

CHILD SPONSORSHIP FAQs

Question: What is sponsorship?

Answer: Sponsorship is a method of caring for orphans and vulnerable children in need around the world. Your donation goes to benefit the needs of your sponsored child. Your sponsorship will provide an education, school supplies & uniforms, food, medical care, spiritual encouragement and discipleship. In many cases, your donation provides for a better quality of life than what they would be able to have without your assistance.

Question: How long will sponsorship last?

Answer: Sponsorship typically lasts until the child graduates the program. Graduation is when the child is no longer in secondary school, trade school or university. Occasionally, sponsorship ends for positive reasons, such as the family is able to afford to care for a child and no longer needs assistance. Upon graduation or the child exiting the program, you will be notified of the reason and are welcome to select another child to sponsor. We will provide you with our website link to view all of the children still available for sponsorship at that time.

Question: Will I be able to communicate with my sponsored child?

Answer: YES! Please refer to our Child Sponsorship page for our communication policies under the 'Write Your Sponsored Child'. At this time, we have letter writing cycles twice a year with the children, this is typically around May and November.

Question: Can I sponsor a child with friends or a Sunday School Class or a Small Group?

Answer: Yes, sponsorship can be done by groups. It does help us if payment comes from the same entity each month and the FCW is given one contact person name, address, phone number and e-mail address for us to communicate with.

Question: Can I make extra donations occasionally for Birthdays or Christmas?

Answer: At this time FCW accepts additional donations to help provide Christmas gifts for every child in our orphan care program. If you would like to help make the Christmas holiday very special for the children, please consider making a donation anytime by visiting our website throughout the year. Your donation will go towards a meaningful gift that each child will love.

Question: What if my payment is late?

Answer: Please send your payment as soon as you can, as we count on your donation to maintain a consistent level of support for your child each month. We will attempt to contact you via e-mail or postal mail if your

donation is overdue. If an entire quarter passes without your donation being received, and we receive no correspondence back from you, we will reassign your child to a new sponsor.

Question: Will you send me a reminder when my donations are due?

Answer: We will send out reminders by e-mail or postal mail. However, if you sign up online at www.forgottenchildren.org for the Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) from your checking or savings account or you pay automatically through your credit or debit card, you will no longer need to keep track of when your payment is due. It will come out on the frequency you choose.

Question: What happens if I fall on hard times, and I cannot continue my sponsorship?

Answer: If your circumstances change, we will understand. We may be able to reassign your child to another sponsor to alleviate added financial stress on you. We simply ask that you give us as much notification as possible. When your financial situation improves, we hope you will consider sponsoring another FCW orphan or vulnerable child.

Question: Are my sponsorship donations tax-deductible?

Answer: Yes! Your donations are tax-deductible.

Question: What methods of payment can I use to sponsor a child?

Answer: There are multiple different ways to make your monthly giving for your sponsor child. Please see below the different giving options:

- Check or Cash: You can mail or drop off your payment at our office located at 650 North Main Street, Bluffton, IN 46714.
- Automatic Giving: If you selected automatic giving when choosing your sponsored child on our website, payments will be deducted on the designated day either via credit card or ACH transfer.
- Automatic Bill Payment: Many banking institutions offer automatic bill payment services, allowing you to set up recurring payments directly through your bank.
- Online: Visit Forgottenchildren.org and use our 'Donate Now' feature. Please remember to indicate that your donation is for child sponsorship by leaving a comment during the donation process.

We understand that credit card fees can be incurred with some payment methods. If these fees are not covered, we kindly ask you to consider covering them to ensure that your entire contribution goes toward supporting your sponsored child. Your generosity makes a significant difference in the lives of these children, and we appreciate your ongoing support.

Question: What if I have a change of address?

Answer: Please notify our office if you have a change of address so that you can continue receiving letters from your child as well as other correspondence related to your sponsorship.