



# COMPASSION INTERNATIONAL'S **CHILD DEVELOPMENT MODEL**

THE MINISTRY OF A LIFETIME





# DEAR FRIEND,



*What a joy it is to welcome you to Compassion's cause! You are joining a global movement of Christ-followers who are dedicated to releasing children from poverty in Jesus' name.*

*For more than 60 years Compassion has been working to help restore dignity and hope to the neediest children within our reach. The world has radically changed since our founder Everett Swanson's heart was first broken for the orphans of Korea back in 1952, but our mission and purpose has remained steady.*

*Through our unwavering commitment to offer help and share the hope and love of Jesus with children in need, we have seen millions of lives transformed throughout the course of our history. The key to Compassion's effectiveness has been our focus on the holistic development of a child, accomplished through the care of a local church and a one-to-one relationship with a Christian sponsor. More than a relief program, Compassion focuses on a child's long-term spiritual, economic, social and physical development.*

*In partnership with local implementing churches, Compassion's programs strive to ensure that every sponsored child is known, loved and protected. Sponsorship provides tangible benefits like education, health monitoring, supplementary nutrition as needed and developmental opportunities such as skills training, health education and vocational training. We also make sure that every child sees the Christian faith lived out, hears the life-changing gospel of Jesus and has an opportunity to be disciplined in His ways. This combination of physical, educational, socio-emotional and spiritual support is highly effective in bringing about long-term results in a child's life.*

*I consider it a great honor and a privilege to serve children in Jesus' name and I'm thrilled that you are joining me on this adventure. As a friend of Compassion, your willingness to lend your voice to this great cause can have an eternal impact in countless lives. In this brochure you will find information to help you better understand and communicate Compassion's method of addressing the root causes of poverty and our unique approach to holistic child development.*

*Thank you for your passion, enthusiasm and commitment to Compassion's mission of releasing children from poverty in Jesus' name!*

*In Christ,*

Santiago (Jimmy) Mellado  
President and CEO



# WHO WE ARE

## COMPASSION'S OBJECTIVES

Compassion's goal is to develop children in poverty so they will become responsible, fulfilled Christian adults who will:

- be Christian in faith and deed;
- support themselves and share with others in need;
- be responsible members of their families, churches, communities and nations; and
- maintain their physical well-being.

Compassion International adheres to the statement of faith established by the World Evangelical Alliance:

