

January 2015

Dear Friend,

As we begin a new year, I'm more convinced than ever that God calls His followers to change the world by serving the hurting and vulnerable—and that World Vision, together with all of our partners, is effectively answering this call by looking to Jesus' example of love and sacrifice.

One of the central themes of the Bible is a repeated call to respond to the greatest needs of the day: poverty, strife, hunger, injustice. At World Vision, God's constant mercy inspires us to give of ourselves to those in need, bringing hope and transformation, love and reconciliation.

Our founding 64 years ago was a response to war and tragedy, motivated by God's unconditional love. Today, we continue to go where there is the greatest need, partnering with those in the margins so that they—and we—might experience healing and fullness of life.

Read any headline: the world today is in desperate need of hope and peace. Conflict in the Central African Republic and South Sudan. Millions of Syrians seeking refuge in bordering countries. Christians and other minorities persecuted in Iraq. War and the threat of famine. Violence and unrest in American cities.

These are some of the most challenging problems on earth. And because God's love is for all people, we seek to come alongside those made most vulnerable by these crises. That's why the nearly 100 countries where we serve include over 30 of the 51 classified by the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development as "fragile states"—where child mortality is highest, refugees are fleeing, and hunger is most prevalent.

As we work to respond to these urgent needs, we rely on God's provision and your generosity. We are grateful for a year in which we have been enabled to do so much on behalf of children and families.

Our overall revenue grew 6 percent in FY14, thanks to our partners—individuals, churches, corporations and foundations, and government donors—who are equipping us to provide a full range of services to help transform lives. In this past year, we:

- Helped more than 2 million children and adults gain access to clean water, as well as improve practices for sanitation and hygiene.
- Helped transform the lives of nearly 4.3 million children registered in child sponsorship programs worldwide, including 1.2 million who were supported by caring sponsors in the U.S.

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- Responded to 80 humanitarian emergencies in the U.S. and around the world, offering hope to approximately 10.7 million disaster survivors, refugees, and displaced people.
- Assisted more than 1.7 million children and adults in the U.S. through leadership training programs, disaster response, and access to basic necessities such as clothing, food, and school supplies.
- Partnered with more than 10,000 churches in the U.S., supporting them in demonstrating God's love to their neighbors at home and abroad.

Jesus was often found in places where others were reluctant to go, serving and fellowshiping with those who had been rejected or overlooked. I believe that's where He still is today.

In November I sat with two beautiful little girls in Bangladesh. Sonali's name means golden, and Rupali's means silver. As their names suggest, they are their mother's greatest treasure. But as the daughters of a woman trapped in the sex trade, Sonali and Rupali aren't able to enjoy the level of security and nurture their mother would like to give them.

That's why World Vision is there, providing children like Sonali and Rupali with care, protection, and education through our Child-Friendly Space nearby (Sonali, 7, is now at the top of her class). These precious girls might otherwise never have the support they need to reach their God-given potential. Instead, today they are enjoying the opportunity to live full and abundant lives.

Thank you for partnering with World Vision in offering comfort, healing, compassion, and tangible reasons for hope. We are grateful to work together with you to offer a full solution to poverty for children and families in the margins.

Blessings,



Rich Stearns  
President, World Vision U.S.

