



News from Global Care and our partner projects

Winter 2022

# NEWSBRIEF

# LEFT OUT & LEFT BEHIND

## LEARNING BOOSTER CENTRES IN BANGLADESH

**Covid left six-year-old \*Asim's family deep in debt. His dad is a trishaw puller – a type of three wheeled rickshaw. During lockdown he had no income, not even for food, let alone to pay the instalments due on his vehicle. He took on ever more punitive loans, just so the family could survive.**

Now everything he earns goes to pay off loans with interest and buy medicine for Asim's grandmother. There is nothing left for Asim's education, already disrupted by the pandemic.

Asim's story is typical of children in poverty, especially in rural areas. Education is a low priority for families constantly on the cusp of disaster. And the long school closures have crushed the hopes of many young people.

In Bangladesh a staggering 80% of children in rural areas have dropped out of school following the Covid-related school closures.

Unable to access online lessons, school-aged children fell behind. Most didn't have families who could help them study at home or catch up later.

After months of no contact from school, and no ability to access government material online, when schools finally re-opened children had to sit exams they had no hope of passing. Demoralised, they dropped out.

Older teenagers were often forced into work or marriage to relieve the economic burden on the family. When schools re-opened, they were unable to return at all - with families heavily in debt following the pandemic, parents relied on their children's income.

“ 80% of children in rural Bangladesh have dropped out of school post-Covid. ”

The Bangladeshi girl on our front cover is fishing for her supper.

**This Christmas we are fundraising for a new project led by our partners in Bangladesh which will offer a way back into education for young children AND older teenagers.**

Our partners' new Learning Booster Centres will provide children aged 5-10 with homework support and coaching, so they can catch up with their education. The centres will run for 2-3 hours a day, five days a week.

Around 40 young mentors aged 14-19 will facilitate the centres. Young people who have been forced to drop out of secondary school will receive training, including safeguarding training, to help younger children's learning, and will be monitored by qualified teachers who will plan lessons and activities.

In return the young people will receive funding so they can pay for tuition to help them catch up with their own studies, and support family living costs while they transition back to school.

We hope to raise £74,000 through our Big Give Christmas Appeal, to fund 20 centres for up to 300 children, facilitated by 40 young mentors. The

new centres will operate for two years, beginning in early 2023.

In addition to the Learning Booster Centres, our partners will also work with families to help them develop income-generating initiatives. They hope that by helping stabilise the family finances, families will stop relying on child labour and be able to better support their children's education.

“  
It's a short-term  
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lifelong impact.  
”

After two years, the project will close as the children will have had time to catch up on their missed learning.

Head of Operations, Steve Wicking, said: “It's a short-term intervention which will potentially have a lifelong impact on these children and their families, perhaps for generations to come. Covid has had a catastrophic impact on learning in the poorest communities worldwide, which will cause a downward spiral resulting in further marginalisation, reduced income, poorer health and missed opportunities. This initiative is a great opportunity to change the story for hundreds of children in Bangladesh and give them back the opportunities which were taken from them by the pandemic. Please help us get it started.”



# DOUBLE YOUR MONEY!

**We're taking part in the Big Give Christmas Challenge, the UK's biggest match-funding campaign! All online donations to our Christmas Appeal during the challenge week will be doubled in value, pound for pound, until we reach our target of £57,000.**

The Big Give Christmas Challenge starts at 12 noon on Tuesday 29th November and runs until 12 noon on Tuesday 6th December. Please save the date!

It's a wonderful opportunity to make your money go further, thanks to generous donors who have offered match-funding. We want to make the most of this generous offer, so please give online if you can.

If you unable to give online, your donations are still very welcome, and will contribute to the cost of the full project (£74,000), however they will not be match-funded.

To be eligible for match-funding, donations must be made via the Big Give website during the above dates. If you go to [globalcare.org/the-big-give](https://globalcare.org/the-big-give) you will be automatically directed to the right webpage, or use this QR code. Thank you!



# HELP A VULNERABLE CHILD...

## CHILD SPONSORSHIP IS...

**Powerful. Hope-filled.  
Transformative.**

Year after year our partners tell us how child sponsorship changes lives!

