



**Faces  
of Local  
Change**

## 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

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### ON THE COVER

When Dafne was 4, she developed asthma and, soon after, moderate-acute malnutrition. ChildFund’s local partner organization serving her remote community in Mexico’s Sierra Norte de Puebla region provided supplementary food for the family and enrolled her mother, Patricia, in nutrition and cooking workshops with mothers facing similar challenges. Around that time, they also received 10 laying hens, a dependable source of protein. Dafne recovered within six months.

“Dafne loves eggs,” says Patricia, “and she loves taking care of the chickens.”

“They eat a lot,” chimes in Dafne, now 7. “They’re like piranhas.” (One hen is, in fact, named Pirannah.)

Learn more about what’s happening in Dafne’s community on page 3.



In the Philippines, preschoolers enjoy a session of Supervised Neighborhood Play, a ChildFund-supported home-based initiative to promote early childhood development. Our local partner organization in Cagayan de Oro, Kaabag sa Kalumban Pinaagi sa Kabtangan sa Katilingban, influenced their city government to fund and include Supervised Neighborhood Play programs in their annual investment plans as a vital component of the city’s programming for children.



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ChildFund President and CEO Isam Ghanim (right) talks with a student about the Elimu Kidigitali Project, which is transforming education through improved digital learning access in Kenyan primary schools.

## Dear Friends,

As ChildFund approaches the five-year midpoint of our Growing Connections 2030 global strategy, we see great promise in the transformations and momentum that are building toward our goal of reaching 100 million children and family members annually. In fact, ChildFund has been evolving toward this effort since we were founded in 1938, to aid and protect children suffering in the aftermath of war in China.

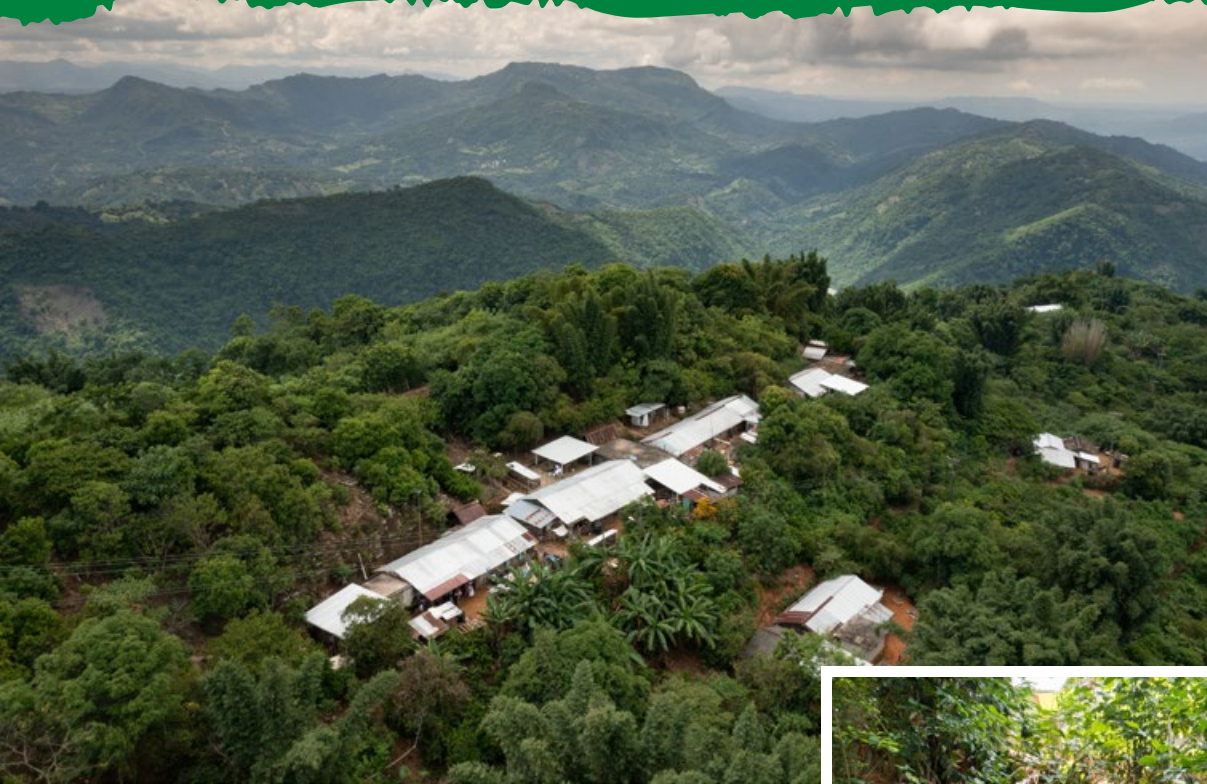
Over time, as our work spanned the globe and our expertise grew, we evolved toward the understanding that long-lasting impact for children must be locally led if it is to truly take hold. That is why we partner today with over 200 local organizations worldwide as they create sustainable, tailored change to support children in their own communities. In the last 10 years alone, we have invested over \$608 million in direct funding to these partners. ChildFund also cultivates long-term relationships with these partners, joining our global knowledge and technical expertise with local wisdom and assets to help them design and implement programs that create the locally meaningful impact they seek for children. Now some of these organizations stand on their own, attracting and managing their own funding while delivering positive change in their communities and transforming the systems around them.

