



**World Vision founder:** Bob Pierce holding a malnourished child.

World Vision is an international Christian humanitarian aid and development organisation, involved with development and relief projects in over 90 countries. World Vision New Zealand currently supports more than 120 projects in 32 of these countries.

other families and orphans in Asia. The response became so great that he could no longer administer it alone, so in September 1950 he established World Vision and became its first president.

From 1957 to 1971, the Rev. and Mrs Arthur Skeels acted as New Zealand representatives for those who wanted to sponsor children. In 1971 a very successful tour by the Korean Children's Choir resulted in a doubling of the number of supporters. A full-time director was needed, and later that year Geoff Renner took up the position, reporting to the Australian office. By 1974, New Zealanders sponsored 2000 children. In the same year the New Zealand office became autonomous.

## An International Partnership

Today World Vision NZ is part of a worldwide partnership. Each national office is managed locally, but the partnership works together in many ways. There is a common mission statement and core values:

### Mission Statement

World Vision is an international partnership of Christians whose mission is to follow our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ in working with the poor and oppressed to promote human transformation, seek justice and bear witness to the good news of the Kingdom of God.

### Core Values

We are Christian  
We are committed to the poor  
We value people  
We are stewards  
We are partners  
We are responsive

### Vision Statement

Our vision for every child, life in all its fullness;  
Our prayer for every heart, the will to make it so.

## History

World Vision was founded by an American minister, Dr. Bob Pierce in the 1950s. While in China in 1947, he visited a mission orphanage. He asked a nun why a painfully thin little girl just sat on the steps of the building. Why didn't she join in the lessons and share the meals? He was distressed to learn there wasn't enough money. The nuns were already sharing their own bowls of rice with at least two other children. "That's terrible!" he cried. "A child can't come asking for help and be turned away at the door. Why isn't something being done?" The nun responded by sweeping the child up and placing her in his arms, saying, "What are YOU going to do about it?" His answer was to pay for the child's admission to the orphanage. Her name was White Jade and she was the first of many sponsored children.

Dr Pierce's concern for children was strengthened by his experiences in Korea during the Korean War. He helped set up orphanages in South Korea to look after children who were abandoned or orphaned. When he returned to the U.S. he started to raise money to help



**Emergency relief:** Queuing for World Vision relief supplies in Devanampattinam, India, after the Asia Tsunami 2004. *Photo: Caleb Mpamei.*

World Vision NZ focuses mainly on fundraising and educating the NZ public about the needs in developing countries. The projects we fund overseas are managed by the national World Vision offices and staff in each country, and monitored by World Vision New Zealand.

## How World Vision Works

### Emergency Relief

People whose lives are endangered by disasters or conflict need immediate, skilled assistance. Children may die from hunger, family members may lose loved ones, whole communities may be devastated. World Vision is committed to responding rapidly to any major emergency around the world, through our own programmes or by working together with other agencies, such as the United Nations. Some of the emergencies World Vision NZ has responded to in the last five years include famine in Southern Africa, earthquakes in Pakistan and Iran, tsunami in Asia, and war refugees in East Timor and Iraq.

Within the first 24 hours of a crisis, World Vision begins to assess the situation and to deliver emergency supplies. We provide things like water, food, medicine, blankets, clothing and temporary shelter. We follow the International Code of Conduct for disaster relief organisations. As much as possible, we encourage the people we are helping to participate. Wherever possible we work with national partners, and show sensitivity to the local culture.

### Rehabilitation

Once the first stage of an emergency has passed, World Vision begins to focus on rehabilitation. This is medium-term aid which helps a community begin to re-build and plan for the future. It often involves re-constructing housing and other buildings such as schools. Water

supplies may be restored, streets cleared of rubble, or crops re-planted. At this stage, World Vision provides help so that communities can do the work themselves. Counselling is sometimes offered to help people recover from a crisis. This was done after the Beslan school hostage crisis in Russia, where many people were traumatised by the massacre of 344 people.

### Children in Especially Difficult Circumstances

World Vision has rehabilitation projects especially for children. Sometimes children find themselves in difficult circumstances after an emergency. For instance in Rwanda many children were left without parents as a result of the war and genocide. World Vision has provided help with education and skills training so they can survive on their own. We also help children who have been orphaned by HIV/AIDS.

In developing countries, poverty forces many parents to send their children out to work to supplement the family income. Many children are exploited by being made to work long hours for very little pay, often in unpleasant or dangerous conditions. In the worst cases children are bonded to their employers, often to pay their parents' debts. World Vision's child labour rehabilitation projects work to prevent bonded labour and to free children from it. They provide transit education to prepare children for school, or skills training to help them get jobs where they will not be vulnerable to exploitation. Some children go to live in the street to escape problems at home. World Vision



**Rehabilitation:** re-building a house after the 2001 earthquake in Gujarat, India. *Photo: Diana Ward.*

NZ funds projects for street children in Mongolia, India and Bangladesh.

