Globally, the lack of an education is linked to poverty—and the United States is no exception. Children growing up in poverty have lower educational attainment, work and earn less as adults, are more likely to receive public assistance, and have poorer health outcomes compared to those who receive a quality education.

Since 1999, World Vision has served children and youth in need in the United States by focusing on increasing student success, boosting parental engagement, and providing needed resources to underserved teachers and schools. When students, parents and caregivers, and teachers in marginalized communities are empowered with better educational resources, communities will be transformed.

Our programs
Through a network of nearly 900 partners, we provide needed classroom resources for teachers serving in under-resourced schools. In partnership with Worldreader, we work to increase students’ literacy skills, giving them access to a virtual library through the BookSmart app. World Vision’s KidREACH (relating, educating, and communicating hope) out-of-school time (OST) program works with parents, teachers, and volunteers from under-resourced communities to mentor and tutor students in kindergarten through eighth grade.
Teacher Resource Center
World Vision’s Teacher Resource Center (TRC) provides new school supplies to educators teaching in low-income neighborhoods where at least 70% of the students qualify for reduced-fee or free school lunches. In 2022:

» The TRC served 169,073 teachers and students.
» Over $3,236,955 worth of product was distributed through our six TRCs (1,292 pallets of school supplies).
» 31.6% of teachers said they have seen absenteeism drop due to free supplies for their students.

KidREACH
The KidREACH OST program provides critically needed resources to schools with high populations of at-risk students. Students are equipped to form positive relationships with trusted adult mentors in safe, well-supervised learning environments. In 2022:

» Students received 560 hours of academic assistance, including literacy, art, and music.
» 97% of surveyed KidREACH parents reported feeling an increased capacity—and more empowered—to help with their students’ educational endeavors.
» Students and their families participated in 74 events focused on increasing engagement in STEM and social and emotional learning.
Community impact story

After Mary Willoughby (left) took a break from teaching to return to school herself—learning how to help reach her students with social and well-being skills—she received one of World Vision’s Classroom Wellbeing Kits in autumn 2022 for her students. “Using the tools for the kids, they were just so engaged and so excited to be at school to know that it’s a safe place,” she says.

Mary thanks the donors who’ve helped equip teachers and students with the kits. “These tools are going to be very special for our students, especially [those] who are dealing with anxiety,” she says. “They’re greatly needed. They’re greatly welcomed into the classrooms.”

Worldreader

World Vision provides students with access to Worldreader’s digital literacy app that includes over 400 books in various languages and engagement activities. In 2022:

- Over 1,870 students accessed the virtual library in English and Spanish.
- Students participating in the program increased their daily reading average from 4 minutes to 21 minutes. Research shows that students who read 15 minutes or more a day see substantial reading gains.
- Participating students and their families completed over 174 activities focused on increasing literacy skills, developing social and emotional learning skills, and engaging with their families.

Classroom Wellbeing Kits

In 2022, World Vision developed Classroom Wellbeing Kits, providing teachers with critical tools to help students struggling with behavioral issues, self-management, and relationship skills. Students need these skills to develop into knowledgeable, confident, responsible, and caring young people.

Each kit contains a teacher handbook with fun, user-friendly classroom activities, free access to Worldreader (see left), and items that encourage students to self-regulate their emotions and focus on their studies. Under-resourced schools across the U.S. are receiving Classroom Wellbeing Kits through partner organizations and our TRCs.