### We believe

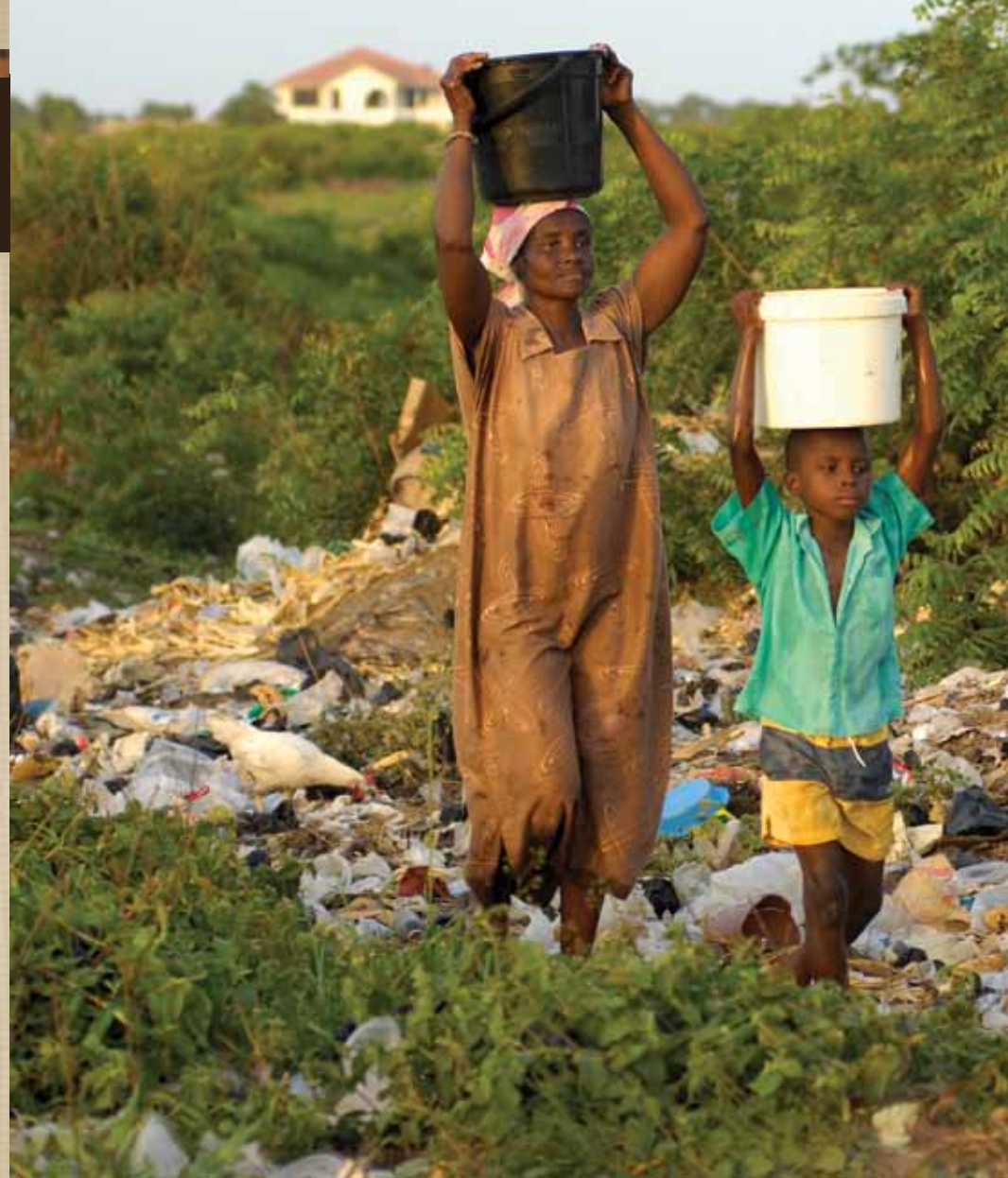
... in the **Holy Scriptures** as originally given by God, divinely inspired, infallible, entirely trustworthy; and the supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct ...

One **God**, eternally existent in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit ...

Our **Lord Jesus Christ**, God manifest in the flesh, His virgin birth, His sinless human life, His divine miracles, His vicarious and atoning death, His bodily resurrection, His ascension, His mediatorial work, and His Personal return in power and glory ...

The **Salvation** of lost and sinful man through the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ by faith apart from works, and regeneration by the Holy Spirit ...

The **Holy Spirit**, by whose indwelling the believer is enabled to live a holy life, to witness and work for the Lord Jesus Christ ...



The **Unity** of the Spirit of all true believers, the Church, the Body of Christ ...

The **Resurrection** of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life, they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.





# CHRISTIAN HOLISTIC CHILD DEVELOPMENT

## SERVING THE WHOLE CHILD — COMPASSION'S HOLISTIC CHILD DEVELOPMENT MODEL

The notion that the early years of a child's life shape his or her existence as an adult is a basic tenet of Compassion's desire to stop future generations from being born into poverty — by helping poor children now.

Compassion's approach to child development combines the latest child development research with the commitment to teaching children who they are in Christ, providing them a nurturing environment while challenging them to better understand and apply their God-given gifts and talents.

Compassion's philosophy is that every child deserves the opportunity to be nurtured, educated, loved and released from poverty. Through our holistic child development programs, we reach the youngest children, charting for them a pathway to develop into dynamic leaders of their churches, communities and even their countries. The bedrock of this approach is the individual and personal relationship each Compassion child develops with a Christian sponsor. Through this model, Compassion provides the world's children a Christ-centered, child-focused, church-based program that embodies integrity.

## UNIQUE ELEMENTS OF COMPASSION'S CHILD DEVELOPMENT MODEL

Compassion International provides effective Christian child development. We have a number of distinctive characteristics that, put together, set us apart from relief and development agencies that assist children in need. Compassion's ministry is:

### CHRIST CENTERED

At Compassion, we seek to keep Christ in the center of all that we do and seek God's guidance on our plans and decisions. All Compassion International employees, Covenant Council partners and local church partners are Christian. We operate as followers of God's Word in response to the Great Commission, by teaching the life-changing gospel to every child in a culturally relevant way.

### CHILD FOCUSED

Our ministry directly engages each child as a complete person — God's heart for children compels us to act on their behalf. By working holistically with individual children to address their

spiritual, economic, social and physical poverty, we enable them to become responsible and fulfilled Christian adults.

