



## **Children Sponsorship Program Frequently Asked Questions**

Sponsoring a child through Restoration Gateway (RG) is an excellent way to make an eternal impact and change the trajectory of a life of a vulnerable at-risk child. Your sponsorship will ensure that orphans in Northern Uganda will have a home, get an education, learn job skills, eat healthy food, and have opportunities to hear about the love of Christ. Through the RG sponsorship program, God is continuing to provide opportunities for RG to care for at-risk vulnerable children from various districts throughout Northern Uganda.

### **What children do you care for?**

-We care for vulnerable at-risk children that are genuine orphans. They are directly under the care of RG and they live and attend school on the RG project site. RG is currently caring for 100+ orphans from eight surrounding districts and is currently adding more as orphan homes are completed. Eventually RG will care for 300 orphans.

### **How were the children orphaned?**

-For most of the children at RG, there are a variety of tragic situations or conditions that resulted in the death of both parents. The majority of the children's parents died of HIV/AIDS or complications related to the disease. Many parents lost their lives as a result of the 20 year LRA conflict in Northern Uganda. Other parents have died during child birth, in auto or motorcycle accidents or from other diseases that run rampant in Uganda such as malaria.

### **How much does it cost to sponsor a child?**

-It is \$75 per month to fully sponsor a child. If you cannot afford a full sponsorship, there are partial sponsorships available.

### **What does my monthly sponsorship amount provide for a child?**

- Your monthly sponsorship ensures that your child has:
- A new home, with a bed and belongings of their own
  - Indoor and outdoor recreation areas, playgrounds and soccer fields
  - All meals
  - Clothing
  - Stipend for their house mom
  - Salaries for their teachers
  - School books and supplies
  - Free medical care provided by RG

### **What is my role as a RG child sponsor?**

-When you commit to sponsoring a child, you play an integral part in helping to holistically care for the future and well being of your child. Your regular donations and prayers directly impact your child and help to equip them as they receive an education and are exposed to and experience the love of Christ.

### **Can I write the child I sponsor?**

-Yes. You can write and receive letters from your child, and you are encouraged to do so. When you sign up to become a sponsor, you'll receive some letter writing guidelines to use for communicating with your child.

### **Can I visit the child I sponsor?**

-Yes. We can arrange a visit for you and your family to visit the child you have sponsored.

### **How does my gift or letter reach my sponsored child?**

-You send your letter or gift to RG's stateside mailing address: Restoration Gateway, 4300 W. Waco Dr. B2-314, Waco, Texas 76710. When RG receives the gift or letter you send for your child, we then send it directly to RG where your child lives with individuals and teams that travel to RG.

### **How will I receive updates or correspondence from my sponsored child?**

-Our goal at Restoration Gateway is to update each child sponsor twice per year, with at least one update including a new picture and a handwritten letter from the child to their sponsor. Just like with our sponsors, we strongly encourage each child to write to their sponsor at least once per year, preferably twice per year. If there is a change in the life of the child you sponsor, we will attempt to update you as quickly as possible after being notified by our staff in Uganda. Some examples of instances where additional updates would be given are: if the child leaves the home for any reason, becomes very ill, etc...

### **May I send my child a special gift or care package?**

-Yes. However, we ask that you limit gifts to small, flat items that can fit in a No. 10 envelope (4<sup>1/8</sup>"x9"). Be creative when sending items to your child, even the smallest and seemingly insignificant gift will be treasured by your sponsored child for years to come. Some ideas of things to send are: bookmarks, postcards, hair ribbons or small barrettes, sheets of stationary paper, pictures to color, a photo of yourself and/or your family, a picture drawn or colored by your own children, etc...

### **How can I pray for my sponsored child?**

-Praying for your child can be as important as your monthly donations. Many children come from a religious background that is not Christianity. Although each child is taught about God and His love for them, it may take time for the child to understand the gift they have been given in Jesus. Below are prayer points for children in our sponsorship program:

- Pray for understanding that they may know the sacrifice made for them and accept Christ as their Savior.
- Pray for emotional, physical and spiritual healing from any situation they may have been in prior to coming to RG.
- Pray for good health, as many were malnourished before coming to RG and came from family situations where there was a lack of nutritious food and clean water.
- Pray that your child will excel in school so that they can break the chains of poverty that has held their family. Pray that they will be able to learn a trade to support themselves as they grow older.
- Pray for any specific requests that the child may send in their letter to you and pray in general for your child daily, just as you do your own children and family.
- Pray for the RG home your child is in, that all of their needs will be met, and for your child's school program at RG's Oaks of Righteousness school that your sponsored child is in.
- Pray for the safety of the RG project site, RG's school staff and children and protection from those who oppose God.

### **What will happen if I can no longer sponsor my child?**

-Please let us know immediately if you are unable to continue sponsoring your child. As soon as we are notified, we will begin searching for a new sponsor to ensure the child will be able to continue in the program.

**What will happen if the child I sponsor leaves the program?**

-If the child you are sponsoring should leave the program for any reason, we will notify you and send a sponsor packet for a new child to sponsor. If you have automatic withdraw set up for your monthly sponsorship donation, if you choose to continue your sponsorship with a new child, we will update the donation to be contributing to the new child effective immediately.

**What information should I not share?**

-Your personal contact information such as home or work addresses, email addresses and phone numbers, material items that you own such as the type of home you have or car you drive, photos or comments that depict or suggest behavior that is not consistent with God's Word, telling your child that you want them to come to America or want to bring them to America, telling your child you will come to see them,... (they will expect you on the next plane out!).