### Community Development

This is the core focus of World Vision. Wherever possible, World Vision encourages communities to plan for long-term development during the rehabilitation phase. We are also involved in development





**Rehabilitation:** Josiane Muziranenge's parents died in the Rwandan genocide in 1994, when she was just 13, leaving her with five younger siblings to look after. Life was very hard. Josiane was often dependent on handouts of food from family and relief organisations. But In 2000, World Vision helped her train as a driver/mechanic. Josiane can now provide for her family's needs and education. *Photo: Nigel Marsh*

projects in poor communities that have not had a disaster. Sometimes they have heard of World Vision's work and approach us for help. Or World Vision may be aware of an area that is especially poor and make contact for a possible project. We prefer to work where the needs are greatest, in the world's poorest countries. We use the United Nations Human Development Index as a guide.

Since the 1990s we have carried out community development through Area Development Programmes. ADPs link a number of neighbouring communities that have similar needs and potential. By working together they can share resources and expertise. ADPs usually cover a large area and involve several thousand people.

When an ADP starts World Vision national staff meet with community leaders to determine the priorities for the programme. Data is collected through a process called a baseline survey, to identify the community's needs. A project is designed and a budget prepared. The community chooses a committee to oversee the project and to communicate regularly with World Vision. When the people are involved in planning, they are more likely to feel they own the project and take part in its activities. World Vision is a partner in this process. We provide advice and money, but the people themselves work towards their own development.

ADPs usually provide things like clean water, better sanitation, improved ways to grow crops and health care programmes. Often the ADP builds schools and trains teachers. It may teach adults to read. Sometimes it gives loans for starting small businesses. ADPs also work to help prevent future disasters. Peace and

reconciliation projects are established in areas where there has been civil war. ADPs also help communities be more resistant to natural disasters like droughts and floods. There may also be education about the dangers of HIV/AIDS.



**Community Development:** First wheat crop, Banswara Area Development Programme, India. Area Development Programmes improve community water supplies and introduce new crops and crop improvement methods. *Photo: Bernard Gomes*

An ADP usually lasts about 12-15 years. But community development doesn't finish then. With the skills they have gained, the people can continue to plan and work after World Vision has left. For World Vision, "development" does not just mean a better material standard of living, but poor people taking control of their lives.

### Child Sponsorship

The majority of World Vision's community development work is funded by child sponsorship. Child sponsorship gives donors a window into the community, an opportunity to see it through the child's eyes. Sponsors receive regular reports on the child's progress, and see that they are making a difference.

No child sponsorship money goes directly to the child. It is used to benefit the whole community. Sponsored children often receive extra benefits however, such as free schooling and regular health checks.

### Other Fundraising

Relief and rehabilitation projects are generally funded through the 40 Hour Famine and the Children in Crisis Programme. In a relief crisis we also have special appeals. Money from wills and bequests can usually be spent in the most needed areas. We receive some government funding for relief and special projects.



**Child Sponsorship:** A child in Chitalmari ADP, Bangladesh, shows his agricultural training textbook provided by World Vision. Sponsored children often receive free schooling and health care.  
Photo: Bernard Gomes

partnership staff. We receive quarterly reports from these projects.

### What are your administration costs?

World Vision NZ is committed to good stewardship of the money given to us. In the 2005 financial year (1 October 2004-30- September 2005) our operating costs were 19.8 per cent. Our annual report is on our website, [www.worldvision.org.nz](http://www.worldvision.org.nz). World Vision NZ is independently audited every year and a full copy of our latest financial statement (by Ross Melville PKF Chartered Accountants) is available by contacting us on 0800 800 776.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### How many sponsored children are there?

As at July 2006 New Zealanders sponsor more than 78,000 children. There are over 65,000 donors.

### Does the money get there?

All World Vision development projects are independently audited every two years. We also receive annual reports from national office staff, which include financial information. These reports are checked, and the projects visited regularly, by New Zealand staff. Relief project funds are managed by World Vision

### Does World Vision only help Christians?

World Vision is a Christian aid agency which helps people on the basis of their need. This means our assistance is given regardless of race, religion or creed.

In some community development projects we work with local church leadership. This must be appropriate in the context of the programme. The families in these communities are given an opportunity for Christian education appropriate to their own culture. Whether to participate or not is their choice.

## Countries where World Vision New Zealand funds projects

(the World Vision international partnership funds projects in over 90 countries)

Area Development		Relief and Rehabilitation	
Programmes	(as at July 2006))		
Bangladesh	Nicaragua	Afghanistan	Kenya
Cambodia	Niger	Albania	Mongolia
Honduras	Papua New Guinea	Angola	Myanmar
India	Rwanda	Bangladesh	Nepal
Malawi	Tanzania	Cambodia	Pakistan
Mali	Uganda	East Timor	Papua New Guinea
Myanmar	Vanuatu	Ethiopia	Rwanda
	Zambia	Honduras	Solomon Islands
		India	Sri Lanka
		Indonesia	Sudan
		Iran	Thailand
		Israel/Palestine	Uzbekistan
			Vanuatu

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