

New Hope for Children

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Registered Charity No. 1124015

Dear Friends,



Let us be among the first to wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Jesus is our rock of stability in this everchanging world. Hebrews 13:8 "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever." How encouraging! God is the same, faithful, trustworthy, eternal, all powerful, loves us, forgives us, provides for us, strengthens us and knows each of us by name. I think our name gets mentioned a lot, thank you for your prayers, God has never let us down.

Much like the UK, in Colombia we have been in and out of lockdown since March. So many need our help more than ever! The poor are poorer and the hungry hungrier. The families that we help literally live from hand to mouth, many street sellers. They have no savings, no credit cards, no bank accounts or extra supplies. Many of them would have lived on £3.00 per day and now have even less. The need is growing and growing. We are God's answer and have helped literally thousands of families during this time. So many, young and old, have been coming to our door and saying "I heard you were kind, please can you help."

An elderly woman told us, "My husband just cut his hand very severely with a saw. I have no medical supplies, we have no money, not even for food so would you help us?" We were able to help with medical supplies and food packs. **Another elderly widow** came and said "My daughter has died, and now I have to take care of my 7-year-old grandson. I have nothing and nothing for him, no food, no bed, no clothes, or shoes. I have no income; would you help us please". We helped with food and clothing, and a bed! **A middle-aged woman** stopped Jeanene on the street, pulling back her shirt. She said, "I think I have breast cancer," it was obvious to see. "I am Venezuelan, I can't afford any medical treatment. Help me please I am so scared. I am a foreigner and don't know what to do" and then she burst into tears. We were able to help her with the examinations she needed. **A young couple** came with their tiny 6-month-old baby, saying "Our baby cries all night and all day, because she is hungry, it is breaking our heart. We can be hungry, but not her, and I never thought we would have to beg for food." Their heads went down and they asked, "Please would you help her?" Of course, we helped, baby milk, food and they just jumped for joy.

Here is a snapshot of some of the aid we have provided and distributed: *50 tons of non-perishable food, *1000 whole chickens, *5760 bottles of drinking water, *500 baby packs for moms about to give birth, *400 cans of baby formula, *thousands of nappies, *2500 hygiene packs, *10,000 rolls of toilet paper, Plus - clothes, shoes, blankets, school supplies, toys, and we put bibles and tracts in everything that we give away. **Thank you for supporting and praying for us and all those we help.**

We have also been helping all the families of the children that live with us or study in the school. The children in their humble homes do not have computers, Wi-Fi or internet access, so no on-line classes. Our teachers have produced all the pages of homework and bible studies. We have printed 87,000 pages of homework. Firstly organised by child, then by family. Given with groceries and supplies to the families to abate malnutrition, and homework is returned 2 weeks later. It is then reorganized by teacher, graded, and PHEW!... we start all over again. There are many new families requesting our help, not just with humanitarian aid but with spaces in our school and homes. We just found out that school will start again at the start of 2021 and the children will return. Even now we are starting to look at the many new children and families who have requested spaces. WE have Job security!!!!

We have continued to work hard during lockdown. We have been cleaning our school and homes from end to end and top to bottom, painted, repaired, done inventories, reviewed learning plans, updated information, improved in many areas and changed the location of our library within school. It is beautifully organized in English and Spanish. To our great surprise we have 9,860 beautiful books at the fingertips of our children and teachers! Our school looks brand new again! It is just being finished in time for reopening in January. God's timing is perfect, always!

Blessings Building is now 95% finished, after 2 ½ years of construction. Our building team including volunteers have worked so hard. We have believed in this building, and our faith has been caused to grow! "Blessings" is beautiful, made for children, far more than we could ask for and we know it will bring GREAT joy to all who enter here. This building will allow us to improve our quality of care and help many more.





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The kitchen still needs equipment, and our prayer is to have it ready for the new school year. We hope the new building will be fully operational at the start of 2021 and perhaps have an inauguration ceremony in February or March. Thank you ALL. Thank You LORD!!!!

