

July 2023





After 34 years of partnering with organisations across the world to secure safe childhoods for children and young people, ChildHope will be closing in December 2023; our partner organisations will continue their excellent work with vulnerable and marginalised children and young people, in their respective countries.



Message from Chair of the Board - Charlie Middleton

Over the 34 years of ChildHope's existence so many people have been instrumental in the work we have delivered. Our amazing UK team, patrons, our many funders whether individual, corporate or institutional, and of course our partners who have been the driving force delivering programmes with and for vulnerable and marginalised children in their communities. You will hear some of their voices in this newsletter and what stands out for me is the strength of those voices. The partners talking with confidence about now receiving direct funding, collaborating with other partners, and the children taking ownership of their lives and their future. I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to enabling these voices to speak with such strength. You have helped provide hope for the future of thousands of children and families in a way that is genuinely sustainable, supported by local partners on the ground. As we say later in this newsletter, ChildHope will live on in the hearts, minds and work of our partners and that is something we have always aimed for and feel proud to have achieved with your wonderful help.

Message from Executive Director - Nicky Davies

I have had the privilege of leading ChildHope through the last year or so of our journey, working with the Board of Trustees and fellow executive team members to explore strategic options and the best way forward for the children we work with, our partners and existing programmes. The carefully planned close out of ChildHope over a year-long period has allowed us to ensure that all our major programmes for children are responsibly delivered and closed, our partners are supported with sustainability measures, and our safeguarding network is secured in the hands of local leadership. We have been able to plan ahead to ensure our staff, patrons, supporters and donors are treated respectfully and with due consideration to protect ChildHope's legacy. ChildHope has had a long history and has achieved so much for children across many countries. ChildHope lives on amongst the children whose childhoods have been secured, the strengthened local partners, the learning communities built, and the long-term change achieved in communities. Everyone involved is rightly proud of what has been achieved whether staff, partners, supporters, funders, trustees, patrons and most importantly the children who dared to break the barriers they faced, raised their voices, and strove to achieve a future that is rightfully theirs.







Our History

ChildHope was established in 1986 as an international foundation to act as a voice on behalf of street children. It was established by a number of leading worldwide organisations including UNICEF, the World Council of Churches, the International Catholic Child Bureau and Save the Children (Sweden). Offices were set up in Brazil, Guatemala, the Philippines, the USA and the UK. In 1989 the international status ceased to exist and the different 'ChildHopes' became independent. ChildHope UK gained charitable status in 1989 as an independent, non-religious, Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO). Subsequently, we co-founded the UK's Consortium for Street Children and European Network on Street Children Worldwide.

ChildHope is a child rights organisation that began as a street child focused NGO working directly with street children in resource poor settings. Over time we broadened our approach to the promotion of child rights for marginalised children and young people. Here approaches ranged from direct service provision, to strengthening communities, NGOs and governments to ensure that children can understand and access their rights and defend them through advocacy for policy change and practice at the local, regional and national level. This included working with street connected children, children and young people living with HIV, children affected by conflict, child labourers working in exploitative conditions, and children in need of protection. Children have always been at the heart of everything that we do (as the diagram to the right shows).



