



WorldShare

window

the newsletter of www.worldshare.org.uk • issue 2019/2

Hear from one of
our long-term
child sponsors



Can you take
someone's
hand through
the storm?

Long-term Partnership Through the Storm



Editorial

Yesterday, I was speaking in a church in Yorkshire from Micah 6 v 8. It is a verse that is often used by mission organisations, particularly those that focus on injustice.

But familiarity shouldn't lessen the value of reflecting on such a passage. Through his Prophet Micah, the Lord is asking the people of Judah a series of rhetorical questions to jog their memories about what it was that He had already done for them and, of course, for us.

So, what does the Lord require of us? To ... Act Justly, Love Mercy and Walk Humbly with our God. What do "acting justly" and "loving mercy" look like?

Well, since mid-March, the work of our partner ministry in Southern Africa has been dominated by responding to the impact of Cyclone Idai on people and communities in both Zimbabwe and Mozambique. These are people whose lives have been severely impacted; houses, crops and livelihoods have been destroyed.

The immediate acts of mercy in these situations have been: to provide food, shelter and to help communities get back on their feet; to act justly by the very practical matter of ensuring that widows, orphans and the disadvantaged are

included and receive an equal share of help.

The impact of cyclone Idai is not going to be felt over the short-term but will have a massive long-term impact on communities. Will you "walk humbly" before our God with us and continue to pray for the teams from Hope for Africa Missions as they minister to communities in the affected areas? Praise God that this is also an opportunity for many to hear to the good news!

I'd like to say thank you to our donors and supporters who've generously made this vital response possible.

In this edition of Window, we've taken "Long-term Partnerships Through the Storm" as our theme and, in the centre pages of the magazine, you will read how the ChildAid scheme is helping to transform young lives now but also having a real impact in transforming the lives of the next generation.

Alan Butler,
Chief Executive

“He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.”
Micah 6:8

2018 Impact and thank you!

As we've recently started a new financial (and tax) year, it is an opportunity for us to look back and say "thank you" to our donors and supporters who've been on the journey with us over 2018.

Many of you will have also received letters confirming your donation amounts and GiftAid sums for your records. It is also the time of year when WorldShare needs to publish its statutory accounts. The main headline for 2018, is that we've been

able to send out the largest amount of financial support to our ministry partners since 2013.

Last year (alongside publishing our statutory accounts) we felt it was helpful to produce a visual summary of funds and the impact of those funds through our ministry partners. We have done the same again this year and if you don't have access to printed copy it can be accessed here

www.worldshare.org.uk/annualreport

Key numbers are:-

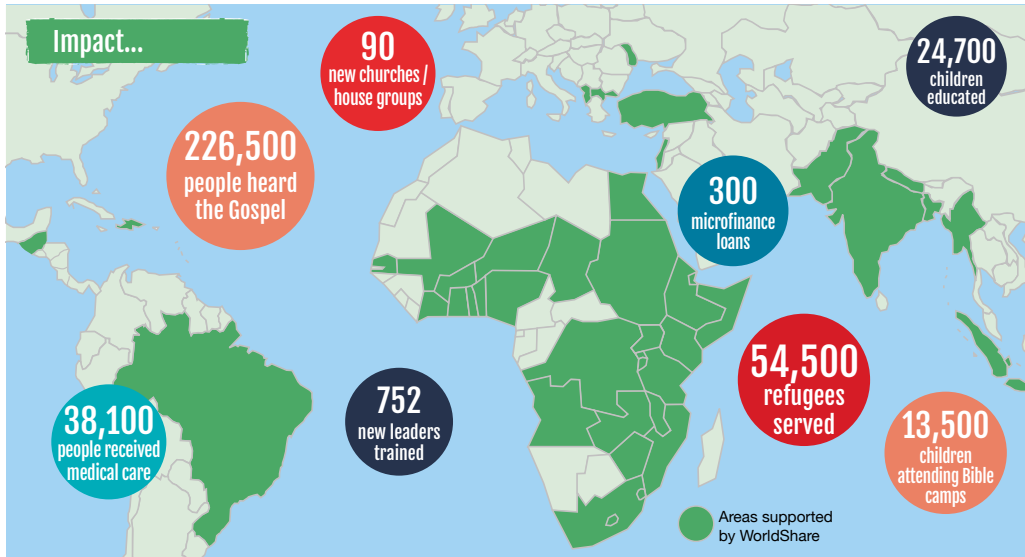
Your Gifts...

■ Donations	350,379	76%
■ Alliance Partners	53,902	12%
■ Gift Aid	38,683	8%
■ Gifts in Kind	0	0%
■ Legacies	20,040	4%
Total Income	£463,004	

How we spent it...

■ Education	127,362	25%
■ Health	61,191	12%
■ Community	49,939	10%
■ Church Planting	77,925	15%
■ Injustice	42,947	8%
■ Emergency Relief	79,848	15%
■ General running costs	46,488	9%
■ Governance	32,588	6%
Total Expenditure	£518,288	

These numbers are provisional figures as at the end of April 2018 and are subject to audit.