### CHURCH BASED

We believe that the Church is God's chosen vehicle for providing children with the life-changing gospel of Jesus Christ. We minister to children throughout the community, regardless of religious affiliation.

### COMMITTED TO INTEGRITY

During 60 years of Christian child development, Compassion International has committed to serving children, families and local church partners with the highest professional and biblical principles in all aspects of our ministry. As a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability, Compassion commits to maintaining the highest standards for our allocation of funds. Our international program, finance and sponsor and donor development divisions work closely together to ensure that donated money is used only for the purpose for which it was raised. We commit to excellence and integrity to best benefit the children, families and churches we serve by helping to create relevant child development activities.





# COMPASSION'S CHILD DEVELOPMENT MODEL

*Compassion's child development approach is holistic, serving the spiritual, economic, social and physical needs of children in poverty, along with addressing their educational and emotional needs. We accomplish this through core Compassion programs and our Complementary Interventions, which complete our core programs. Our model is as follows:*

## CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

*Developing, discipling and equipping children for life*

Compassion's Child Sponsorship Program is comprehensive, holistic and unique. The program connects one child with one sponsor to help that child develop into the extraordinary individual that God ordained the child to be. Through this program children have the opportunity to flourish and grow into their God-given potential.



The Child Sponsorship Program provides educational opportunities that extend beyond the classroom. Children in the program learn important life skills and are provided with health care and supplemental nutrition, as needed. They are afforded opportunities for safe, healthful recreation. Most important, the Child Sponsorship Program gives children the chance to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ.

For decades Compassion's commitment to the holistic student-centered model has not wavered. But over the years Compassion leadership decided that in order to better serve children, there was a need to expand the program. So in the last decade Compassion added two essential programs that further fulfill our ministry's commitment to develop children into fulfilled Christian adults. They are the Child Survival Program and the Leadership Development Program.

## CHILD SURVIVAL PROGRAM

*Rescuing, nurturing and discipling little ones*

The Child Survival Program (CSP) is an early childhood intervention program that offers a holistic approach to ensure young children survive. The program, run by our existing Christian church partners around the world, reaches out to pregnant mothers and young, vulnerable children to save their lives and set them on the path toward healthy development.

## LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

*Educating, training and discipling servant leaders*

Graduates from Compassion's Child Sponsorship Program who show exceptional leadership skills are recruited to participate in the Leadership Development Program (LDP). In the Leadership Development Program, students receive a university education as well as intensive Christian leadership training to help them become Christian leaders.

## COMPLEMENTARY INTERVENTIONS

Compassion's core programs, while comprehensive, do not address all the obstacles to healthy development in the lives of Compassion-assisted children. That's why Compassion's other programs, known as Complementary Interventions, play a significant role in our holistic child development model.



# COMPASSION'S HOLISTIC CHILD DEVELOPMENT MODEL

RELEASING CHILDREN FROM POVERTY IN JESUS' NAME



Achieving Outcomes in the Four Areas of Development:



Physical



Cognitive



Spiritual



Socio-Emotional

to Become Responsible and Fulfilled Christian Adults.

COMPASSION ALUMNI — TRANSFORMING NATIONS



# CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

*Developing, Discipling and Equipping Children for Life*

## THE POWER OF ONE

Children are the focus of Compassion's global ministry. Through long-term, individual Christian child development, we equip children to become fulfilled Christian adults. Compassion considers each child we serve as an individual with unique needs and potential. Sponsorship links one child in need with one sponsor in a developmental relationship. This one-to-one connection between a child and sponsor personalizes their relationship and allows for a greater investment of emotional support and communication between them.

Our program breaks down the immense barriers that children in poverty face by addressing the "big picture" of one child's life: the spiritual, economic, social and physical aspects alike. Compassion's approach to child development through sponsorship is one of the most powerful ways to develop and disciple an individual child in need. Our ministry is rooted in learning, which changes attitudes, beliefs and behavior. Christian child development challenges children to better understand

and apply their gifts in a nurturing environment. We aim to prepare each sponsored child with the skills and knowledge required to assume adulthood, including those activities that will make their community a better place to live.