We are honored to work with these organizations as well as with governments and other local partners, institutional donors, corporations and others in transforming systems, both local and national, to meet children's needs for health, education and safety. We take joy in every child's thriving, in every strong young voice raised to call for the future they dream of, in every ripple effect we have helped set in motion. And we are humbled at our kind donors' trust in us to leverage their resources toward these beautiful ends. Thank you.

**Isam Ghanim**  
President and CEO

**Tamar Manuelyan Atinc**  
Chair, ChildFund Board of Directors

# Locally meaningful change makes life more livable.



Sierra Norte de Puebla from above.

Below, from left: Isamar (4), her mother, Josefina, and aunt Dulce Nana (both community mobilizers for ChildFund partner Niños Totonacos) climb the path back from their former water source.



## Access to the basics in Mexico's remote mountains

Mexico's rugged and beautiful Sierra Norte de Puebla region, where indigenous Totonac families live on remote hillside farms, is a hard place to make a life.

Poverty is high, at about 85%. Most adults work as day laborers in someone else's field, cutting coffee or harvesting corn, often migrating for work throughout Mexico and beyond. Children may attend kindergarten or primary school, but families must send older children to larger towns for junior high and high school, which almost no one can afford. Employment possibilities for youth, other than following their parents into the fields, are sorely lacking. Health services are scarce, and child malnutrition rates are high.

ChildFund's local partner organization in the region since 1995, Niños Totonacos, helps children and families across 45 communities improve their quality of life, addressing health, nutrition, education and child protection.

One recent project of Niños Totonacos, funded by the Walmart Mexico Foundation, focused on some of the area's most vulnerable families, especially those with very young children, whose development is at risk due to the scarcity of protein sources in the area. For the 100 families who participated — including 230 children ages 0-12, 537 people in all — the initiative diversified nutrition sources through installing backyard gardens, with training and support;

introduced an accessible source of protein by setting families up with small poultry farms, also with training and support; and created access to clean water by providing filtration systems for 32 families. Impacts included improvements in food security, nutritional status and health status.

And there have been collateral benefits. Adults reported feeling better overall due to their more balanced diet. Although there was no economic component, 60% of the families still saw gains in their economic stability because, in growing their own food, they saved money that they could use for other needs. There is also potential for the small farms to become entrepreneurship opportunities for youth. With access to clean water, hygiene also improved and diarrheal disease decreased by 30% — and women and children have reclaimed the time they used to spend on the long hike down and back up their mountains to their former water sources.