Long-term Partnerships Through the Storm

Here in the West, we are very accustomed to seeing profound humanitarian need displayed in tear-jerking high-definition across our 4K TVs and smartphones.

Whether Red Nose Day, Comic Relief or the Children in Need Rickshaw Challenge each year, we have never been so interconnected and, therefore, aware of international needs and the potential force of our collaboration. Whatever our charity or cause of choice might be, there are a multiplicity of socially-connected opportunities for us to fundraise, donate, sponsor a child, build a well, run a marathon or even erect an orphanage. Comic Relief alone, just this year, has raised a whopping £63 million!

But is it possible that we are missing something very obvious and something very doable?

Considering the increasing number of natural disasters we are currently witnessing around the world, and as impressive as these staggering figures above may be, there is another specific need of many of the people in hard-to-reach places at this time: long-term partnerships through the storm.

Talking in person with Bishop Hendrick Mahlangu (Director of Hope for Africa Missions) over conference call recently, here at WorldShare we have received a privileged insight into the plight of people in Southern Africa following the devastations of Cyclone Idai. Bishop Mahlangu told us that it will take at least 12 months for communities in Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe to re-build their lives following the apocalyptic winds and rains that ripped through their homes and livelihoods.

“As you go, proclaim this message: ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.”
Jesus in Matthew 10: 7-8



Is there more we can do?

The emphasis that shone through very clearly from speaking with Bishop Mahlangu was of the desperate need of partnerships through the storm, as it were, so that ongoing support can be secured for the difficult years ahead.

In much the same way as a child in need might be sponsored by a family for years or even decades, so too do many devastated people groups need the regular, monthly, long-term support of finances from partners.

We praise God today for massive, one-off accumulative funds, as above, allocated to severe needs across the UK and the wider world. But we also pray for a growing gospel response to our suffering brothers and sisters in remote parts of the world who need us to hold their hands through the storm and beyond. Because most of us will not be able to do this literally, our hope is that many of us can still provide this support through the sharing of both our finances and our time in intercession.



Please contact us today to see how you can take someone's hand and hold it through the storm.
Call 01302 775209 or email info@worldshare.org.uk

CHILDAID: Could you help bring about change in a young life?

For those supporters that have been with us for a long time, you will be aware we have a sponsorship scheme called ChildAid. ChildAid works in partnership with local Christians in developing countries, to bring hope and practical help to many children and families.

We have no overseas staff; we rely wholly on the ministry team of our local partners. We have been working with some of them for over 50 years and each partnership is different.



Sponsorship through ChildAid benefits the whole community as well as the children who are sponsored. It is part of the holistic approach of our partner ministry, but it can also be a blessing to those who sponsor, as can be seen by their testimonies.



"I first heard about WorldShare when it was "Christian Nationals" when Chris Marantika from Indonesia came to speak at church. It was then that I heard about ChildAid.

I was at college at the time and I didn't take the opportunity for granted. I felt God was saying to me that he wanted me to give the gift of education to a needy child.

The benefits of being a sponsor are to know the children in the scheme are not just receiving an education but are getting the opportunity to hear about the unconditional love and grace of God.

Another benefit is that God has a plan for the children's lives. The children have dreams for their lives. God wants to give them hope and a future as it says in Jeremiah 29v11.

I don't have children of my own, but God has brought children into my life that need help. Hebrews 2v13 says "Here am I, and the children God has given me."

The children I have supported have sometimes been short term, others long term.

Child sponsorship is something I am passionate about. It is something that can be done without leaving your own doorstep."

Sylvia Muir



"As a family, we have been sponsoring children through WorldShare for over 20 years. We first heard about the scheme through a church my husband was attending. Someone from WorldShare was there telling the congregation about sponsorship. That started and has resulted in a beautiful relationship with our friends at WorldShare and the honour and privilege of helping so many children over the years.

We have sponsored children mainly from Guatemala, Myanmar and recently Albania. The benefits of sponsorship have been enormous: being able to pray for each one; knowing their name, favourite colour, hobbies or if they're struggling with school or not, you get to know your treasure as they truly are. To know that they can go somewhere safe, to know that they are getting an education to break the cycle of poverty, to know that their bellies are filled at least once a day and to know that their spiritual needs are

By becoming a sponsor, you too could shape the future of a vulnerable child and form a long-lasting relationship.



being met... these are hard things to put into word when you are part of it all. I probably will never know the depth of poverty nor the violence or uncertainty of their world but when I get updated photos and letters handwritten from these smiling, lovely precious children it reminds me of how good I have it. Even on my worst day, I can make a difference in someone's life. It has been humbling and fulfilling and every time I sit at my desk all their pictures are there smiling at me.

One young man, in particular, stands out as we sponsored him right through college. With his new job, he removed his whole family from an incredibly dangerous daily situation and was able to support them and begin a new life.