We commit to teach each child to:

### DEMONSTRATE COMMITMENT TO THE LORDSHIP OF CHRIST

Spiritual development begins with the knowledge and understanding of God's Word, and every child in the program is given an age-appropriate Bible to study. Through Bible study, children learn of God's plan for their lives, His purposes, and the basic gospel message. It is our prayer that each child will come to a personal understanding of the message of salvation and will make a decision to receive Christ as Savior. Upon knowing Christ as Savior, the children in the program are disciplined as they continue to grow in Christ through knowledge of the Bible.

### CHOOSE GOOD HEALTH PRACTICES AND MAINTAIN PHYSICAL HEALTH

Children in Compassion-assisted child development centers have a healthy, age-appropriate understanding of their bodies, hygiene and physical development. Some children who enter the program are ill, and their caregivers are provided with the resources for treatment. One of our primary goals is to reduce poverty-related diseases by teaching children how to prevent them through good hygiene and diet. Although good health can be defined as the absence of disease or physical impairment, we also encourage children to take responsibility for wise life choices about health and sexuality. These attitudes are demonstrated through self-care, good nutrition, safe hygiene, exercise and avoidance of high-risk behaviors or situations.

### BE ECONOMICALLY SELF-SUPPORTING

Each Compassion center is responsible for offering impoverished children formal education as an important part of child development. Formal education usually occurs in the classroom and includes literacy, math and science. Children in the program also participate in nonformal education where they cultivate unique vocational skills and develop their talents in areas such as art and music. Both formal and nonformal education are a means toward economic self-sufficiency. We strive to recognize the unique abilities of each child and work with him or her to develop those skills.





## INTERACT WITH OTHER PEOPLE IN A HEALTHY AND COMPASSIONATE MANNER

Healthy socio-emotional development is a building block for all other developmental stages. Socio-emotional development allows children to settle well into school, church and community and fosters positive relationships with others. A child's early relationship with caregivers is vital to future relationships. In the Compassion program, children learn to exercise self-management, apply social awareness to life choices, and exhibit effective interpersonal relationship skills. Young people are challenged to analyze the conditions of their community and find ways to serve those in need.

In order to address the spiritual, economic, social and physical aspects of each child's life, center staff must creatively use available resources. Compassion provides funding every month based on sponsorships. Our local church partners combine this funding with their own resources and creativity to best provide the interventions that the children in their community need.

## SPONSORS ARE PROGRAM'S LIFEblood

Compassion depends on partners to keep our ministry running. One partner we could not do without is the sponsor who decides to help a child — or maybe two! Without sponsors, Compassion could not do its life-changing work. So Compassion spends considerable time communicating to Christian audiences in the hopes that many will join in this important relationship with a child in need.

Sponsorship is a unique way for one person to have a life-changing effect on poverty around the world by helping a sponsored child overcome the cycle of poverty. It allows sponsors to become more personally involved. Sponsorship is maintained by a sponsor's financial commitment. A sponsor's relationship with a child is enhanced by learning about the child's situation, sending and receiving letters, praying, and becoming more committed to issues of poverty and advocacy for children in need.

Compassion generates sponsorship through cost-effective marketing activities that include campaigns using mail, radio and online advertising.

## PARTNER CHURCHES ESSENTIAL

Sponsors are key to providing the resources for Compassion's program, and church partners are just as essential. Compassion partners with local churches to provide our holistic program in child development centers.

Local church-run child development centers that receive Compassion funding work directly for the benefit of sponsored children. At each of Compassion's church centers, local people care for children in need.

In many cases, Compassion's church partners hire staff, like teachers and social workers, to provide high-quality child development activities at the local church center. When center staff members are hired, the center (or local partner), not Compassion International, employs them. Skilled teachers and social workers provide sponsored children with excellent developmental activities and opportunities in a nurturing environment.

At the local Compassion center students receive training in the following categories:

**SPIRITUAL** — Child development centers help children regardless of their religious affiliation. It is made abundantly clear that Compassion is an evangelical Christian organization and that each child will participate in Christian training. Each Compassion-assisted child is introduced to the gospel and encouraged to receive Christ as Savior. Through regular worship time, devotions, Bible study and other activities, center staff members teach children to live according to biblical principles and encourage all children to assume responsibility within their local churches.







**ECONOMIC** — The most direct path out of poverty is through education. Each center works to ensure that each Compassion-assisted child receives age-appropriate and various learning opportunities to better his or her economic situation. Whether it's monitoring school attendance, providing on-site after-school tutoring in reading and math skills, or offering vocational training that translates into employment, child development centers give impoverished children a pathway out of poverty through educational opportunities.