Through advocacy, education and welfare care, vulnerable children are able to build better futures.

We're launching a new campaign to find more child sponsors, helping people understand these three key ways in which child sponsorship helps a vulnerable child grow into a strong adult.

We hope people will be inspired to believe that they can make a difference in the life of a vulnerable child.

- If you're already a sponsor, please share your experience with family and friends. You are some of our best advocates for sponsorship!
- If you're not a sponsor yet – why not consider it?

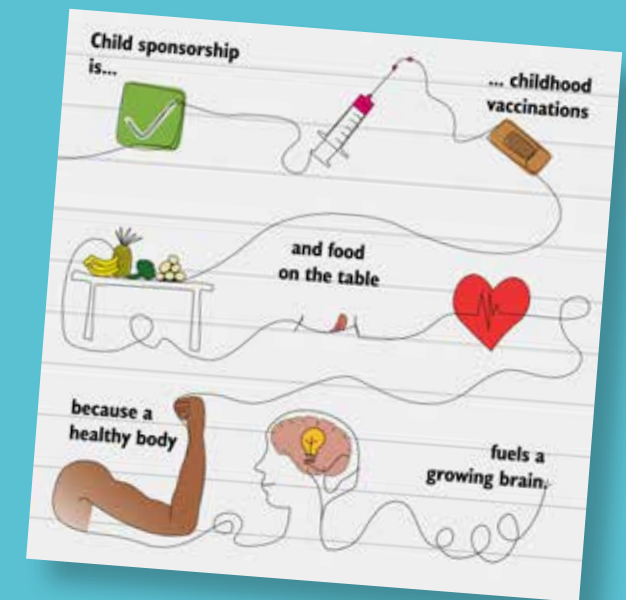
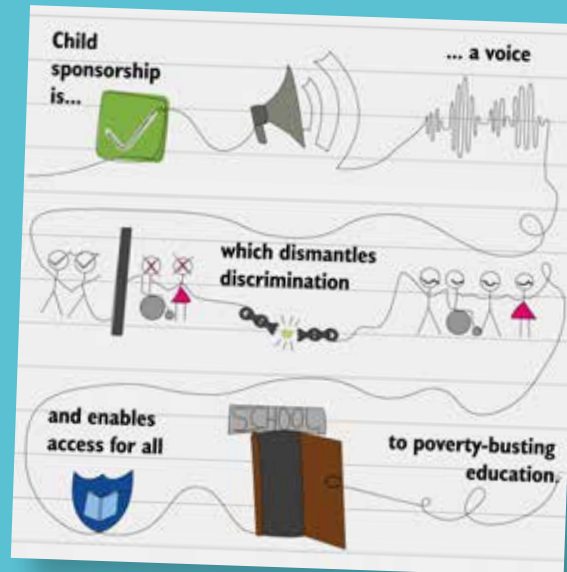
**It costs just 83p per day to sponsor a child and change a life forever.**



[globalcare.org/educate](http://globalcare.org/educate)



[globalcare.org/advocate](http://globalcare.org/advocate)



[globalcare.org/welfare](http://globalcare.org/welfare)

## Ryan's Story

**After a lifetime of rejection and instability, sponsorship with Global Care has brought \*Ryan to a place of security and independence. Without sponsorship, his story could have had a very different ending.**

When \*Ryan's father died, his mother remarried and abandoned her children, leaving them under the care of her eldest daughter. The children were unable to look after themselves and eventually returned to their mum, but their stepfather refused to contribute to their care. At this point Ryan joined our sponsorship programme.

The family struggled to survive on casual labour and subsistence agriculture. Ryan was a good student and worked hard, but relationships



at home were always fraught. As a teenager, Ryan moved back to live with his older sister, now married. However when she realised he was HIV+ she also rejected him. She was scared he was an infection risk to her own children.

Homeless and penniless. Ryan came to the Global Care Soroti office for help. He asked to be transferred to skills training so he could earn money to support himself. The team arranged a place for Ryan on an electrical engineering course at Acro Electrical workshop and helped him find a room to rent nearby.