The Covid Grinch is not going to steal our Christmas! We are going to have our 2020 Christmas events in Blessings 2nd floor dining/multi – use room. Bringing in 10 families at a time with social distancing and all the precautions- it will take us days to give out the Christmas gifts and groceries. It really will be the 12 days of Christmas! This year, thanks to “Blessings building” we are *indoors*, no rain, no wind, no blistering heat, we can set up ahead of time..... we will be inside for the first time in 27 years. Wahooooooooo!!!!!! We are setting up the manger, decorating and making it very special, most importantly to give thanks, we have so much to be thankful for. Our little helpers (now adult children) “LC”, “F”, “ME”, “G” and MORE are all coming to pack gifts and bringing the grandkids to help “Grandma Jeanene and Grandpa Richard”..... Family – never ends. They come every year to help us. The grandkids LOVE to come and help, and we love to have them.

The long term help that is provided really does transform families and generations: **Wilmer** arrived 1 month old in 2004, one very tiny baby needing our help, he is now playing in the junior professional football league- His dream is to be a professional football player. Ours too!! **Daniel** arrived when living in absolute poverty. He was given a music scholarship, and now is in the Bogota Youth Philharmonic Symphony. He loves the Lord and music and continues to practice along with his siblings in their humble home. They use the instruments we gave them. **Karen** came in 2009 at age 7. The day I met her she was crying as she told her mother, “I am tired of being hungry and I don’t want to have to eat grass anymore”. She is now studying Business and administration. Her mother also has graduated, has a small business and their own home- Thanks to CVII. **Tatiana** arrived at 4 years old, after being rescued from a drug pit. In 2020 she graduated with honours, was given a trip to Ecuador to present her thesis – she is our 1st Social Worker. Her dream is to help others, like CVII helped her. **Juan David** arrived at 3 years old back in 1999, after having a very hard beginning. In December 2020 he is graduating as a Software Engineer. He has worked hard to finish, and we are so proud of him. He continues to be a CVII Volunteer. On behalf of **Tatiana** and **Juan David**, thanks to a special UK family who God has worked through to help make these great victories possible.

We would like to give our thanks to John Hawksworth who has resigned as a trustee after several years. John will be focussing more on his ever-growing work and ministry as a Local Ministries Senior Manager of Youth for Christ and spending time with his family. Many, many thanks John. God Bless you.

Jeanene and I were unable to do our normal presentations throughout 2020, so funds are really needed at this time.

[To see Richard’s bible teaching for autumn 2020 please click this link](#)

[To see the autumn 2020 Children’s Vision DVD then please click this link](#)

Please take a look at our [new web site](#) that is being developed by one of our graduates and a UK volunteer. www.newhope4childrenuk.org.

You can also now follow us on: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) or just click the link on our web page.



Thank you with all our hearts and on behalf of our trustees and all those we help, for believing in us and loving us. We pray that God will bless and protect you all greatly this Christmas and beyond, keeping the Covid Grinch far, far away. We look forward to 2021 as a year of further successes for the kingdom! And pray the same for all of you. Ephesians 5:1-2 “Therefore, be imitators of God as dearly loved children and live in love, just as Christ also loved us and gave himself for us, a sacrificial and fragrant offering to God.”

***With blessings and hugs, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,
Richard and Jeanene Sanderson and our large Bogota family.***

Please help our large family to continue forward: food, staff wages, medical care, gas, water, electric, telephone, transport, maintenance, school supplies, and new buildings among others! Please join with us in prayer for the expansion of our UK support, we are very much looking for new opportunities to share about our work and if you or a contact would like to book a free presentation, for any time of the year, then please contact UK Diary Planner Ruth Brierley on 07538 887305.



Trustees: Richard Sanderson, Christine Hodgson, Margaret Swift and David Hodgson