**SOCIAL** — What we become is to some extent determined by how we relate to others. Often children in poverty who have been abused or exploited don't have any good experiences relating to other children or adults. That's why each Compassion-assisted child development center becomes a safe oasis where children can develop critical social skills in a protected environment. Children participate in group or special learning activities that help them to live in harmony, learn teamwork, and support and encourage each other. The outcome is a child who is self-aware, exhibits self-control, is self-motivated, and is committed to his or her community.

**PHYSICAL** — Children in developing nations can go weeks, months and even years without seeing a doctor or receiving medical care. Each Compassion center is tasked with monitoring the health of each registered child as well as teaching children and their families preventive measures that allow the children to experience healthy development. In addition to monitoring their health, center workers teach children about nutrition, offering them a healthful meal and teaching them how to prepare nutritious food. Children are also given the opportunity to engage in center-organized sports activities to encourage healthy physical development.

As you can see, Compassion's Child Sponsorship Program is comprehensive, holistic and unique. The program connects one child with one sponsor and, under the guidance of a church partner, helps that child develop into the extraordinary individual that God ordained the child to be. Through this program children have the opportunity to flourish and grow into their God-given potential.



# SUCCESS STORY



Waljang tiptoes across his family's dirt yard toward a preening chicken. With a whoop, he lunges at the hen and then laughs as it flaps away, leaving him with a pile of warm eggs. Waljang carefully scoops them into his basket.

While collecting eggs is a game for the 6-year-old, his parents view what's in his basket as treasure. They can remember only three years ago when Waljang and his four brothers and sisters were malnourished, barely surviving on a diet of rice and curry.

Waljang's family lives in Achkipara, an impoverished community in northern Bangladesh. More than half the adults have no jobs. Not long ago, Waljang's father made just pennies an hour as a laborer. Like 90 percent of the children in their community, Waljang's older brother had to drop out of school and work odd jobs to supplement his family's income. Waljang's parents knew that, without help, their youngest son would follow the same path.

When Waljang was 4, his parents registered him at the Compassion-assisted Achkipara Child Sponsorship Program. Sponsorship provided him not only with nutritious meals at the child development center, but with health care and funding for school. Waljang's sponsor also wrote him letters of encouragement, which he treasured.

His parents watched their son grow strong and healthy. With additional small gifts sent by Waljang's sponsor, the family purchased chickens, goats and a cow to raise on the small plot of land they rent. The eggs and milk from the animals supplemented their meager diet. Waljang's brothers and sisters showed fewer signs of malnutrition, and even his parents grew healthier. Now, by selling a few eggs in the market each week, Waljang's father, Probir, hopes he will be able to put his younger children in school as well.

Thanks to Compassion, Probir knows Waljang can help lift his family — and maybe someday his town — from poverty's grasp. "It is my dream that he will be a doctor," Probir says. "We have no doctor in our town, and I believe Waljang could help a lot of people. I would like to see him change the community, just like Compassion and his sponsor have changed our lives."



# CHILD SURVIVAL PROGRAM

*Rescuing, Nurturing and Disciplining Little Ones*

## INTERVENING TO SAVE LIVES

Every year, nearly 8 million children around the world die before their fifth birthdays from preventable conditions such as malnutrition, malaria and pneumonia. Compassion's Child Survival Program is there to help these children survive and thrive.

The Child Survival Program starts as early as a mother can be enrolled in the program, even before the child is born. Working through local church partners, Compassion provides nutrition, medical assistance, parental education and social support for mothers and caregivers to help the world's most impoverished children survive the first few years of life.

Compassion's Child Survival Program is home based. Workers regularly visit the homes of registered mothers. Caregivers learn how to provide a healthy home environment for their children through this unique model. The program serves children through age 3, when they are eligible to be registered into the Child Sponsorship Program.

The Child Survival Program:

- prevents illness by giving moms regular prenatal checkups and young children immunizations;
- helps children get a healthy start and grow strong by providing nutritious food staples;
- demonstrates the love of Christ to every caregiver and child registered through Bible study, prayer and spiritual retreats;
- provides children mental and physical stimulation activities to improve and develop motor skills; and
- empowers mothers, offering literacy and economic training to help them provide better for their families.