Now aged 20, Ryan's sponsorship has ended; he has completed his course and received a toolbox and tools from Global Care. He now works at the Acro workshop.

Well done Ryan, well done team – and a massive thank you to Ryan's sponsor! See what a difference you are making!



# ...GROW A STRONG ADULT

## A GIFT OF PROTECTION: WE'VE GOT THEIR BACK



**Dalit children in India still suffer terrible discrimination in school and the wider community. We're telling discrimination to back off!**

This Christmas, you can buy a school pack with a difference for a Dalit child – a bag of protection which helps dismantle discrimination. Costing just £29, the bag is stuffed with practical school essentials – like notebooks, pens, pencils, rulers and eraser. But it also includes important tools to help children fight the effects of discrimination.

Like a water bottle, so they can still drink even when they aren't allowed to touch the school water fountain. A tiffin (a traditional set of stacked metal containers used as a lunch box) so they can bring food to eat when they are refused food at school.

Best of all, they will receive a new backpack bearing our partners' logo. Printing the GCare Foundation logo on the bags makes them more expensive – but also more effective: the logo makes it clear to everyone – at school and in the community – that the child is under the protection of an organisation which will stand up for their rights.

As members of the lowest caste in India's ancient caste system, Dalits are routinely ignored, abused and exploited by other groups, often with impunity, even though caste discrimination is officially illegal.

But our partners believe Dalit children deserve an education and the chance to break free of the poverty and prejudice which binds them. They frequently advocate for Dalit children experiencing discrimination in school, reminding teachers and authorities of their legal



duties. The new school packs will both equip children superbly for school AND remind teachers and children that they have every right to be there.

We want to buy school packs of protection for 175 Dalit children attending our partners' centres in Patripul, a slum in Kalyan, near Mumbai. Can you help?

Don't let these children drop out of school, demoralised by discrimination and held back by the lack of school essentials. **Show them you've got their back.**

[globalcare.org/bags-of-protection](http://globalcare.org/bags-of-protection)



# THIS LITTLE LIGHT...

**Following the blazing success of our solar lamp initiative last Christmas, our little lights are back again!**

This year, the first 31 lamps will go to sponsored children in Zambia, and all other lamps sold will go to marginalised families in Uganda.

Last year, solar lamps were given to 411 children. The lamps were of huge benefit, not least to enable all the children to read, do homework and study in the evenings, which was previously impossible.

Intended also to replace the use of kerosene lamps – which are environmentally damaging and a safety hazard in the home – our solar lamps are robust and, of course, free to use, lasting up to three years.

Still costing just £16 each, you can purchase them at [www.globalcare.org/solar-lamps](http://www.globalcare.org/solar-lamps) or by using the order form enclosed.

You will receive a gift pack for your loved one in the UK, and a family in poverty in either Zambia or Uganda will receive a solar lamp offering years of clean, safe lighting.

It's a win-win!



## LIGHT & LIFE

Our 2022 Christmas Card features \*Diego, a sponsored child in Guatemala, enjoying Christmas activities at our partners' mentoring centre last year. The photo is coupled with a quote from Wesley's carol 'Hark the Herald Angels Sing', and the inside cover includes a Bible verse (Luke 2:10-11).

A pack of 10 cards with envelopes costs £3.49 plus P&P. Please see the enclosed order form for further details or check out the full range of cards available at [globalcare.org/shop](http://globalcare.org/shop)

If you prefer to send e-cards, you can choose from a selection, including a lovely animated card, follow the link from our online shop.



# “NOW MY CHILDREN ARE NOT LAMENTING. THIS SUPPORT... RESCUED US FROM STARVATION AND DEATH.”

**50-year-old Amarech is raising six children alone. She used to grow enough to feed them all on her small plot of land, but the long drought meant her crops failed, repeatedly.**

In the last two cropping years, she harvested almost nothing. She sold her only cow to buy food but was then left penniless and asset-less. The children were so hungry.

“I was in anguish for what to feed my children,” says Amarech. “I used to be in great agony to see my children moaning and weeping being hungry. However now my children are not lamenting. This support arrived and rescued us from starvation and death.”

