January 2019

Dear Friend of World Vision,

As I begin my presidency of World Vision U.S., I’m excited to press into the miraculous. This means encouraging staff, supporters, and those we serve to step into something bigger and better—God-sized impact greater than what we can achieve on our own. When we put our trust in “him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us” (Ephesians 3:20), miracles will result.

We saw this in 2018. Thanks to God working in the hearts of faithful U.S. supporters like you, we received more than $1 billion in revenue! That enabled us to devote $52 million more this year to our transformative work in communities around the world—programs that open the door to fullness of life for children, so they can become all that Jesus created them to be.

I’ve met some of those children, and their stories stay with me. I think often of 8-year-old Faith, my sponsored child in Zambia. Her father helps maintain the clean-water borehole well that World Vision built in her community, which helps Faith and the other children to thrive. Their family is thriving spiritually, too: Faith’s mom told me that they pray together daily. In a very different context—a refugee camp in Uganda—I met a teenager named Emmanuel. When violence struck his village in South Sudan, he fled. But due to a disability, he was separated from his family and spent three weeks making his way alone, sometimes crawling, to a camp where he found love and care from World Vision staff.

Pressing into the miraculous means believing that together, we can help children like Faith and Emmanuel realize their God-given purpose. And it means being relentless in our mission to reach all vulnerable children, wherever they live, with the love we’ve learned from our Lord and Savior.

Is this mission impossible? No! We are already executing on it. In just five years, together we impacted the lives of over 200 million vulnerable children by tackling the root causes of poverty. Here’s more evidence of the miraculous impact we are achieving, thanks to your faithfulness and through the goodness and power of God:

• We’re reaching one new person every 10 seconds and three more schools every day with clean water. Since 2011, we have helped provide safe water to more than 19 million people, improve sanitation for 15 million, and improve hygiene for 21 million.

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• Every 60 seconds, a family gets the tools to overcome poverty.

• Between 2013 and 2017, nine of every 10 severely malnourished children we treated made a full recovery.

• Because of our community-focused solutions, for every child you help, four more children benefit, too.

We are standing on the brink of an accomplishment no previous generation has even dared to imagine: the complete elimination of extreme poverty from the face of the earth by 2030! It’s a miracle we believe will happen because of faithful and generous people. Let us remember that God loves the poor even more than we do, and His heart breaks for their suffering. We must cry out to Him in prayer as we work hard to “loose the chains of injustice” (Isaiah 58:6). And we must understand that we are the people God sends to do His work. As Romans 10:15 says, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

I’m so grateful for your partnership this past year. Together, let’s continue to press into the miraculous. Jesus is waiting for us there!

God bless you,

Edgar Sandoval Sr.
President, World Vision U.S.