About Compassion International

OUR HISTORY
Founded in 1952, Compassion International is a Christian child development and child advocacy ministry dedicated to helping more than 1.5 million children in need worldwide. Compassion’s programs help release children from poverty in Jesus’ name and enable them to become responsible, fulfilled adults.

OUR MISSION
Releasing children from poverty in Jesus’ name
In response to the Great Commission, Compassion International exists as an advocate for children, to release them from their spiritual, economic, social and physical poverty and enable them to become responsible and fulfilled Christian adults.

OUR FOCUS
Speaking up for the most vulnerable
God designed children to depend on us. They need someone to speak up for them, someone to protect them, someone to depend on. Compassion cares about all children. Compassion cares about all poor people. But it is the combination of the two that creates extreme vulnerability. It is the combination of children in poverty that is the laser focus of Compassion’s ministry.

OUR VISION
As a result of our ministry to children in poverty, Compassion will be trusted by the Church worldwide as the leading authority for holistic child development and will be the global benchmark for excellence in child sponsorship.

OUR DISTINCTIVES
We believe that adhering to our distinctives plays a significant part in helping us maintain our standing around the world. We are:

› CHRIST-CENTERED. Without coercion, we teach the life-changing gospel to every child in a culturally relevant and age-appropriate way.
› CHILD-FOCUSED. Our ministry directly engages each child as a complete person.
› CHURCH-BASED. We choose to partner with the church as a local group of believers who can teach, train and mentor children. This is done in partnership with parents and the community.
› COMMITTED TO INTEGRITY. We commit to excellence and integrity to best benefit the children we serve. We commit to help children, families and churches create relevant child development activities. We commit to the highest professional and biblical principles.

OUR HOLISTIC CHILD DEVELOPMENT MODEL
Compassion’s Holistic Child Development Model begins in the earliest stages of a child’s development and continues through young adulthood. This long-term model benefits children today and equips them with the skills they need to become independent Christian adults.

The good news of Jesus: Through our church-based program, each child will be introduced to the life-changing gospel message, ensuring that he or she will learn about the love of Jesus Christ.

Regular Christian Training: Center staff members disciple each child according to biblical principles and encourage them to assume responsibility within their local church.

Educational Opportunities: All children in the program will receive a formal and non-formal education.

Health Care and Training: All children in the program will receive regular physical examinations, dental care and vaccinations. They will also learn about self-care, good nutrition, safe hygiene, exercise and avoidance of high-risk behaviors or situations.

Social Development: Children will regularly attend a church-based program in which Christian adults offer love, guidance, personal attention, guided recreation and safety.

Food and Supplies: Sponsorship helps provide nutritional support, as needed. Children will also receive hygiene items like soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste and school supplies such as paper and writing utensils.

Special Care and Attention: It’s important for children in poverty to hear they are special. Children learn that God loves them and has a plan for their lives. Sponsorship will also help provide individualized progress reports, home visits by social workers, and adult supervision in safe, loving environments.