Amarech lives in Waro Kebele, Ethiopia. All 21 divisions (kebeles) of Tembaro District in Ethiopia’s Southern Nations, Nationalities and People’s Region (SNNPR) were badly affected by a

multi-season drought which began in 2020, with 28% of people in each district estimated to be severely food insecure by early 2022.

In Waro Kebele, as many as 34% of people were severely food insecure. As the worst-affected division in the district, it was here that our Ethiopian partners worked to identify the most vulnerable families and offer food support, via our Hunger Crisis appeal.

“ Families received 20kg of maize per person, costing just £15 per head ”

With a particular focus on larger families and families with children aged under five, or those with sick or disabled family members, and without livestock or assets,

our partners identified 31 families, totalling 192 people, to benefit from an emergency feeding programme costing just over £15 per person.

All families received 20kg of maize per person – including 14 families with seven or more members – to last at least two months.

## THANK YOU!

Thank you so much for your support for our Hunger Crisis Appeal over this summer and harvest season. Your generosity has literally been lifesaving. You donated over **£35,000** to support hungry families in countries including Uganda, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lebanon and Sri Lanka.





ETHIOPIA

## Deliko's story

**74-year-old Deliko, a father of six, used to be relatively wealthy, owning an ox, a cow and two goats.**

Struggling with his eyesight, he sold his ox to fund treatment at an eye clinic. Unfortunately, the treatment was unsuccessful, and he lost his sight.

His large family – which includes two children under five – and his disability left him extremely vulnerable when the drought came. As the drought persisted through 2020, 2021 and into 2022, he sold his remaining assets – his cow and goats – to feed his children.

When Global Care's partners stepped in, this family were staring starvation in the face. The rains finally came but they had nothing to eat while their new crops grew and had no more assets to sell.

The food delivery has made all the difference. Now the family will survive.



UGANDA

## "The most difficult season of my life"

**Grace is a single mum with eight children. Her daughter \*Marla is sponsored in Soroti.**

Grace works hard in her garden to feed her family, as she has no source of income. But the long drought devastated her careful planning. The harvest was scant.

Grace says the drought has been even harder to handle than the Covid lockdowns. "It has been the most difficult season of my life," she says.

The food parcel from Global Care was a huge encouragement. She said: "May the Lord reward everyone who has given to support the hungry people of Soroti during this difficult time."

All 173 sponsored children in Soroti received a food parcel, at a cost of around £30 each. Other parts of Uganda were not affected as badly by drought.



SRI LANKA

## Paying higher prices

**We have been able to treble the value of the food vouchers given to 22 extremely vulnerable HIV+ children at Sri Lanka's Kadella Centre, thanks to your donations to our Hunger Crisis appeal.**

We have also been able to fund another two months of school meals for 350+ pupils at Spurgeons Academy, in Kibera, Kenya.

Food prices have shot up in both countries, making it incredibly difficult for families. Your generosity has enabled us to properly fund both initiatives, even at much higher prices.

We are working with our partners in Sri Lanka to support families of children attending the Morning Star Care Centre. We also funded food vouchers worth around \$2,800 for families known to our partners in Lebanon.

# NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD



## GAMES IN ZAMBIA

**We love this photo of children in Zambia playing with a stacking chairs game donated to our charity shop in Coventry.**

Donations to our shops can go a LONG way in making the world a happier place! Thank you, shop teams and donors, for all you do!

The toy was one of a couple of games which John and Dorica took with them on their management visit to Zambia this

summer, the first in-person visit there since before Covid.

Dorica wrote: “We had fruitful open and in-depth discussions around their passion to change the world for vulnerable children. They are aware of the challenges we face as we work together. The team worked their socks off to analyse some of the root causes of the stumbling blocks in their work and draw up a clear action plan to address them.”



## BIKES IN CAMBODIA

**60 bikes. 100 bags. Lots of smiles.**

A ‘back to school’ initiative from our new partners in Cambodia was a ‘wheelie’ big success, bringing much joy!

Funded via our Children At Risk programme, our partners provided bicycles for 60 children aged between 7 and 14, who live too far away from school to walk comfortably, but whose parents couldn’t afford transport. The children also received a new school bag full of school

essentials.