## Salvador's backyard chickens and garden

Although Sierra Norte de Puebla usually has abundant rainfall, 2024 was different. "This year the excessive heat caused a drought, and the drought decimated our farm," says Josefina, mother to Salvador, 8, and Josefina, 13. Their garden and chickens helped them weather the losses.

"Salvador helps me to take care of my hens," she says. "When I'm not at home, he becomes responsible for taking care of them and gives food and water. He knows he must take care of them because they produce the eggs we all eat."

"Our lives changed for the better," she adds. "Thanks to the garden, I feed my children and sell the surplus to support my family, and for that I am very grateful."



## Water for all

Niños Totonacos identified 32 families in three different mountain communities who were part of the ChildFund program but had limited access to water or ability to store it. Each family received sturdy PVC pipes, gutters, filters, a water pump and a massive 5,000-liter water tank to harvest rainfall for everyday household use.

“We’re thankful to have clean water here at home,” says Carmen, mother to Ricardo (3) and Guadalupe (12). “We couldn’t bathe or wash dishes every day before, but now we have that luxury.” She adds, “Now I have time to do other things like play with my children or just have time to enjoy life together. Our family is closer.”



## The writing on the wall

Sophia (11) stands with one of several murals her mother, Susan, helped paint in their community. It reads, “End violence against children, adolescents and youth.”

Susan is a member of the local child protection committee supported by Niños Totonacos that helps raise awareness about child rights and violence. “I want Sofia to grow up in a community without harm, without violence,” says Susan. “I want our family to be an example for others that we can live and grow up without violence.”





## Eduardo calls the tune

An active participant in ChildFund's youth programs, Eduardo (15) aspires to become a doctor. "I find it very interesting, helping those who are sick," he says. "I could help my community because we don't have many doctors here." The multifaceted young man also plays in a band with his brothers as Realeza Poblana (Puebla Royalty), performing traditional Huapango music at weddings and other gatherings.



## Azucena teaches Totonac

Azucena (17) volunteers at Niños Totonacos on weekends to teach the indigenous Totonac language, her native tongue, to young children in the community. Totonac is an endangered language not spoken by many young people.

"I'm passionate about the revival and conservation of customs and traditions, especially the Totonac indigenous language," she says. She aims to help young people empower themselves: "Together we can increase understanding of how to improve the lifestyle of our municipality while always preserving our native roots."

# Locally meaningful change perpetuates itself.



Children in Emali Dedicated Children's Agency's Pamoja program, where they learn about environmental care, perform a dance at a primary school in Kenya's Makueni County. Below: Victor Aduda, EDCA CEO.

## From partner organization to independent NGO: EDCA's journey

The Emali Dedicated Children's Agency (EDCA) serves over 2,500 households across Kenya's Makueni and Kajiado counties. Originally a small community-based organization, its relationship with ChildFund began 20 years ago, when EDCA began to participate in ChildFund's programs. Eventually, the small organization and several others federated under the EDCA name, becoming a full-fledged non-governmental organization.



ChildFund supported EDCA heavily during those early years but gradually reduced its involvement while helping EDCA take on its own financial oversight, governance, project planning and management, business development and more.

"[ChildFund] did this gradually, through demonstrating how it's done and guiding and mentorship throughout the process until they could step aside," says EDCA's CEO, Victor Aduda. EDCA now functions under its own governance structure, with a board in place and responsible for oversight as well as the strategy and vision of the organization. "It is the gradual capacity building that has enabled us to get to this level."

What "this level" looks like is impactful programming across livelihoods, water and sanitation, education, health, child protection and environmental care, with children and adults alike engaging in advocacy to advance their own well-being.

EDCA is poised to venture forth on its own, independent of ChildFund, beginning in 2026. "Interdependent," says Aduda, "because we'll not sever ties, but we will have our own portfolio."