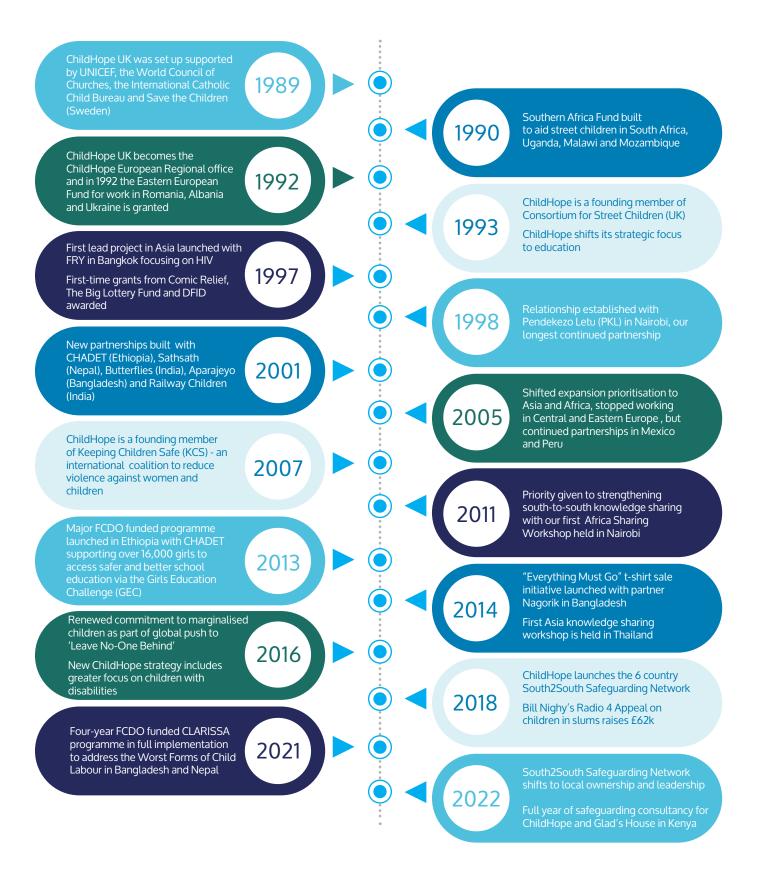


Over the last 34 years we have worked in Africa, South and East Asia, Central and South America, and Central and Eastern Europe, always with a focused number of 11 to 15 countries. We have never had offices overseas, believing that our role is to strengthen southern NGOs, and we do this in many ways (see diagram to left). We have built a strong reputation for our organisational development work, and have taken great pleasure in seeing our partner NGOs grow in ability and reputation.

Our work has been funded by many donors including the UK government, the European Union, and the Island States of Guernsey, Jersey and the Isle of Man, as well as Trusts and Foundations in the UK and overseas, Comic Relief and the National Lottery, and thousands of individual supporters who make one-off and regular donations. Our trustees, patrons and advisors have helped bring a richness of experience from many sectors and professional backgrounds whether arts and entertainment, child protection, or fundraising and business development.



Our Timeline





Our Legacy

As an intermediary organisation, ChildHope was set up to build the capacity of local partners and channel donor funds for programmes to support vulnerable and marginalised children. In this role ChildHope has secured a multitude of single and multi-country funded programmes with our local partners, established cross-country learning mechanisms, and embedded partner-specific organisational capacity building into yearly plans.

Over the years we have worked with local partners and children to enable them to become more skillful and effective in their work, amplify their voices, co-delivering consultancies, and ultimately support the direct funding of partners as their organisational capacity builds.

We hope our legacy lives on in the capacity of our partners, with our shared values and ways of working, more locally contextualised approaches to safeguarding, and impact on the lives of children and communities supported. As independent NGOs our partners will continue in their work. The South2South Safeguarding Network and Community of Practice will live on, locally-led and championed by ChildHope partners across Africa and Asia.

Raised more than £45million with local partners to safeguard and protect vulnerable and marginalised children Delivered programmes with more than 50 local partners in 17 countries across Africa, Asia, East and Central Europe, and Central and South America Positively impacted the lives of 1 million+ vulnerable and marginalised children, young people and their families

SOUTH 2 SOUTH Network

In 2018 ChildHope set up the South2South Safeguarding Network with some of its most experienced partners. It now includes a network of 11 global practitioners from 6 countries across Africa and Asia. The network brings together staff from partner organisations who are experienced and highly skilled in safeguarding work to share knowledge, build capacity and explore opportunities for safeguarding consultancy work. Combined, network members hold over 30 years' experience delivering child protection and safeguarding programmes. In its first year alone, 137 organisations commissioned training for 434 staff and board members in 6 different countries.

