



# 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

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Dear Friends and Supporters,

February 2026.

The Bible tells us in Psalm 27:13 ".....I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living." Here, every day, we have reason to give thanks for the goodness of the Lord.

I pray and trust that your 2025 has been a good one. Sorry for not having sent out a Christmas 2025 newsletter. Back in September, Jeanene needed emergency eye surgery, and the Lord made an amazing provision. That ran into the October U.K. speaking trip and then into November in Colombia with visiting teams, and December with the official inauguration of Deuteronomy House, many overseas visitors and all the Christmas activities. The end of year also brought more than our fair share of children's crises. I have been playing catch up ever since.

Most of you would not know Jeanene has very serious eye problems. After years of treatments, surgeries and specialists in Colombia, we were told, "Nothing more can be done, your eyes are too fragile, you will go blind." Those words took our breath away, the thought of her never seeing our children again broke our heart. The children all began to pray & God opened a new door. Through a bible study of some friends in the States, Jeanene was recommended an eye specialist, who accepted her case and was willing to help. We had concerns - the bill! We had no medical insurance in the States, or after care, and many "what if's?" God had everything under control! A special family helped us; the power of LOVE is an amazing gift!

The surgeries were on Sept. 17th and then Sept 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025, and they would supposedly only take 8-15 minutes each. When the surgery began, the Doctor said "Oh No." It all became very complicated, and each surgery lasted over 2 hours. The doctor, a Christian believer, said, "I can feel the prayers, and we need them." We were so very grateful, the right place, the right Doctor who knew exactly what to do. End result: Jeanene had 2 lens implants, and other complicated procedures in each eye. She can see, she is not going to be blind! Her eyes should have been very red and painful, she had neither. God showed us His love in so many ways, and our bill was paid in full. Lord, thank you for this amazing provision that saved Jeanene's eyesight!

The Deuteronomy House for the 7-12 year old boys began operations in March of 2025, culminating a vision of 5 homes, a school and a medical unit. 32 years of hard work and faith, bringing transformation to hundreds of children over the years. For many of our adult children, now with their own homes and children, Children's Vision continues to be their family. We waited until December for the inauguration with 25 visitors from the UK and US. What a special celebration, beginning with a "history" of the foundation. The children dressed up in cardboard as the different properties of the foundation. The first child came marching out, in a cardboard house and said, "My name is Genesis House, and I was born in 1994. I sure did need a lot of work, I am bigger now and we love babies." Then came Exodus House, born in 2000, back then for boys and girls.... "We were full of handsome boys and cute girls," ... Then came a school and said, "Our school began in Exodus in 2001, but we grew too much and needed a bigger place." Then came Numbers House, born in 2005 – thank you Lord that 'cute' and 'handsome' were separated! This was the start of our Medical Unit and Medical Missions. We have attended to thousands of people all over Colombia. Our teams slept on concrete floors, in hammocks, and attended to patients in rat infested villages. Expectant Mums heard their babies' heartbeats for the first time in the jungle, and lives changed because we cared. Then Leviticus came out, born in 2016 for the 7 to 12 age girls, little princesses. In 2025 Deuteronomy was born, for 7 to 12 age boys. Each child thinks their home is the best, we think they all are. An Amazing 2025 – 5 Homes, a school and a medical unit. The vision completed, Praise God!

At the ceremony, we recognised the many years of hard work, faith and commitment of some special people. For Jeanene's mum, who runs all the US side of Children's Vision, the "Lifetime Achievement Award," honouring a lifetime of Service, Sacrifice and Prayers. She is one of a kind and is happiest when helping. Jeanene received the "Life Impact Award" for being a wife, mum and woman of faith and for work that has impacted thousands of lives. I was surprised to receive the "Dream Builders Award," for serving and building dreams for 25 years, for working hard with compassion and my whole heart (I wasn't going to put that in but Jeanene told me to!) Most importantly though, our children lovingly call me "Daddy Richard," the greatest title of all!

*Serving God, Transforming Lives*

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



# New Hope for Children

We have amazing fruit not only of children who are growing and learning, but of many who love the Lord and want to build their lives on their faith. Nineteen children of their own decision declared their faith through baptism. I couldn't hold the tears back as each one stepped forward and gave their testimony about why they love and follow Jesus and want to build their lives on Him, and then I got to baptise them. The children were nervous, then happy, lots of tears, smiles and wet hugs! The inauguration and baptisms were days to remember as long as we live. Building a family and life changing moments, to bring lifelong transformation.

**Urgent Prayer Request for Funding:** We are being severely affected by recent changes in Colombia. Very suddenly, the Colombian President made an announcement that the minimum wage would increase by 23.7%! This is greatly affecting us, our families and our staff. We don't have resources for such a drastic and unexpected increase. Costs for basic living are going up, and the exchange rate has dropped severely. We are receiving far less Colombian Pesos for our Pounds or US Dollars. Children's Vision currently provides support for 170 children and their families, with all these children enrolled in the school and 121 living in the homes. **We receive no government support and completely depend on donations** to fund 5 homes, a school, a medical centre, evangelism efforts and hunger relief. We have lowered costs in every possible way and took the difficult decision to reduce staffing. To which child could we say, "we need to close a home." We have faith in the goodness of the Lord and believe for an answer in these challenging times.