## The mighty leaf: Better health, livelihoods and education

EDCA supports a moringa and moringa-infused honey cultivation cooperative known as Emuka Moringa. Moringa is a leafy green superfood full of essential vitamins, minerals and antioxidants. Local farmers cultivate moringa leaves, which EDCA purchases and adds as a supplement to porridge in ChildFund-supported Early Childhood Development (ECD) centers throughout the area.

“Now, there is increased enrollment in the school,” says ECD teacher Victoria Muindi, “and those who had weak bodies have gained weight. Their skin has also changed. The food is very nutritious, and it is of great help.” She adds, “There are also requests from outside for children who are yet to join school to be included in the program.”

The cooperative also operates a storefront in Emali where they sell products including moringa seeds, powder and oil as well as moringa-infused honey.

Jerome (5), Fabian (5), Michel (4) and Cecilia (5) eat breakfast together at an ECD center that Emali Dedicated Children’s Agency supports, providing the vitamin and nutrient-rich millet porridge breakfast children eat here each morning, as well as a moringa-enriched maize and bean dish they eat for lunch. Below: Moringa powder.





To dispense the water they need from their nearby kiosk, community members pay a small fee using mobile money.

## The Mulala Water and Hygiene project

EDCA installed community water points like the one seen here as part of a massive community water project that brought clean water to seven schools, one health center and over 5,000 people.

Before the project began, the area faced a harsh reality: Over 60% of households depended on unreliable and unsafe water sources, a situation that posed health risks and took freedom away from women and children who had to collect it. Academic performance suffered as well, due not only to time spent fetching water but also health issues that kept them home.

## Regreening Africa

The Regreening Africa project, funded by Dow Chemical, aims to improve resilience among youth, women and children in Kenya's Nairobi, Makeni and Kajiado counties. Young people and women plant and operate drought-resistant tree and vegetable nurseries, producing avocados, oranges, mangoes and moringa that are then sold to schools, individuals and communities.

"Through support from ChildFund, I am now in the university, and I am also helping in the Regreening Africa project," says Simeon Oleku, the project's youth representative. "I have a great vision: to build myself and the people in my community up."



# FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ChildFund International, USA

## Condensed Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

AS OF JUNE 30, 2024 AND 2023

	2024	2023
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$31,212,535	\$42,283,359
Investments, at fair value	91,031,362	76,413,243
Beneficial interests in trusts	10,858,892	10,057,925
Receivables and other assets	11,201,630	12,513,473
Gifts-in-kind inventory	26,098,319	3,296,204
Property, plant and equipment, net	28,448,870	27,917,312
Operating leases right-of-assets	449,911	600,221
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$199,301,519</b>	<b>\$173,081,737</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$13,199,795	\$13,315,977
Accrued pension benefit liability	–	257,514
Debt	–	270,833
Operating lease liability	419,774	612,641
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$13,619,569</b>	<b>\$14,456,965</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		
Without donor restrictions	\$92,697,631	\$89,726,432
With donor restrictions	92,984,319	68,898,340
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$185,681,950</b>	<b>\$158,624,772</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$199,301,519</b>	<b>\$173,081,737</b>