We have been blessed and I encourage anyone reading this, even if you can help just one, it will be so worth making a difference."

Michelle Dickson

For more information or to start your sponsorship journey, please contact Clare on 01302 775209 or email clare.hill@worldshare.org.uk www.worldshare.org.uk/childaid

Transforming lives through sponsorship: Mandy's story...

ChildAid relies on the goodwill and generosity of sponsors to allow us to spread the word of God and enrich the lives of vulnerable children in the world's poorest countries.

One such sponsor is Mandy Pateman. In 1999, Mandy and her late husband sponsored Victoria Taiwoo, a 14-year-old growing up in Jos, Nigeria.

Their correspondence started with what Mandy fondly recalls as *"really nice personal letters"* and a close bond quickly formed. Despite the distance, their relationship has been one of closeness and mutual support, as Mandy reflects:

"I've been looking through some of her letters and things she sent me over the years. I found it quite moving to read it all. We've got a really lovely relationship. She had a good relationship with my husband too, she was very fond of him."

Mandy and Victoria also developed a spiritual connection through God. When Mandy's husband fell ill, she took comfort in the prayers offered by Victoria and her family when Victoria shared her vision from God that he would be with the Lord soon.

As a result of several bouts of Malaria as a child, Victoria often suffers from ill health, but Mandy's sponsorship has allowed her to live a good life. Now aged 35, she has a husband and child of her own and works to build a better future for her family:



"She got married about three or four years ago and they live in the bush somewhere so it's quite remote. She works with children, they run a school and she's been to university and done her training. She's done really, really well."

Though sending letters has become increasingly difficult, the pair keep in touch regularly through Facebook and phone calls when circumstances allow. The relationship that began 20 years ago remains a powerful force in both their lives:

"However long you sponsor a child for, it's amazing to know you're making a difference to their whole future."

By becoming a sponsor, you too could shape the future of a vulnerable child and form a long-lasting relationship.

For more information or to start your sponsorship journey, please contact Clare on 01302 775209 or email clare.hill@worldshare.org.uk www.worldshare.org.uk/childaid

News...

Blog

We are going to be launching a new blog on the WorldShare website over the next few months!

Through articles and videos, it will be a content hub where you'll hear from both the WorldShare team as well as from guest writers too, so look out for the new content just around the corner.



Serving you & your church

We would love to send visiting speakers to your church services, groups and events. It is a fantastic opportunity to hear first-hand, real life stories about the ministries you are supporting and the difference your giving is making.

The opportunity for speakers is not just for churches who partner with WorldShare, but also for individuals who give and would like us to come and share in their church or at special occasions and events.

If you would like to find out more, please get in touch 01302 775209 info@worldshare.org.uk



Come and see us...

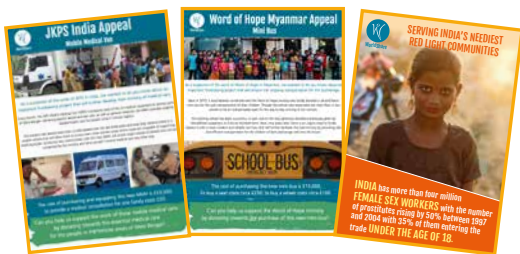
Keswick Convention
We're going to be exhibiting at this year's Keswick convention between July 13th - 26th so please do come and say hello!



We will be exhibiting at other events over the summer and we would love to meet you...

**One Event, Lincolnshire Showground
24 - 28 August**

Whether in supporting the current Ashaloy appeal, the Word of Hope minibus project, the efforts in Southern Africa following Cyclone Idai or the medical van facility with JKPS in India, we thank you all very much indeed!



Did you know we have a monthly prayer calendar with daily prayers for WorldShare's partner ministries around the world?

You can download the calendar and sign up to receive it monthly at www.worldshare.org.uk/pray



After you've provided for your loved ones, your gift can give vital support to our partner ministries in their efforts to make a lasting change among their communities.

Legacies can make a huge difference and allows you to do something really significant for a cause you believe in.

Your gift, whatever the size, can make an incredible difference to how we support our ministry partners.

For more information contact
jenny.hunt@worldshare.org.uk
or call 01302 775209



To give to WorldShare, please fill out this form and return to us, using the enclosed Freepost envelope or post to WorldShare, Armstrong House, First Avenue, Doncaster DN9 3GA.

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(We are not able to take American Express)

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Expiry Date

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Date _____

My details

Title	First Name	Surname
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We would love to share with you information, updates and appeals for the amazing work of our partner ministries around the world. Please tick to let us know how you would like to receive communications from us.

(please tick) ☐ Email ☐ Post ☐ Phone ☐ SMS

We will not pass on your details to any third party organisations. Your consent will last for five years. You can unsubscribe from communications at any time by contacting us. info@worldshare.org.uk, 01302 775209, www.worldshare.org.uk. Registered charity 803575.

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