



New Hope for Children

Registered Charity No. 1124015

c/o Whitley Bay Baptist Church, Park Avenue, Whitley Bay, Tyne & Wear. NE26 1DX. Tel: (0191) 2570313 / 07538 887305

info@newhope4childrenuk.org www.newhope4childrenuk.org www.justgiving.com



Dear Friends and Supporters,

September 2026

The Bible tells us in Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand." My goodness is this a verse for these times in Colombia!

On 10th August, Colombia suffered a catastrophic event, a 7.4 magnitude earthquake with its epicentre 250 miles west of us in Bogota. It shook strongly here. We put into action our earthquake protocol. Praise God that we were all safe and our buildings not affected. This is a moment when you feel the huge responsibility we have for these 175 little lives - for food, clothing, housing, education, health, **protection, and safety**. It was two minutes that brought devastation to the cities of Pereira, Cali, Quibdo and to a lesser extent Manizales. Some approximate numbers: 36,000 homes destroyed, 202,000 homes damaged, and 296,700 families affected. 120,000 businesses closed, affecting approx. 700,000 employees, and thousands of children that won't return to school for many months.

This wasn't a "Shall we help?" it was a "We must help!" By day four we were in the city of Pereira, just 40 miles from the epicentre, with clothes, food, hygiene kits, blankets and toys for more than 200 families. We arrived on Friday night, with special permission to enter. For a 12-block radius, it was too dangerous for normal life. Businesses unlocked but no one there. Rescuers digging to find life but mainly finding death. Hospitals and schools abandoned, close to collapse. Thousands living in makeshift camps. As the rescuers dug through the rubble of a building in the main square we stopped at the cordon. **We prayed in silence "Oh Lord, help them to save anyone still alive."** We were working from an unaffected church building, the Pastor of the church was in the street when the earthquake struck. Just two meters ahead, as bricks fell, a lady ran from a building and lost her life. **So difficult and yet God gave us a huge open door to bring love, hope, joy, smiles and life to those in that very difficult place.**

The church had a fantastic group of volunteers to help, serving the Lord and others. They had smiles on their faces and were glad to be alive! It was God's strength in action! Saturday was donation day and the people brought stories of lives spared. A little boy who had open heart surgery just months before, he and his family made it out alive. We brought the joy of new clothes, but what will happen with his medicines? The little two-year-old who lost all her toys, oh the joy of new toys! A simple bag of food and hygiene items that brought tears of joy to an old man. With each we shared the hope of the gospel through Revival Movements Bible Tracts. **As we worked, the rescue workers dug just 2 blocks away, and what joy, a three-year-old girl pulled out alive. A victim and a survivor. It was the same rescue site where we had prayed the night before.** Little ones like her need our help! We helped over 200 families, Praise God. Making a difference, one life at a time.

We are now focusing our help on communities near the city of Cali with an initial commitment of three months (maybe longer). Focussed on helping, right now we are putting together care packs: food, clothes, hygiene items, blankets etc for these months of recovery. Children's Vision is very stretched, especially with the effects of the 24% wage increase for 2026. We believe in giving and helping, and the victims need help now. To be part of this, please send your donations in the usual way, marked for our "Colombia Earthquake Appeal." Thank you so much to everyone who help our 175 children, here in Children's Vision, and now for the earthquake victims too.

We sure live extremes; earthquakes then back to everyday life! Most of our children have never had a birthday cake before arriving here. This is a special moment, a show of love to tell each one "You are special!" With so many, it is impossible to bake for each child on their special day. Instead, every few weeks Jeanene bakes a batch of cakes for children who have their birthdays. Jeanene works so hard, making a beautiful cake for each child. Some get a dancing princess, some racing cars, some JCB diggers. The children get their cake and eat it! If Jeanene has not baked for a few weeks, the children begin to ask. "Is it cake day today?" When the wonderful baking smell abounds, it brings excitement and expectation, from the children and the husband! Cupcakes, cookies, bread and much more. Jeanene is a fantastic Mum (and wife). The kids know how much they are loved and so do I!