ChildFund International, USA

## Condensed Consolidated Statement of Activities

YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2024 AND 2023

	2024	2023
<b>PUBLIC SUPPORT</b>		
Sponsorships	\$120,358,672	\$124,605,459
Contributions	97,024,175	73,834,167
Grants and contracts	22,667,433	33,010,881
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT</b>	<b>\$240,050,280</b>	<b>\$231,450,507</b>
Other revenue	2,490,907	4,557,089
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>	<b>\$242,541,187</b>	<b>\$236,007,596</b>
<b>EXPENSES FROM OPERATIONS</b>		
<b>Program</b>		
Basic education	\$62,552,923	\$60,345,898
Health and sanitation	25,220,049	29,105,480
Nutrition	11,999,848	11,362,045
Early childhood development	16,544,260	22,074,637
Microenterprise (family income generation)	31,799,935	31,169,853
Emergencies	21,296,060	28,653,896
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM</b>	<b>\$169,413,075</b>	<b>\$182,711,809</b>
<b>Supporting Services</b>		
Fundraising	\$31,732,764	\$30,070,883
Management and general	21,143,751	19,714,045
<b>TOTAL SUPPORTING SERVICES</b>	<b>\$52,876,515</b>	<b>\$49,784,928</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES FROM OPERATIONS</b>	<b>\$222,289,590</b>	<b>\$232,496,737</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets From Operations</b>	<b>\$20,251,597</b>	<b>\$3,510,859</b>
<b>Nonoperating Gains (Losses)</b>		
Investment return, net	\$5,277,825	\$3,233,572
Change in fair value of trusts	800,967	518,899
Change in accrued benefit liability other than net periodic costs	726,789	1,357,015
<b>TOTAL GAINS (LOSSES) FROM NONOPERATIONS</b>	<b>\$6,805,581</b>	<b>\$5,109,486</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$27,057,178</b>	<b>\$8,620,345</b>

A complete copy of the Consolidated Financial Statements, with a report from independent auditors, BDO, is available upon request by calling 1-800-776-6767 or visiting [ChildFund.org](https://www.childfund.org).



In Uganda, students enjoy a session on healthy relationships and self-protection as part of ChildFund's Education for Protection and Well-being project.

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**ChildFund Japan**

**ChildFund Korea**

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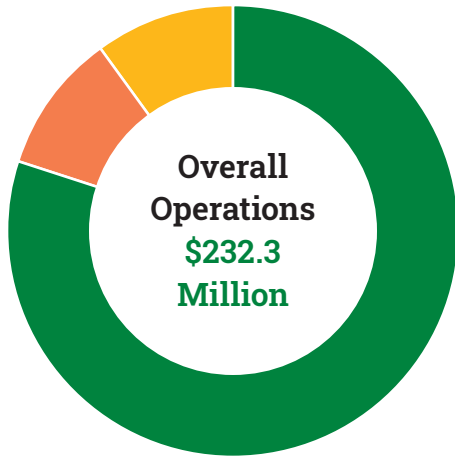
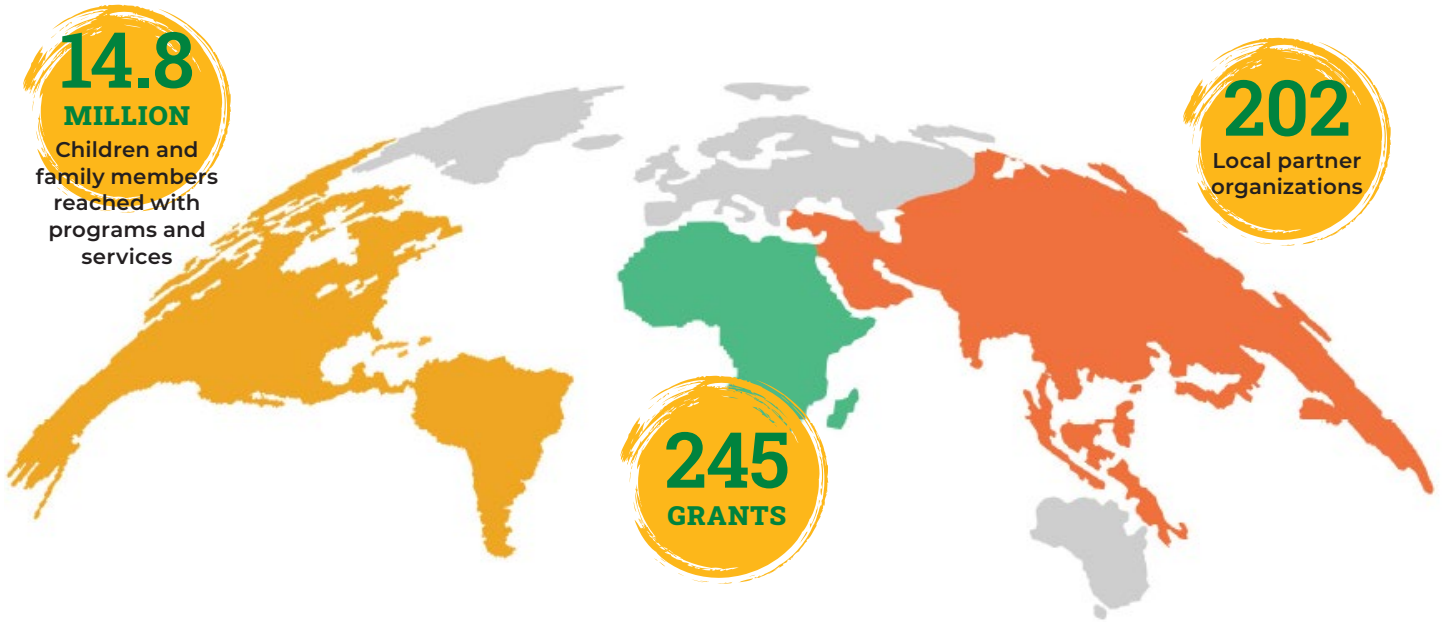
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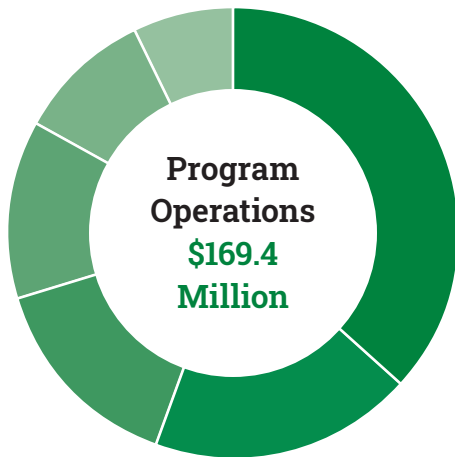
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# CHILD FUND'S GLOBAL FOOTPRINT



