions of children are mistreated, exploited and physically abused because of their race, gender, disability or HIV status, causing long-term psychological and physical harm.

**Education**
Millions of children are denied their right to quality education, depriving them of the knowledge and skills they need to build a better life, care for their families and give back to their communities.

**AIDS**
Children who have lost parents to AIDS face tremendous physical, emotional and societal obstacles. They are more likely to be abused, malnourished, impoverished and ostracised by their communities.
Hope Breaks Through

Global Presence ~ Despite the many barriers affecting vulnerable children, there is also reason for hope. World Vision has been a leader in child-focused humanitarian work for over 50 years. Inspired by the hope of our Christian faith, we work in the world’s most difficult places alongside the
poor regardless of race, creed and gender. We are careful to integrate our development, relief and advocacy work, because the problems affecting children cannot be tackled in isolation. Together with children, families, communities and other partners, we work toward our vision of life in all its fullness for every child.
Transforming Communities

Development ~ World Vision believes that the best way to improve children’s lives is through child-focused transformational development. We work with families, communities and children all over the world through a range of programmes that foster change and improve their well-being.

Highlights

- World Vision carries out transformational development work in over 1,400 programmes around the world.
- We measure the well-being of children in the communities where we work so we can improve our impact.
- Our work is integrated at the community level so we can tackle the interlocking, root causes of poverty.

Sponsorship
Child sponsorship builds relationships between children, their families, sponsors and World Vision staff. These relationships enable mutual transformation by sharing resources, hope and experiences in overcoming poverty.

Health
World Vision works with communities, governments and partners to improve child health. Through preventative measures such as good nutrition, breast-feeding, hygiene and vaccinations, communities can increase the chance that their children will grow up healthy and able to reach their full potential.

Education
World Vision engages with teachers, schools and communities to improve learning outcomes in education, build confidence and teach values-based life skills. We work to ensure that all children have access to the quality education required to create independent, productive adult lives.

HIV and AIDS response
Through World Vision’s Hope Initiative, we work to reduce the impact of HIV and AIDS through prevention, care and advocacy. We work with children, communities and faith leaders to mobilise help for orphans and vulnerable children, and to prevent further spread of the disease.

Water and sanitation
Good water and sanitation systems translate into healthy children and economic empowerment. World Vision works with communities to dig wells, set up pumps, construct latrines and irrigate crops.

Economic development
World Vision helps families access loans, savings products, financial know-how, market accessibility and new technologies. Opening doors to economic opportunities leads to increased family incomes, improved nutrition, better health and greater educational opportunities for children. In the end, families are able to create long-lasting security for their loved ones.
Unlocking opportunities
Ten-year-old Antia, a sponsored child in Senegal, is able to attend school as a result of World Vision’s work in her community. School attendance in Antia’s community increased 10-fold after World Vision implemented a comprehensive water project there. Now, children like Antia no longer have to spend the entire day helping fetch water for their families’ needs.

Empowering individuals
Heang Han was struggling to survive after her husband committed suicide, leaving her with three small children and an unborn baby. With a loan from World Vision, Han bought a bike, which enabled her to go to the markets and then sell groceries outside her home. With the increased income she bought pigs, expanded her grocery business, put a new roof on her home and kept her children in school.

Using innovative approaches
Communities in the high Andean region of Peru ran a “Warm Your Child” campaign with the support of World Vision. The campaign aimed to decrease the cases of respiratory diseases in children under five by increasing awareness and holding a contest around making warm children’s clothing out of sheep and llama wool.
Working in the community
Seema works for World Vision as a community development coordinator. Widowed at a young age, she was drawn to working with other women, giving them hope and comfort. She shares, “After joining World Vision, I have been able to develop my leadership skills so that I can encourage other people also. Now I work with the people and help them find answers to their problems. For me, my community is like my family.”

Empowering future generations
Leadership programmes empower children in project communities to speak out and to lead. At age 14, Simona became a leader in her school in Romania. She says, “With World Vision’s support, I learned many things: writing project proposals, and organising activities and large school events; I developed more communication skills.”

Promoting child health
Two years ago, Betsheba was battling with malnutrition and malaria. Her weight had plunged below 50 per cent of the optimum weight for a two-year-old child. World Vision health workers taught Betsheba’s mother about the importance of child nutrition, health and malaria prevention. Today Betsheba is gaining weight and approaching the healthy range for children her age.
Responding to Disasters

Relief ~ World Vision strives to reduce the impact of emergencies on people’s lives, addressing humanitarian needs and the underlying vulnerabilities so that transformational development is possible. World Vision is responding to an increase in disasters by helping communities survive, recover and prevent future catastrophes.

