



If you hope for  
change in the  
world...

**Will it.**



I hope it. **I Will it.**

A Christian Aid guide to gifts in Wills

Hope is an  
unstoppable force.

Hope unites us.

Hope fuels action.

Hope makes  
change possible.

Turn your lifetime  
of hope into the  
change you want to  
see in the world with  
a gift in your Will.

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Cover image: Vimbainashe and Phaniel are playing a game with their friends, just outside their home in Chadanyika village, Mashonaland East Province of Zimbabwe.

## A gift of hope

Christian Aid's work is only possible because people like you put their hope into action. The donations, prayers, volunteering hours, fundraising and campaigning of the Christian Aid community unites us and is an unstoppable force. Thank you for your generosity which has already made an incredible difference to so many people, including Denise who you can read about on page 8.



Yet, in many parts of our world, poverty and injustice continue to be the daily experience of millions of people – people who are mums and dads, people who are brothers and sisters, people young and old. As you know Christian Aid works to make a difference to communities in need, from responding to disasters, to supporting people's livelihoods. We also work to overcome the root causes of poverty, such as when power is abused and when women are marginalised. Our partnership approach means our programmes are embedded in local contexts, and impact the hardest-to-reach communities in some of the world's most challenging environments.

In leaving a gift in your Will to Christian Aid, you can take a lifetime of hope and turn it into change that matters. A gift from you can become a harvest, a sustainable livelihood, lasting hope for communities all over the world. As you turn the pages of this guide, you will read how gifts in Wills can translate hope into lasting change, by supporting communities who are overcoming poverty and injustice to build a better life for themselves.

I know that leaving a gift in your Will can be a big decision. This guide is here to help you, and show that making or updating a Will can be simpler than you might think. If you have any questions, please do get in touch with our friendly Legacy team. Their contact details are on the back page.

So if you hope for change in the world, please Will it, and create change far beyond your lifetime.

God Bless,

**Rosamond Bennett,**  
Chief Executive of Christian Aid Ireland

# A history of hope

## How hope has changed the world

Over the years, our faith and hope have united us. But faith alone is not enough to make poverty a thing of the past. As a community, we have a history of turning faith and hope into action to create lasting, impactful change for those facing poverty.

From our beginnings, organising the first Christian Aid week in 1957, to 2022, when after 30 years of

loss and damage campaigning, we helped bring about a historic agreement at COP27 – it's incredible to see what we have achieved together so far.

A gift in your Will enables us to continue transforming hope into action, ensuring that global communities have access to the education and skills to thrive.

### 1950s

In the 1950s, we helped establish the Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) programme to enable young people to make a difference.

### 1960s

In the 1960s, we addressed racism and poverty in the US, and advised Martin Luther King while he was in the UK.

### 1980s

In the 1980s, we helped deliver food to communities in crisis during the famine in Ethiopia, and to those experiencing drought in Mozambique.

Together we supported the creation of the Southern African Coalition, to demand an end to apartheid.

Safia Galgalo, with her son, Abudho galgalo Sori and her niece, Jilo sago at their home in Adi huka village in Marsabit county.



### 1990s

In the 1990s, we helped to challenge the stigma and discrimination experienced by people living with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa.



### 2000s

In the 2000s we helped establish the Jubilee 2000, an international coalition campaigning to cancel \$100 million of debt in the global South.

In 2004, we helped get food, shelter and healthcare to more than 500,000 people after the Asian Tsunami.

### 2010s

Throughout the 2010s we campaigned against climate change and championed tax justice. In Northern Ireland we chaired the IF campaign to build awareness of the link between global hunger and the structural causes of poverty.

### Now

Now, you can leave everlasting hope, with a gift in your Will to continue this important work and help create a fairer world for generations to come.

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# Leaving a gift in your will of any size can make a big impact

Gifts in Wills make up a strong portion of voluntary donations to Christian Aid Ireland. These gifts are from supporters like you, who choose to transform their lifetime of hope into lasting change. Here are just some of the stories of people whose lives have been changed as a result.

## Elizabeth's story

Elizabeth Lornenge is a grandmother and widow who, through sheer fortitude of will, manages to care for her three grandchildren while suffering from diabetes. Elizabeth was sadly left in this difficult position after the passing of both of the grandchildren's parents several years before.