## How Your Gift Helps Children

- 76.2%** Program Services for Children
- 14.3%** Fundraising
- 9.5%** Management and General



## Assistance to Children and Families

- 36.9%** Basic Education
- 18.8%** Microenterprise (Family Income Generation)
- 14.9%** Health and Sanitation
- 12.6%** Emergencies
- 9.8%** Early Childhood Development
- 7.1%** Nutrition

# Locally meaningful change shapes national change.

## Play honored as policy in Guatemala

Guatemala has a new national policy for early childhood development (ECD) that we can say with confidence was meaningfully shaped by young children's voices.

It replaces an earlier policy in support of ECD from 2020, which failed due to insufficient resources, both human and financial. In 2022, as Guatemala prepared to elect its next vice president, ChildFund approached each candidate with a detailed proposal for an updated ECD policy, achieving buy-in from both. Once the new administration came into office, the policy, including all of ChildFund's recommendations, was quickly adopted with celebration and strong support. It reaches around 2.6 million children aged 0 to 6 and integrates health, protection, nutrition, early learning, and responsive care services.

ChildFund created its recommendations based on an extensive consultation with children, caregivers, local organizations, academia, the private sector and others. Communities from different Mayan peoples — Achí, Kakchiquel and Quiché — contributed their thoughts. With children, ChildFund used a play-based methodology that involved taking a walk through the community, where children identified and described different types of services. When the team showed them a picture of a park, they said there were no playgrounds in their community and that they wanted to play more with their mom or dad.

That was their key contribution, in fact, and the law of the land now encourages play.

Sisters at a children's consultation to inform Guatemala's new policy on early childhood development.



# #TAKEITDOWN



ChildFund's 2023 #TakeItDown campaign went on to win Anthem, Webby and Fast Company honors. The **video** is now part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's iGuardian training program that helps children understand online safety.