Highlights
- When a disaster strikes, World Vision’s local and regional staff provide front-line response within hours.
- In a major disaster, World Vision’s cadre of full-time relief experts, on stand-by around the globe, can be on the scene within 72 hours.
- US$6 million is available for urgent needs in major disasters.
- Every dollar invested in disaster mitigation by World Vision yields seven dollars when disaster strikes.

Pre-positioning
Relief supplies are pre-positioned on three continents from which available supplies can be quickly airlifted. In large-scale disasters where adequate relief supplies and equipment are unavailable locally, World Vision’s Global Pre-Positioning Resource Network mobilises these supplies. Skilled staff accompany relief shipments and provide training for field personnel, maximising the impact of the supplies.

Response
When a disaster strikes, World Vision responds with essentials such as food, water, sanitation, temporary shelter and humanitarian protection. The aim is to save lives and prevent the loss of livelihoods. The combination of local, national, regional and global response teams means that we can respond quickly and appropriately to a variety of emergency situations. World Vision also works with communities to grow their capacity to respond to disasters themselves.

Rehabilitation
World Vision engages communities in rebuilding social, physical, human and financial capital after a disaster strikes. Rehabilitation helps rebuild infrastructure and livelihoods so communities can recover quickly and work on limiting the impact of disasters. Our goal is to leave people even stronger than they were before disaster struck.

Disaster mitigation
As the frequency of disasters increases, mitigation and risk reduction programmes are vital to helping communities prepare for future disasters. World Vision programmes support traditional coping mechanisms that enhance social and economic resilience and long-term development. Effective mitigation can significantly reduce loss of life, assets and livelihoods in the event of disaster, and prevent communities from becoming even more vulnerable.
Responding immediately
After an earthquake in Peru, World Vision quickly mobilised supplies to support thousands of people who lost their homes. World Vision responds to major emergencies within hours.

Providing temporary shelter
World Vision transports housing materials into affected areas within days after a disaster strikes, as it did after the Bangladesh cyclone in 2007. World Vision also runs large-group shelters during many disasters, providing protection, food, medical care and other necessities for people who have lost their homes.

Creating safe places to play
“Child-friendly spaces” are an oasis for children in the turbulent aftermath of a fast-onset disaster; providing a place to play, learn and recover with the help of trained staff. For refugee children, they may function as a longer-term daycare and education solution.
Building food security
In addition to delivering food aid immediately after a sudden-onset disaster, World Vision works to build food security and livelihoods in forgotten and slow-onset disasters, such as the livelihoods crisis in southern Africa.

Rebuilding communities, restoring livelihoods
World Vision refurbished this Indonesian school after the 2004 tsunami. In the weeks and months following a major disaster, World Vision partners with communities to rebuild schools and homes. Through micro-credit loans, aid and training, we also help people restore their livelihoods.

Reducing risk
In Thailand, World Vision worked with local communities to plant 56,000 mangroves to protect the coastline from future tsunamis. World Vision disaster responses include a focused effort to help communities overcome their vulnerability to disasters.
Advocacy — World Vision works to empower communities to know and to speak up for their rights at local, national and international levels. Through our advocacy work, we enable the voices of the poor and oppressed to reach decision-makers who have the power to change unjust policies and practices.

Highlights

• World Vision’s presence in thousands of local communities around the world keeps us connected to the issues affecting the poor.

• World Vision has offices in key centres of decision-making such as New York, Geneva, London and Brussels, enabling us to regularly advise senior officials in governments and humanitarian bodies around the world.

• Our growing global network of youth advocates speak out against injustice and inequality, and teach their peers about their rights.

Health

World Vision advocates for quality health care for all people, specifically focusing on preventive health care for children. We urge local communities, national governments and the international community to make children’s health a top priority and live up to the commitments they have made.

Education

World Vision advocates for quality education for all children, especially vulnerable children, girls, children with disabilities and children in crisis situations. We call on governments to agree to and implement universal education standards, and urge the international community to devote more funds toward meeting these goals so all children can receive the knowledge and skills they need.

Livelihoods

World Vision urges the international community to address the root cause of food insecurity and poverty, including unfair trade, insufficient investment and environmental degradation. By focusing on improving aid effectiveness, the protection of assets and economic development, World Vision helps ensure that the poor have more sustainable livelihoods.