**If you wish to give here are the details- thank you!**

**Account Name: New Hope for Children, Sort code: 20-62-09, Account No: 23825906.**

Even with this significant financial crisis, we step out in faith and believe to see even more of "the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living." We love to bring life, learning, growing, joy and a future. Here are a few of the stories of our newest children:

We helped a family of five. Twin girls of 11 years old, boys of 10 and 7 years and a full-of-life 2-year-old girl. They had previously left their home with only the clothes on their backs to escape family violence. Boy "A" their little seven-year-old has a severe scar on his neck from a dog bite. He had been told many times that he was "The scraps from the dogs dinner." Just two weeks with us and their lives are being transformed, safety, education, love, respect and food at least three times a day! A team from Northern Ireland was here, and two members of the team were leaving early. Boy "A" was in tears as they left. He told us, "I have never met people as kind as them." Praise God he now lives a different type of life with love and kindness at its heart.

From a neighbourhood of tin shacks, two 10-year-old girls and a little boy of 5 joined us. Their house was just a shack at the point of collapse. Their Mum and Dad work so hard every day just to survive. They have tried their very hardest, even managing to provide two violins and a guitar to their children who love music. Their little faces lit up with joy as we told them they could learn instruments here and be part of our worship team. I can't wait to see the talents that will develop over the coming months. Praise God for a better future!

Jeanene and I were at a local restaurant with one of our visiting teams. A Dad and little boy came into the restaurant selling plastic bags at a small profit for each one, just trying to survive. I felt moved to speak with him and told him, "Come to the foundation we can help you with food." We of course helped him, and he told us that once before he had been offered food at a restaurant who had given them a pizza and laced it with washing powder, how awful. They were a displaced family from over the border in Venezuela and have a 2-year-old boy and a 5-year-old little girl. God has a bigger plan, and now their children are with us from Sunday to Friday. Previously they all lived in one room that was full of mould. Praise God for a hope and an education!

Jeanene arrived for a social work visit at the shack of a little 5-year-old girl who is the sister of one of our boys. She has just been declared free of Leukaemia. As Jeanene walked in she said, "Hello Mama Jeanene." with joy on her face. In her mind she was already living at our house! She has joined us at Children's Vision. Praise God for His healing and a future free of sickness and full of joy!

A huge thank you to you all. There are many needy children who still deserve our help. Please prayerfully consider supporting our work and telling others. Visit our website [www.newhope4childrenuk.org](http://www.newhope4childrenuk.org), or look us up on [www.justgiving.com](http://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!*

Follow us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/newhope4children) (@newhope4children), [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/new_hope_for_children) (@new\_hope\_for\_children) and [X](https://twitter.com/NewHope4Child) (@NewHope4Child).

To book a free presentation of our work please contact: [lynne@newhope4childrenuk.org](mailto:lynne@newhope4childrenuk.org)

*Serving God, Transforming Lives*

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



# NEW HOPE FOR CHILDREN BOARD OF TRUSTEES

*Thank You*

NEW HOPE FOR CHILDREN would like to say:

*Thank You!*

*Thank You!*

THANK YOU TO DAVID HODGSON FOR MANY YEARS OF COMMITMENT AND HARD WORK IN THE POSITIONS OF TRUSTEE AND TREASURER. THANK YOU, DAVID, FOR YOUR DEDICATED SERVICE OVER MANY YEARS.

THANK YOU

*Thank You*

*Thank You!*

## Welcome

WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO SAY A HUGE WELCOME TO THREE NEW MEMBERS OF THE NEW HOPE FOR CHILDREN TRUSTEE GROUP:

MR IAN PENISTONE: TRUSTEE AND TREASURER  
MISS CHRISTINE MAHOOD: TRUSTEE  
MRS JANE WILLIAMS: TRUSTEE

BETWEEN THEM, THEY HAVE EXPERIENCE OF CHARITY TRUSTEESHIP, BUSINESS AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT, PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT AND TEACHING, SO A FANTASTIC MIX OF SKILLS, VERY APPLICABLE FOR NEW HOPE FOR CHILDREN. IT IS A JOY TO HAVE YOU ALL ON BOARD, AND THANK YOU FOR SAYING YES!

*Welcome*



## NEW HOPE FOR CHILDREN is changing its address

With immediate effect, our new address is:



New Hope for Children,  
c/o Whitley Bay Baptist Church,  
Park Avenue,  
Whitley Bay,  
Tyne and Wear.  
NE26 1DX.



Telephone: (0191) 2570313  
Mobile and Whatsapp: 07538 887305



Email: [info@newhope4childrenuk.org](mailto:info@newhope4childrenuk.org)



[www.newhope4childrenuk.org](http://www.newhope4childrenuk.org)



Ann Thicke  
Lifetime Achievement  
Award



Jeanene Thicke  
Exemplary Mother Award



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UK Registered Charity: 1124015

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Supports

Children's Vision  
Bogotá, Colombia



Beautiful Baptism Ceremony



Blessings Building

Beginning of Wisdom  
School

Children's  
Vision Int.

Deuteronomy  
House  
Est. 2025

Number House  
Est. 2005

Leviticus House  
Est. 2016

Exodus House  
Est. 2000

Genesis House  
Est. 1994

## Children's presentation: Our History



Graduation was attended by 500 people



Christmas Angels



Keeping an eye on the snacks

# New Hope For Children **SUPPORTS** Children's Vision

Bogotá, Colombia



**Genesis** ↗ **Exodus** ↘



**Numbers** ↗ **Leviticus** ↘



**Deuteronomy**



**Celebrating the Birth of Jesus**



**Crowns in Heaven**



**Writing their names in the "Book of Life"**



**Humble Homes of those we help**



**Mountain Mission Helping 110 Families**



**Feeding the Hungry**



**External Students**