## A safer internet for children everywhere

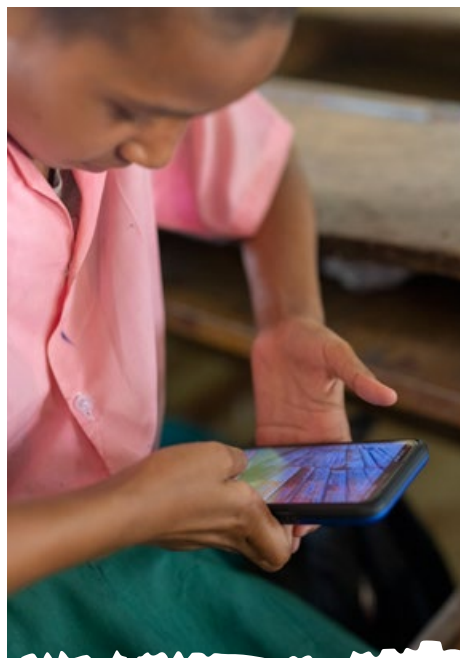
As a global leader in the fight against the online sexual exploitation and abuse of children (OSEAC), ChildFund advocates for and helps advance legislation to keep children safe by instituting safety-by-design internet policies, holding tech companies accountable and providing resources for law enforcement entities to prosecute offenders.

In the Philippines, the Anti-Online Sexual Abuse or Exploitation of Children (OSAEC) and Anti-Child Sexual Abuse or Exploitation Materials (CSAEM) Act penalizes the production, distribution, possession and provision of access to such materials.

The Guatemalan government has enacted a decree amending its penal code to strengthen the penalties for the online sexual exploitation and abuse of children.

Kenya's National Plan of Action to Tackle OCSEA will guide government, industry, policymakers, civil society organizations and communities in taking measures to keep children safe online.

And in the United States, where most of the biggest tech companies are based, ChildFund's #TakeItDown campaign in 2023 contributed to the passage this year of the United States' first two substantive laws on online child protection in over 15 years: the REPORT Act and the reauthorization of Project Safe Childhood.



ChildFund's leadership of the EndOSEAC Coalition has also been critical to these gains. The coalition, a network of civil society organizations and experts dedicated to improving U.S. government policies and programs to prevent and respond to OSEAC, helped convene a contentious Senate Judiciary Committee hearing that challenged the CEOs of Meta, X, Discord, TikTok and Snap about their failures to protect children online. Many survivors and parents were in the room, holding pictures of their lost loved ones, highlighting the urgency of the issue. Their voices are at the heart of progress toward a safer internet for children everywhere.

# Locally meaningful change builds change makers.

## Ready for work: Tailored training for youth with disabilities

When ChildFund assessed services available to children and youth with disabilities in Sri Lanka, we found a serious lack of opportunity for them to prepare themselves for entering the workforce. Through its Community-Based Inclusive Development (CBID) project, ChildFund was already working with government-supported local Disabled Persons' Organizations to help them better serve their local populations. In partnership with these groups and Sri Lanka's Department of Social Services, we developed five new tailored training courses that would help these young people build skills to match local and national employment needs and market demands.

The participants' success shows the project's impact. Enrollment is high in the new vocational training courses, and many graduates are employed or launching their own businesses. Preliminary evidence suggests that the rate of employment for those who complete one of these new courses has increased to 71%.

"If ChildFund weren't working here, I'd be sitting at home now that I'm done with high school," says 19-year-old Lithusanka, who lost her leg as a preschooler during Sri Lanka's civil war. After completing a course on Microsoft Office, she now works as a secretarial intern at an agricultural training college and aims to pursue a degree so she can become a high school computer teacher.





## A nurse gives back ... and forward: Peter Kabemba

In 2014, Zambia's health system was short on nurses, with only one per every 1,500 people. ChildFund, in partnership with Zambia's Ministry of Health and AmRef and with funding from Mastercard Foundation, launched an initiative to train 6,000 new nurses through its Nurse and Life Skills Training program. Now one of its first graduates, Peter Kabemba, is aiming to create even more impact in Zambia's health system. Here's his story.