With employment opportunities scarce and no source of income, Elizabeth Lornenge struggles to care for seven-year-old Mary, four-year-old Dookenger, and her grandson, three-year-old Oryina. With kind assistance

from neighbours Elizabeth is able to provide sufficient food to her three precious grandchildren.

Elizabeth's family was one of 368 households to receive a hygiene kit as part of an aid distribution funded by Christian Aid's Covid appeal. The hygiene kits were tailored for each household and included soap, hand sanitiser and face masks to protect them from the spread of Coronavirus as well as nappies and sanitary pads. The provision of this kit allowed Elizabeth and her family to follow

good hygiene practices, and crucially Elizabeth was able to focus her spending on other family essentials such as food, transport and seedlings to grow nutritious vegetables.

## Salamatu's story

Even before the pandemic, widow Salamatu struggled with a monthly wage that didn't make ends meet and sometimes didn't come at all. This meant she would often struggle to feed, clothe and care for a household of eight.

During the Covid pandemic, Salamatu accessed money from NALPER, a rapid response project from Christian Aid, supporting vulnerable households and giving access to basic needs, safeguarding them from the impact of lockdowns.

Thanks to the NAPLER project, Salamatu was finally able to receive the financial backing to support her entrepreneurial spirit. She managed to start her own business, providing daily meals for her community and a stable source of income for her family.



Salamatu Abdulhai is in Zaria, Nigeria.



Elizabeth Lornenge is with her three grandchildren, at their home in Usar community, Nigeria.

## Meet Denise

Denise, a mother of seven who lives in Burundi, was deeply concerned for her children's health. She sought professional advice from a local health clinic called Agents of Change, that is funded by gifts in Wills. Denise's children were diagnosed with severe anaemia and received medical treatment.

Denise told us: 'After a while, my anaemic children, for whom the doctor had recommended a blood transfusion, recovered.'

Denise later joined the village savings and loans association, an economic empowerment programme that provides community members with the skills and support they need to grow their incomes. With guidance and a business loan, Denise bought a goat. She told us: 'A year later, my



goats had multiplied to nine... I am very happy. I participated in farming school and started to produce vegetables with my children. I set up a vegetable business thanks to a loan, which allowed me to buy sweet potato and beans that I mixed with vegetables to make balanced meals.'

As a result of the Burundi community project funded by gifts in Wills, nearly 2,500 households can now grow their own vegetables, and more than 3,800 women can access community schemes to pay for the essentials they need.

A gift in your Will could do so much, from providing urgent medical care to children, to kick-starting a small business like Denise's, changing the course of a family's future.

**'Thanks to the project I am doing well. I am giving a balanced diet to my children, and my household has been saved and is doing well economically'**

## Meet Jane, a Christian Aid supporter

'Being able to help in a small way, with a gift in my Will, makes me happy.'

Jane grew up in a family where world affairs were often discussed, and charitable work was a big part of their lives. From a young age, she helped her mother with door-to-door collections for Christian Aid, and since then, Jane has never looked back.

Jane has remembered Christian Aid in her Will as a way to continue acting on her values, to enable everlasting hope and support for many years to come when she is no longer around.

'In the world there is no them and us, there is only us. I hope for a world with no famine, no injustice, no violence, no refugees, no wars. None of that. I hope for the day that Christian Aid is no longer needed.'

**I hope it. I Will it.**

**'I hope for the day that Christian Aid is no longer needed'**



# Meet Knowledge Chikondo

Knowledge is a 35-year-old farmer who lives with his wife and three children in Kondo Village, Zimbabwe. Knowledge struggled to make a living as a farmer until he was helped by a Christian Aid project called BRACKT.

Knowledge explains: 'When I first started farming, life was really tough. The weather was erratic. Some years we received decent rainfall but other years we got only a few very intense storms then nothing.'

BRACKT visited his village to identify the types of wild fruit that were available, such as Nhengeni. When collected and dried correctly Nhengeni seeds are valuable as they contain oil which can be extracted for use in cosmetics.

