

# Orphan World Relief Frequently Asked Questions

## **What percentage of my donation will actually reach the children?**

That depends. Orphan World Relief works on a budget basis. Once our budget has been met for the year, then 100% of an individual's donation will go to support the orphan and other projects helping at-risk children around the globe. For example: If our budget for the next calendar year is \$100,000 and we reach that goal by September, then all individual donations coming directly to Orphan World Relief will be used to support orphan/children programs for the remainder of that year. Our goal, in any year, is to keep expenses below 17% regardless of our budget.

## **Where does faith come in?**

Orphan World Relief is a faith-based organization in its operation. However, that does not mean all of the orphanages, programs and projects helping at risk-children are necessarily faith-based.

- We believe that we are first and foremost to love God with all our heart, mind, soul and strength, and that we are to love one another as ourselves. (Mark 12:29-31, Matthew 22:37-40)
- We believe that we have a Biblical and human mandate to follow Christ's example in serving the poor, the disadvantaged, and the vulnerable. (James 1:27)
- We believe in rendering assistance without regard to the religious beliefs, race, age, or gender of our beneficiaries.

These principles, serve to guide what we do and how we do it – specifically, how our faith affects our work. While some of our programs address spiritual matters and some are of a more practical nature, the guiding and sustaining motivation throughout Orphan World Relief is to reach others with God's love, the same love that has transformed our own lives.

## **Does Orphan World Relief host short-term teams?**

At this time, Orphan World Relief will offer trips on a limited basis. If you have a group that would like to visit one of our projects in Bolivia, Honduras, Russia or Ukraine, let us know. Teams can be from 10 – 15 people. Part of your cost will include the cost for one of our trip-leaders to go with you.

## **I'd like to host an event or fundraiser. Can Orphan World Relief help?**

By all means! Please visit our section Get Involved on our website for more information!

## **Can I sponsor a child through Orphan World Relief?**

In order to keep administrative expenses low, we do not offer individual child sponsorship. Rather, we want you to consider every child your child. Additionally, because Orphan World Relief has a very specific method to distribute donations to our projects, individual child sponsorship donations are prohibited.

## **What is your formula to distribute funds to orphan/at-risk children projects and programs?**

Our goal is to be good stewards with the funds that we're provided, to that end our transfer of funds (thanks to your kind donations) is calculated with the following factors:

- Number of children in residence (if a residential program) or being cared for directly.

- Annual Budget for the program or project being supported. Orphan World Relief will give up to 20% of a program/project's annual budget. This is a risk-mitigation tactic to actually help the orphanage. If something unforeseen happens to Orphan World Relief (i.e., our ability to transfer funds in any given quarter), the program may suffer a setback but will not have to close down. At no time do we want a project to be 100% dependent on us.
- Cost of living for that region of the world. Simply put, some areas of the world have a lower cost of living. In Bolivia, for example, the cost of food per child each year may only be around \$100. Whereas the cost of food per child in St. Petersburg, Russia may be in excess of \$1000. If we did not factor in a cost of living calculation, then some areas of the world would get far more than they actually need.

#### **Can I adopt a child through Orphan World Relief?**

We do not have adoption resources available. In fact, international adoption is tricky and expensive. However, we will partner with you and make available some contact information to help you adopt.

#### **Can I donate books, school supplies, vehicles, etc.?**

We accept these types of donations on a limited basis. Shipping costs often make donations like this cost prohibited. Our preference is that you sell them locally and donate the money. By providing financial support to these programs, you are helping them integrate with their community. Rather than having school supplies donated, the staff in the countries we support can purchase from the local community. This helps the orphanage integrate at the local level becoming part of the community.

Imagine if we donated 200 pair of shoes to at-risk children in a small village. On the surface we are meeting a need. However, the local cobbler may well be out of business because we have flooded the market with shoes.

#### **Can someone from Orphan World Relief speak at my church or event?**

Certainly! Contact the President, [Douglas Riggles](#). He'd be happy to work with you to set something up.