*Coming from a poor background, I excelled academically in secondary school but had no hope of pursuing higher education due to financial constraints. For two years, I did odd jobs to make ends meet until I learned about the E-learning nursing project. ChildFund offered me a full scholarship, changing the journey of my life forever.*

*I graduated in 2017 as part of the first-ever cohort of nurses trained through E-learning at Mufulira School of Nursing. I ranked as the third-best student in my class, which earned me the privilege of being among 20 newly graduated nurses supported by ChildFund to volunteer during Zambia's cholera outbreak in 2018. We worked tirelessly for six months, and ChildFund supported us with transport refunds daily.*

*Our commitment and skills earned us recognition, and we were recommended for full-time positions. I began my career at the University Teaching Hospital in the adult ward. In 2020, I transitioned to the pediatric hospital, the beginning of a new chapter in my journey. To advance my expertise, I was sent for a two-year neuroscience training program.*

*Currently I work in a busy pediatric ward, caring for children with critical conditions such as cerebral palsy, epilepsy and sickle cell anemia. Because of the nature of my work, I am often involved in research and teaching activities. I always say that ChildFund's training equipped me with skills beyond nursing, and I'm grateful for every opportunity to grow.*

*Today I serve on the African Committee of the International League Against Epilepsy. Additionally, I am a faculty trainer for the Pediatric Epilepsy Training program under the British Pediatric Neurology Association. My primary focus now is advocating for a formal training program for nurses to specialize in epilepsy care. With over 5,000 epilepsy cases in Zambia and a lack of trained nurses to manage them, this program is urgently needed.*

*I am determined to lead this change and ensure that every patient receives the care they deserve*





## Sheema and Sidara, Sri Lanka

A seizure at her first birthday party. A devastating diagnosis of TB meningitis, likely not survivable. Sheema did survive, but there were months in ICU, and her family mortgaged their land to pay for it. At 2, Sheema was diagnosed with cerebral palsy. She took her first steps at age 8, after her mother, Sidara, brought her to a medical camp organized by ChildFund's Community-Based Inclusive Development project.

The family's resources have multiplied due to the project, which among other things has helped existing Disabled Persons Organizations better connect people with financial assistance, education, vocational training options and more. Today Sidara is president of one of those groups.

And Sheema? Now 14, she not only walks and does her own basic self-care – she dances.

[LEARN MORE.](#)

# ChildFund®

Because we need each other.

ChildFund International works throughout Asia, Africa and the Americas to connect children with what they need to grow up healthy, educated, skilled and safe, no matter where they are. Last year, we reached 14.8 million children and family members in 23 countries.

### OUR MISSION

Help children who experience deprivation, exclusion and vulnerability to build the capacity to improve their lives and become young adults, parents and leaders who bring lasting and positive change in their communities.

Promote societies whose individuals and institutions participate in valuing, protecting and advancing the worth and rights of children.

Enrich supporters' lives through their engagement with us.

## Thank you for your partnership and support – especially now.

When children's needs are met, they can do what children do best: play, learn and grow into the people they dream of becoming.

For 87 years, ChildFund has connected millions of children worldwide with the people, resources and institutions they need to thrive, even in the most challenging circumstances. Our Children's Greatest Needs fund – a special fund with the flexibility to be directed where it is needed most – is an important part of that work. We use it to develop and run far-reaching programs and services for and with children, families and their communities. Donating to Children's Greatest Needs is a great way to make a powerful difference in more lives than you might imagine – and all the more so if you make it a monthly gift.

To learn more about this and other ways to help, please contact our philanthropy advisors at [philanthropy@childfund.org](mailto:philanthropy@childfund.org).

[CHILDfund.org](http://CHILDfund.org)

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