The network holds monthly Community of Practice (COP) meetings to enable cross country learning and sharing of experience amongst members. Led by the COP members themselves, these sessions provide training and discussion for members to build their knowledge and confidence to deliver highly contextualised safeguarding consultancies in their countries and regions. More than 60 COP meetings have been held creating a strong bond amongst members. ChildHope will financially support the South2South Safeguarding Network and its COP to continue for a year or more after 2023. Its running costs are low so network members should be able to ensure its sustainability over time. In mid-2023 the South2South members will discuss whether to invite all ChildHope partners to join, bringing the possibility of five additional ChildHope partners to the network. This will enable all ChildHope partners to remain connected even when ChildHope is no longer able to facilitate global meetings and other all-partner learning events.

To learn more about the South2South Safeguarding Network please visit www.south2southnetwork.com or contact the South2South network lead, based in Tanzania, Michael Reuben Ntibikema via info@elimumwangaza.org



Reflections from Africa

Future Focus Foundation, Sierra Leone

"How could we have reached this far protecting and improving livelihoods of children and their families in hard-to-reach communities without ChildHope partnership? ChildHope has over the years provided technical support in the development of FFF Child Protection Policy and as well as providing capacity building for FFF and other child protection partners. Since 2013 ChildHope has helped us reach and restore the hope and dignity of children exposed to risk of abuse and exploitation, making them agents of their own change. We will surely miss you but impacts from your support remains with us and beneficiary communities." Sylvestre Sidie M Kallon, National Team Lead and CEO, Future Focus Foundation

Kabukye Trust, Uganda

"ChildHope's approach has been one of flexibility, commitment, and consistency. Kabukye Trust is a relatively young organisation. ChildHope has supported us to gain access to our first three funders and helped to build our organisational capacity to where we are today!" Allan Kiwanuka, Founder & Chief Executive Officer, Kabukye Trust

Pendekezo Letu, Kenya

"Pendekezo Letu has had an incredible relationship with ChildHope for over 10 years, collaborating in our efforts to support marginalized children, youth and their families to have a dignified life in Kenya. We have received great support and mentorship to access funding and organisational development. Working with ChildHope has strengthened our capacity to safeguard children and vulnerable adults under our care and build on our expertise through the safeguarding Community Of Practice in the region to explore ways of supporting other organizations working with children to develop bespoke safeguarding systems and procedures based on lived realities in their contexts. Consequently, safeguarding has garnered widespread acceptance at the local level, shedding its previous association as a Western concept." Okari Magati, Executive Director, Pendekezo Letu



Children's Voices from Africa

Bezu, Ethiopia: "When I was 13 a marriage was arranged for me by my parents. Families arrange a marriage for their daughter without her knowing and then agree that the man can abduct the girl. It's cultural. It's because a girl would otherwise be resistant. Once you've been abducted, you're his. The day of the abduction I was in school. The Principal of the school heard what was happening and helped me escape out the back of the school. I ran home and asked my parents why they had done that. They said he was rich, from town, and could look after me, so it was better that I accepted. I said, 'No, I don't want this, I want to continue my education!'. I tried to negotiate with my mother, but she was very much in favour of the marriage. I wanted to finish my education and not be given as a wife to a man I didn't know. My parents were part of the Community Conversations

that CHADET organised, and they slowly started changing their minds. Eventually the marriage was terminated. My father tells people how his daughter was rescued from early marriage, and if she hadn't been rescued she'd be carrying a big burden on her back, and wouldn't be able to complete her education. He is really supportive now. They even tell me to study now!"

Hawa, Sierra Leone: "Becoming a seamstress had always been my dream and I knew this was an opportunity for that dream to come true. I am highly indebted to the life skills tutor Mr. Alfred Musa who was always counselling me, and I am proud that I can say I am self-reliant and confident."