We make use of all the Lord's provision. A little while ago we were in one of the poorest areas taking clothes and food donations. We visited one of the families whose children live with us, three girls and a boy (10, 9, 8

Serving God, Transforming Lives

Trustees: Richard Sanderson, Christine Hodgson, Margaret Swift, Ian Penistone, Christine Mahood and Jane Williams



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and 7 years old). The Mum told us how concerned she was about her wooden “front door.” It was in poor condition. “Please can you help me.” I remembered we had a strong metal security door from a building that we had demolished when building Blessings Building. I had thought “Someday that will come in useful.” The next day our maintenance team went up the mountain and installed it. God had a plan, it fit perfectly! The mum was so excited. She might have shack made from wood and corrugated metal, but she sure is proud of the strongest front door in the neighbourhood! Ps – I just hope no-one steals it!

God had another purpose on the visit day. As often happens, a mum came up to us, “They told me about your foundation, please can you help my little boy?” We took a short walk up the hill, a few shacks further along and there lived little 24-month-old ‘L’. It was immediately clear he had severe malnutrition. His life barely begun, living in extreme poverty, a dirt floor, little food, gang danger at every turn and no chance for a future. There is no feeling, quite like helping a tiny tot. To know that a decision made in a space of 15 minutes has the power to change a life forever. The next day, ‘L’ was living at Children’s Vision. Amazing! Believe me he is now definitely over his malnutrition and is loving life. As we say, he has been “Fluffed Up!” We passionately love serving the Lord and doing what we do. Thank you for helping us to bring love and care to others.

There is nothing quite like hearing the beautiful voice of one of your girls praising the Lord. We have been doing quite a bit of evangelism with our drama and music teams. In July, we were invited by a church to help with two public town square presentations on Saturday and one Sunday. Many passers-by stood and watched, asked questions, and gave their details for follow-up. For some it was a life-changing few minutes as they decided to look to Jesus as their saviour. On Sunday morning, we lead the local church service. God has given a beautiful singing gift to one of our girls, “A.” She is the oldest of three siblings, displaced from her homeland through violence. Her mum is in prison, and the dad struggles in many ways. As she sang solo, you could feel the presence of The Holy Spirit. The entire church following her lead, eyes closed, hands lifted and just praising Him. Tears of joy came as I watched. The love of God has transformed her. God is ministering to others through “A.” This was a priceless moment that I will never forget.

It is amazing to see our adult children living out values that were formed in them. One of our graduated boys, JD has grown up to become a software engineer. I can’t believe we have adult children in their 30’s! Many of our children serve here as volunteers. JD lives in one of the cities affected by the earthquake. Praise God his life was protected and his building not affected. He has motivated a group of his friends, who met us in Pereira to help giving out the initial donation. They also built a free app that went live just a couple of days after the earthquake to help match those who had lost their homes to places that were available for rent. The app has now helped hundreds of families. Also, they have been helping an outlying country community in the earthquake area. Using their own finances and other donations, they are taking food, clothes and aid to a group of older people who lost their homes. I told him how proud I was, and he replied, “Just doing what you taught us to do.” For our own students, he was able to arrange a visit for all our high school to the offices of an international IT company where he works. To encourage our children to believe that they **can** get out of extreme poverty. From that, JD and his work colleagues have formed a type of “mentoring group” to accompany our older students in their walk into higher education or the world of work. It is amazing to see our children “giving back,” to help others like they were helped. What a blessing!

It is always a joy to accompany our children on special activities. A couple of them got to horse ride this last week. I was sat with little “L” (7 years old). When I am on a horse, I am always praying “just walk nicely.” No, “L” had to have the Ferrari horse! He kept asking me, “Dad, how do I make it go faster.” He gave the horse his advice very loudly “Faster horsey, faster,” and when the horse got out of breath “Ok, rest, rest” and then again “faster horsey, faster!” A fun afternoon was had, and Dad was especially relieved when it was all over.

A huge thank you to you all. There are many needy children who still deserve our help, and earthquake victims too! Please prayerfully consider supporting our work and telling others. Visit our website www.newhope4childrenuk.org, or look us up on www.justgiving.com. Alternatively, contact us to find out how you can help make a change.

*Blessings and Hugs to all,
Richard and Jeanene, Henry and our Big Bogota Family!*



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To book a free presentation of our work please contact: lynne@newhope4childrenuk.org

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YOU!

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Earthquake in Colombia



A home gone in seconds



Buildings to be demolished



Packing donations



Thank you for the clothes



It's a blessing to help



The joy of toys!



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SUPPORTS

Children's Vision

Bogotá, Colombia



Visit to JDs work place



Faster Horsie,
Faster!



Best door in the
neighbourhood!

Teaching God's word



Mountain Mission
donations



A wonderful singing
gift