Child rights and protection

Too many children are denied their rights as they suffer from abuse, human trafficking, child labour and other problems. World Vision stands up for the rights of children because of our belief that all children should have the right to reach their full God-given potential. We work with communities to promote child rights and protect children from violence and abuse. We also equip children to participate actively in decisions that affect them and stand up for their rights.
Mobilising help for children
World Vision and Global Action for Children lobbied the United Nations to increase its estimate of the financial resources needed to care for orphans and vulnerable children. As a result, UNAIDS decided to increase the figure for 2010 from US$740 million to US$4.4 billion, a six-fold increase that underscores the severity of the problem and the urgency required to address it effectively.

Raising public awareness
World Vision launched two reports on the situation of Iraqi refugees in Jordan, raising public awareness of the plight of war-scarred children living without access to education. After the publication of the reports and sustained advocacy by World Vision, other NGOs and the international community, the Jordanian government agreed to allow up to 50,000 Iraqi refugee children attend school.

Giving children a global voice
World Vision helped organise a Children’s Forum at the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Uganda. A statement written by more than 150 children from around the Commonwealth was presented to world leaders such as Uganda’s President Museveni and Britain’s Prince Charles. The statement called for children’s voices to be heard at the highest levels of decision-making across the Commonwealth.
Advocating for child rights
Village leaders from Naphaekngai, Laos, organised a child advocacy network and held an awareness event that educated 150 children on the risks of being trafficked into labour. World Vision’s Mekong Delta anti-trafficking programme works with vulnerable communities to stop child trafficking and build safer communities for their children.

Working with communities
With the help of teachers, classmates and World Vision, 16-year-old Teresa Cheptoo recruited approximately 200 boys and girls in 13 schools to educate her Kenyan community about the negative consequences of female genital mutilation. She later spoke about her work at the United Nations in New York. By becoming an activist among her own people, she gained the confidence to mobilise global attention on a difficult and sensitive issue.

Focusing the debate
Global Future, World Vision’s publication on human development, provides 10,000 subscribers with challenging insights on issues that affect people living in poverty and oppression. The magazine covers such topics as globalisation, violence against children, HIV/AIDS and education. In addition to World Vision staff experts, Global Future contributors include internationally recognised thought leaders such as economist Jeffrey Sachs, environmental activist Vandana Shiva, former World Bank President James Wolfensohn and Bishop Desmond Tutu.
Governance

World Vision is a federal partnership ~

An international board of directors is responsible for overall governance of the Partnership. National entities, many with their own boards, are responsible for national operations. All entities work together in alignment with a common vision, mission and strategy. Together we are committed to good governance and stewardship.

The international board, which meets twice a year, appoints the Partnership’s senior officers, approves strategic plans and budgets, and determines international policy. The chair of the board is Denis St-Amour. The international president and chief executive officer is Dean Hirsch. There are a total of 24 international board members. The current board has members from 19 countries and equal male and female representation.

Board Members

Hannah Anandaraj - India
Rachael Masake - Kenya
Seth Ayettey - Ghana
John Yasuo Masuda - Japan
Jose Miguel De Angulo - Bolivia
Joanna Mockler - USA
Antonieta Dominguez - Honduras
Roberto Costa de Oliveira - Brazil
Sharon Dymond - Canada
Annemarie Pfeifer - Switzerland
Joyce Godwin - USA
Stephen Phelps - United Kingdom
Stephen Hayner - USA
Anne Robinson - Australia
Kleo-Thong Hetrakul - Thailand
George Savvides - Australia
Dean Hirsch (President) - USA
Elizabeth Smythe - New Zealand
Tiffany Huang - Taiwan
Denis St-Amour (Chair) - Canada
Callisto Jokonya - Zimbabwe
Josef Stiegler - Austria
Utomo Josodirdjo - Indonesia
Rosanna Wong - Hong Kong

Codes of Conduct

In addition to our internal governance, World Vision subscribes to numerous international codes of conduct that set standards and benchmarks for governance, management, partnership and accountability. They include:

- International NGO Accountability Charter
- Red Cross Code of Conduct
- Sphere Humanitarian Charter for NGOs
- Global Humanitarian Platform “Principles of Partnership”
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Hope
Children
Families
Communities
Empowerment
Equality
Transformation
Sustainability
Peace
Justice

World Vision Overview
Hope for the Most Vulnerable
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