# SUCCESS STORY



Every day, Jesula would walk the streets of Delmas, Haiti, searching for food. At night, she slept on a pew at the New Jerusalem Church, using rags as blankets.

And then the unthinkable happened. She found out she was pregnant.

She had no money for shelter, food or medical care. She was scared for her life — and her baby's.

One night, as she was sleeping at the church, a group of women came to pray. They started talking about Compassion's Child Survival Program and how Jesus Christ had transformed their lives. The next morning, Jesula rushed to the nearby Child Survival Program office. When the Survival Specialists saw Jesula, they knew they had to intervene immediately. She was weak and malnourished.

The staff found a place for Jesula to live. They paid for prenatal care and gave her rice, cooking oil and milk. At the program, Jesula learned to read, write and cook to make a living.

Through the Child Survival Program, Jesula also came to know Jesus as her personal Savior. She is convinced that God heard her cries and made a way for her.

Praise God, Jesula delivered a healthy baby boy. Slenth is now a thriving 2-year-old.

"Really, I don't know what I would do without the assistance of such a program," Jesula says. "My child would not have made it. I will never have enough words to express my gratitude to the staff and donors of the program. God has used the Child Survival Program to save my child and my life and to give us hope for the future."



A young man with short dark hair, wearing a purple button-down shirt and a green beaded necklace, is focused on operating a black Singer sewing machine. The machine has 'SINGER' and 'NO. 15' visible on its side. He is in a room with a textured, light-colored wall. The lighting is warm and focused on him.

# LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

*Educating, Training and Discipling Servant Leaders*

## MORE THAN A UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

Leaders can change the world, and the world is crying out for competent ethical leaders. Compassion's Leadership Development Program offers a university education and intensive Christian leadership training to the most gifted and service-oriented graduates of our Child Sponsorship Program.

Leadership Development Program students seize the opportunity to develop their God-given gifts and become skilled professionals and Christian leaders of influence in their churches, communities and nations.

Leadership Development Program students receive:

- academic assistance, including assistance with tuition, textbook costs and room and board;
- leadership training, including instruction in and application of a full range of leadership principles and skills from a Christian worldview;
- mentoring as each student develops a relationship with a Christian mentor to guide him or her in developing as a Christian professional; and
- discipleship as each student is involved in a local church and is grounded in group and personal Bible study.



# SUCCESS STORY

From the time Dámaris was a little girl, she knew she would be a doctor — even when nobody else thought she could. She would often come home with her arms scratched up after “examinations” of neighborhood cats. Her parents, who ran a tailoring business, worried about their daughter. What would become of her when poverty crushed her dreams? After all, they lived in Guatemala Valley, an area of 100,000 residents, where half the adults were unemployed and the average wage was about U.S.\$3 a day.

Dámaris’ parents registered her in Compassion’s Child Sponsorship Program when she was 4. At the center, Dámaris received Jesus, and her sponsor encouraged her dreams to serve others through medicine. After graduating from the sponsorship program, Dámaris was accepted into Compassion’s Leadership Development Program, which paid for her college education. Throughout college, she made an extra effort to serve the poorest of Guatemala.

For three years she volunteered at a clinic that traveled to a dump to offer free medical care to those picking through the garbage. Remembering that time, Dámaris says, “Seeing all this made me grateful for the family God gave me, and I learned how to serve others.” In 2007 Dámaris became the first person in her family to graduate from college.

Today, as the only doctor in the town of Pixabaj, Dámaris carries an enormous responsibility. In her patients’ faces, she sees her family, her school friends. She sees desperation and poverty. And Dámaris will do everything she can to help them. She says she has been called by God to do this work — and thanks to Compassion, she found the opportunity and encouragement to follow her calling.



Dámaris has had an impact on hundreds of families through the medical care she provides. But ultimately, she says she is just doing what God has called her to do — what He has made possible. “When I look back, I can only say ‘Look what God has done,’” she says.





# COMPLEMENTARY INTERVENTIONS

## COMPLETING COMPASSION'S CORE PROGRAMS

In addition to the benefits Compassion-assisted children receive through our three core programs, we provide Complementary Interventions. These benefits complete our core programs and do not stand alone.

Complementary Interventions are divided into two areas: Supplemental Development Activities and Program Enhancement Activities.