Cycling is the second most popular form of transport in Cambodia after motorbikes, and Siem Reap has invested recently in new traffic-free cycle paths, away from busy roads, to increase cycle safety.

School bags were also given to an additional 40 children from poor families, who didn’t need bikes as they could walk to school. All the children lived in or near Siem Reap and Battambang.



## SHELTERS IN SOUTH SUDAN

**A school comprised of over 150 orphans, abandoned children and street children, run by a church in South Sudan, now has new temporary classrooms, thanks to Global Care.**

Thurlith Primary School was started by a vicar from Akon Town, in Gogrial, South Sudan, to offer basic education to the large numbers of abandoned and orphaned children living in the area.

Originally he built some very basic shelters, but these were washed away by flooding, and since then the school – which had 350+ pupils before Covid – has been meeting under trees.

However, without decent shelter, children lose up to seven weeks of schooling during the rainy season, frequently causing children to drop out of school completely.

Global Care was approached by our partners in Wau Diocese, part of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan, to see if we could help.

In the long term the diocese hope to build permanent classrooms, but for now we have been able to improve facilities with sturdy timber and thatched shelters offering four classrooms and a store, so children can confidently attend in all weathers. We also provided medicines, school books and equipment. The entire project cost just £6,944 from our Children at Risk funds.



## PINEAPPLES IN ZIMBABWE

**A new pineapple project aims to increase the sustainability of the Houtberg Childcare Centre, a residential shelter currently home to 20 abandoned, orphaned or abused children.**

Using funds from Global Care, the Houtberg team have set aside one hectare of land and planted 10,000 pineapple plants.

Pineapples are a lucrative but slow-growing crop taking two years to be ready for harvest. The team will sell the pineapples at around US\$1 per four fruits; a potential income of up to US\$2,500 every two years.

They say: “Because of the collapse of the economy due to massive inflation and economic hardship in Zimbabwe, we are forced to concentrate on community-based agriculture. Our area offers the right type of climate and soil for pineapple production, and the plants don’t

require much labour.”

Some businesses are already asking to be told when the pineapples are ready for market.

“Thank you very much Global Care for your generous giving,” say the Houtberg team. “Without you all this would not happen.”

Inflation in Zimbabwe hit a staggering 192% this summer, and, sadly, nearly half of school-aged children are not in school as communities grapple with mass poverty, political instability and food insecurity.

In this context, the impact of the faithful giving of sponsors supporting children at the Houtberg Centre is even more remarkable.

Here, the children are all in school, and protected from the economic hardship which is rife in the community. Child sponsorship is... a powerful tool to help children thrive.

# IT'S OUR BIRTHDAY!

In 2023, we'll be celebrating Global Care's 40th anniversary, and focusing on initiatives supporting girls, who are too often at the sharp end of inequality.

**Please join us!**

Look out for full details in the next edition of Newsbrief in early 2023.



A girl with education.  
A girl with a future.

Filling in the gaps for girls.



## PUT YOUR BEST FOOT FORWARD



**Put your best foot forward in 2023, with not one but TWO walking challenges to help vulnerable children in our anniversary year.**

1. Kick off the year by joining our annual January walking challenge, 50 Miles in 30 Days, this year with a special 40th anniversary twist! More details at [globalcare.org/50-miles-30-days](https://globalcare.org/50-miles-30-days)
2. If 50 miles in 30 days sounds too easy, how does 40 Miles in TWO days sound?! We're looking for people to join our core team tackling the 40-mile Coventry Way on the weekend of 8-9 July. We'll also be offering shorter walks during this sponsored event, but we need a core team to take on the entire hike. Please contact Anita at [events@globalcare.org](mailto:events@globalcare.org) if you're interested.



## SAVE THE DATE

- Join us on Saturday 20th May for our 40th Anniversary Spring Ball at Nailcote Hall Hotel, near Coventry. Ticket details available at [globalcare.org/events](https://globalcare.org/events)
- Join us for our Thanksgiving Service in Coventry on Saturday 11th November 2023, from 6pm.

Registered with



FUNDRAISING  
REGULATOR

\*Names have been changed to protect the identity of children.

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