ANIMALS

A goat. A pig. A cow. One animal can change the life of a hardworking family—giving them the boost they need to start a successful business that will feed and educate their children. Between October 2019 and March 2020, Gift Catalog donors like you provided struggling families in 18 countries with animals, providing economic stability. But most of all, your gift created hope for these families and the confidence that they can improve their lives.

CAMBODIA

Chickens enable father to stay home, stop migrating for work

In the Thmar Pouk district of Cambodia, growing rice and migrating to the Thailand border for work were Sek Chhouern’s means of providing for his family. However, they didn’t prevent annual food shortages of up to four months. So when he was offered an opportunity to participate in a World Vision training program in raising chickens, he embraced it.

Chhouern learned how to build proper housing for chickens, feed them, observe good hygiene, and provide necessary medicine. Over time, as he implemented these practices, he noticed that his chickens lived longer.

More than just survive, though, Chhouern wanted to thrive. After visiting a successful chicken farm and learning about chicken breeding and adding value to farm products, he made a change. Chhouern decided to begin incubating eggs and selling baby chicks. The result was significant. His income jumped from $550 per year to $226 per month.

Chhouern continues to explore the possibilities with chickens. He has quadrupled the number of hens under his care, from 50 to 200. “Without [this] project, I might still be migrating,” he says.

UGANDA

Goats provide a means to support a boy’s education and future plans

Egumai, 14, has a dream. He wants to become a nurse and help save lives. This became clear after his father passed away. He doesn’t want to see the lives of others cut short the way his father’s was.

Egumai knows he needs to do well in school in order to have any hope of becoming a nurse. He studies hard. Despite the closure of classrooms due to an outbreak of COVID-19, he is progressing in his studies by listening to instruction over the radio and completing his lessons.

He and his mother, Martina, now have an improved means to pay for his education through raising goats. Egumai’s household was selected when World Vision began inviting vulnerable families in Uganda’s Arua district to participate in a training program in raising livestock.

After Martina received training in animal disease control and prevention, animal housing, breeding, nutrition, and marketing, along with two goats, she passed the knowledge along to her son. She ensures Egumai takes proper care of their flock, which recently expanded to three goats. He also tends a small garden with eggplant and other vegetables.

On behalf of Egumai and Martina, thank you for making it possible for vulnerable families to improve their welfare and pursue a brighter future.
ANIMALS

MYANMAR

Livestock training helps family overcome major barriers

Daw Sai Taung’s household in the Hseni township in Myanmar includes nine people: herself, her husband, two sons, two daughters-in-law, and three grandchildren. That’s a lot of mouths to feed.

She and her husband, U Gam Jar, once struggled to provide for their family by raising cattle, pigs, and crops. Looking back, she said they faced two critical challenges: access to veterinary care and proper feed for their livestock.

“It [was] difficult to get a veterinarian for a shot at a time when the diseases occurred,” she says. As for feeding the livestock, the conventional local practice was not optimal. “Here, people collect kitchen leftovers and banana trunks as feed,” she says. Using those items, it took up to two years for the family’s animals to reach a market weight.

Support from World Vision helped improve the productivity of their farm. There are now trained livestock extension workers in the village who can help treat diseases. Daw Sai Taung received instruction in animal husbandry, including proper nutrition. The better feed she is raising for her livestock is enabling them to reach a market weight in just eight months, rather than two years. She also received five goats, which multiplied to a herd of 10 in only 10 months. Income from the sale of livestock is enabling Daw Sai Taung to pay for education and new clothing for her family, and thankfully, feeding all those mouths has gotten easier, too.

UGANDA

A war refugee pursues peace and prosperity

At age 17, Charity Denaya and some of her younger relatives fled from a war in South Sudan and settled in a refugee camp in Uganda’s Arua district. She became the head of the household for three siblings and a foster child.

Establishing a new life has not been easy, but Charity has made steady progress with aid from World Vision. She has received psychosocial support, life-skills training, and agricultural assistance. Recently, she began generating income by raising chickens, ducks, and goats.

In 2019, after completing training in raising livestock, Charity received 10 four-week-old chicks. She fed them a balanced diet and obtained veterinary care from neighbors who were trained as animal health workers.

In 2020, Charity sold eight of her chickens. She used the proceeds to buy a mattress, some ducks, and a goat that has since given birth to another goat.

Charity also saved up enough money to pay her school fees and enroll in a secondary school. She plans to buy a radio so she can receive remote instruction while classrooms are temporarily closed due to COVID-19.

Meanwhile, Charity is serving as a peer educator in her camp. “I only pray that World Vision supports more people like me and takes them to the level they have taken me,” she says.