**Supplemental Development Activities** affect child development outcomes and include:

- Compassion's AIDS Initiative
- educational assistance for children and parents
- medical and nutritional assistance
- Bible distribution
- church partner development
- Malaria Intervention program

**Program Enhancement Activities** affect the environment in which the children develop and include:

- disaster response
- water projects (including Compassion's Water of Life program)
- income-generating activities
- nonformal education
- infrastructure development



# SUCCESS STORY

Godfrey understands that tomorrow is not a promise. He is reminded of the fragility of life each morning as he swallows three big pills, chasing the bitter taste with cold water and a large spoonful of gritty porridge. Godfrey will repeat this ritual for the rest of his life. But he never complains. He knows that nearly 70 percent of people living with AIDS in Africa have no access to medical treatment. But thanks to Compassion's AIDS Initiative, Godfrey is now among the millions of people around the world surviving AIDS. His story is one of hope. But it wasn't always that way.

Godfrey was 12 when his mother died and he became one of sub-Saharan Africa's 14 million AIDS orphans. Shortly after her death, he was diagnosed as HIV-positive. When Godfrey's neighbors realized the boy was suffering from HIV, they taunted him, saying he would soon die. Godfrey believed the death sentence. He was ready to give up hope.

But the workers at Godfrey's Compassion-assisted child development center weren't about to give up on him. They brought him to a pediatric AIDS clinic. Doctors diagnosed Godfrey with full-blown AIDS and put him on antiretroviral therapy (ART), a daily treatment combining three medicines that attack HIV on different levels. Through Compassion's AIDS Initiative, thousands of Compassion-assisted children, caregivers and siblings receive ART.

Godfrey carefully follows his doctor's plan. That discipline, paired with the support of the AIDS Initiative, is essential to the success of his treatment. He also has the constant support of the Compassion staff. "They have encouraged me to strengthen my hope in God, and I share this hope with others," Godfrey says. "Day by day, I encourage myself in God. I know He will keep me to the end. I will live."





# FULFILLING EVERETT SWANSON'S LEGACY

In John 12:8 we see that Jesus told His followers that the poor would always be among us. God also made it clear that we must do what we can to aid them, in accordance with Deuteronomy 15:11 (NASB):

“For the poor will never cease to be in the land; therefore I command you, saying, ‘You shall freely open your hand to your brother, to your needy and poor in your land.’”

It's a haunting command. One that the Rev. Everett Swanson, Compassion International's founder, remembered over and over again after he visited war-torn Korea.

A rural preacher from Illinois, Everett was a seasoned evangelist with a reputation for wining souls through hard-charging revivals he conducted around the United States. It was this reputation that pushed American missionaries to invite Swanson to spread his revival tent overseas. While in Japan, Everett ran into another missionary who was working in the hardened mission fields of war-ravaged Korea. It wasn't long before the preacher from Illinois was on the front of the Korean War telling soldiers about Christ.

In 1952, Everett made a second trip to Korea. While ministering to American and Korean soldiers, Everett saw cities and villages steeped in war-induced squalor. What tugged at his heart most were the wandering, hungry and begging children.

“This war has created many thousands of orphans throughout Korea,” Everett said in a documentary he made entitled *A Man of Compassion*. “Beggar boys without a home of any kind are a common sight in the villages and on the roads. Each one carries a little pail to receive food in. ... They must live by begging or stealing. They are hated and abused. But these boys are precious in the eyes of the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Everett went on to preach to thousands of Korean soldiers but the images of begging children — dirty, barefoot, hungry and without love — continued to haunt him. And on the plane ride back to the United States a missionary friend leaned over and said to the evangelist: “You have been here and have seen the tremendous needs and opportunity. And now, what do you intend to do about them?”

*What do you intend to do about them?* Like the repeated roar of the airplane propellers, the question rolled relentlessly inside Everett's mind. *What do you intend to do about them?*

“What do you intend to do about them?”



Weeks later, while visiting his brother's church in Seattle, Everett talked to the congregation about the need to help the many Korean orphans. After his sermon, the church's pastor handed him a \$50 check. The check had been given weeks earlier by a woman who desired to invest in an orphanage. Everett took the monetary gift as a confirmation from God. And Compassion's Korean ministry was born.

From one orphanage of 35 children in Korea to more than 1.2 million children in 26 countries today, Compassion International continues to fulfill Everett Swanson's compassionate legacy.





# MISSION STATEMENT:

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.



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