Reflections from Asia

Butterflies, India

"ChildHope brought the discourse on street connected children centre-stage internationally bringing changes in national policies and laws, and programmes for these children. ChildHope has been an excellent partner supporting our organisational development helping us with human resourcing including what policies to put in place, financial management, data management and how to be analytical about our programming and developing meaningful reports. ChildHope has been very good at facilitating cross country learning enabling us to learn from others in the south and building kinship, but ChildHope is also very technical, better than so many consultancy firms; their work is based on lived experience and listening to the work on the ground. In more recent years ChildHope has been a technical partner to Butterflies as our capacity has been strengthened to receive funding directly from donors, the roles have reversed, and we have paid for the expertise of ChildHope. We are grateful for many years of collaboration with ChildHope." Rita Panicker, Founder and Director of Butterflies



Voice of Children, Nepal

"We are privileged to have worked with ChildHope as a partner who immensely contributed to strengthening our organisational capacity around safeguarding, disability inclusion and participation of children. ChildHope helped us to think big, design creatively and develop robust strategies to manage complex consortium projects. I can proudly say that their contribution has made us one of the best national level organisations in Nepal." Krishna Thapa, Founder and Director, Voice of Children

Grambangla Unnayan Committee, Bangladesh

"Grambangla has been a development partner of ChildHope since 2012. We've had an opportunity to grow together for serving the poor and powerless people in Bangladesh with our collective knowledge and skills. We have a remarkable history of designing and delivering diverse range of successful projects together in Bangladesh." AKM Maksud, Founder and Director, Grambangla Unnayan Committee



Children's Voices from Asia

Asha, Nepal: "I was visiting my relatives to stay with them overnight when I was sexually abused. I was only 13 years old, and in a lot of pain. I was very scared and couldn't make out what was going on. I was also worried about whether I would be supported by anyone to cope with what had happened, or I would be left all alone. After the incident, I felt as if my life had finished and there was no way I could re-live it. But during the sessions and discussions in the shelter home, I learnt about the different types of abuse and modern slavery issues. I saw videos and heard stories of slavery and assault cases, how victims were able to change their lives for better after receiving support. I was inspired by listening to the case and achievements of Miss Charimaya Tamang (the co-founder of Shakti Samuha) with struggles and hurdles she faced. I aim to fight against abuse and modern-day slavery in my future and raise my voice to ensure a dignified life for survivors like me."

Rukhsar, **Bangladesh**: "Due to poverty, I couldn't attend school. However, many of my friends here attended the drop-in centre, free of cost. I saw them visiting the centre regularly, playing and learning. I also joined the centre in March 2016. Learning at the centre has transformed my life. I am more conscientious now and participate in all workshops and activities. I attended a workshop on animation organised by TRAID and Rainbow Collective. I was also trained on cooking and sewing at the drop-in centre. I am pleased to be able to support my family, as well as continue learning at the drop-in centre."





Time to Stop Donating!

Thank you to all our supporters, corporate partners, donors, strategic partners, influential individuals and patrons. Special thanks to patrons/friends - Juliet Stevenson, Timothy Spall, Bill Nighy and Dr. Sandra Scott, and our corporate partners Capital Group.

Now is the time to stop giving directly to ChildHope and accept our grateful thanks.

We are extremely grateful for your support over the years – however we are now able to financially assist our partners and complete all live projects for the remainder of 2023. Thank you so much for your generous support! Any remaining uncommitted funds will be distributed to our partners to help secure their ongoing work with vulnerable and marginalised children in their communities.

We are no longer asking for donations to ChildHope so please go ahead and cancel your direct debits.

If you would like to continue to support a ChildHope partner with donations to a UK bank account, please consider contacting Kabukye Trust, our partner in Uganda, which is a registered charity in Uganda and will also be registered as a UK charity in late 2023 - contact info@kabukyetrust.org

Our Partners

If you are an international funder, please consider contacting our partners. They are all local organisations, rooted in their communities, they are ready to receive your direct funding and support.



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