Knowledge and his wife were trained on harvesting

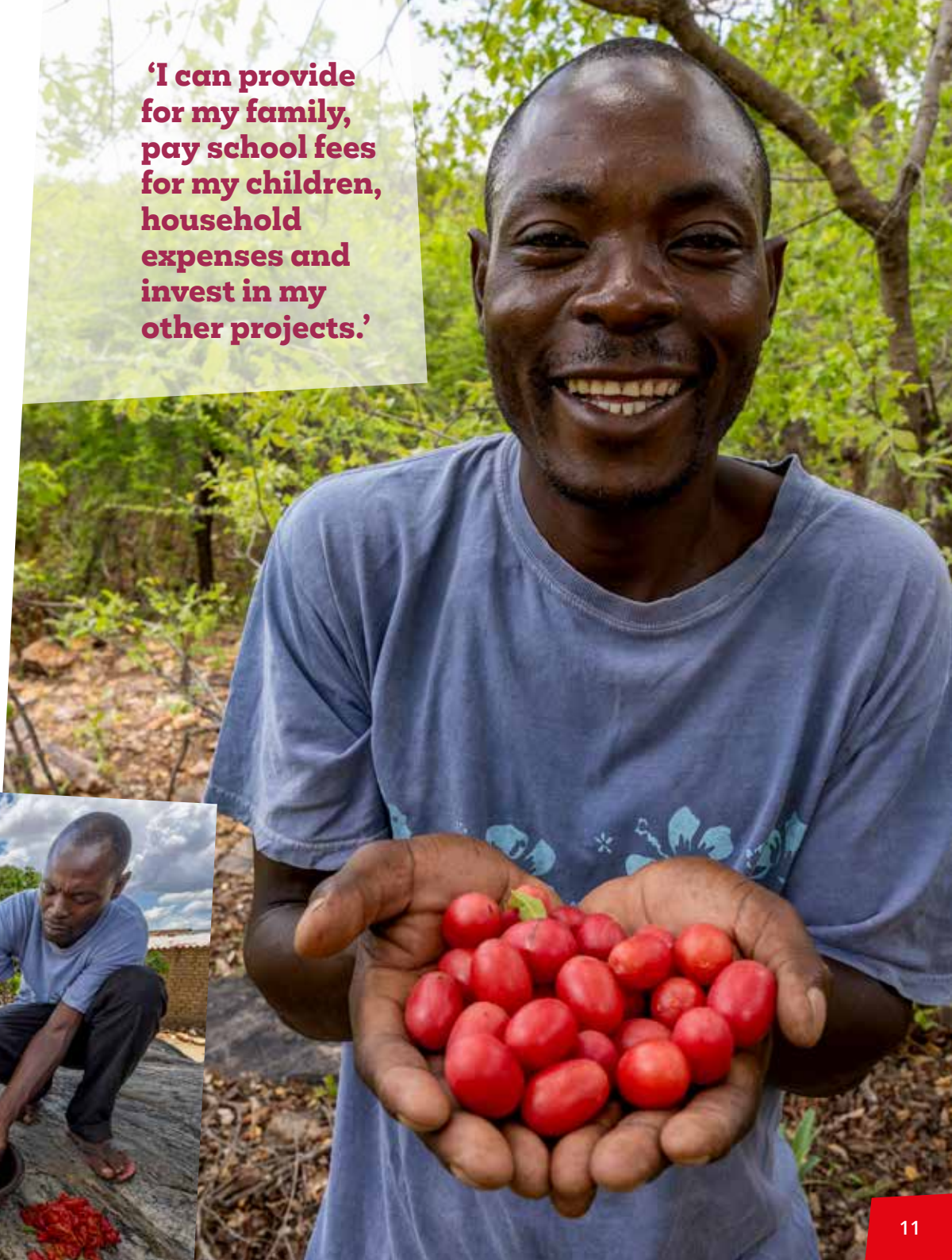
and preparing the seeds. Knowledge explains that 'To process the fruit, I have to remove the skin and wash the seed. I have to put the seed in a cloth bag and scrub it on the rock with sand. When the seed is clean, we sort it to remove any that are poor quality.'

Knowledge has also received training from another partner involved with the BRACKT project, and is now also a capable welder. This provides him with an alternative source of income, and he is part of a group that shares welding equipment.

Knowledge says 'I can provide for my family, pay school fees for my children, household expenses and invest in my other projects.'

Knowledge feels that his participation in the project has raised his standing in the community and he is better respected. He hopes to save enough money to buy a welding kit of his own and set up a welding business.

**'I can provide for my family, pay school fees for my children, household expenses and invest in my other projects.'**



# How to leave a gift in your Will

We understand that deciding to leave a gift in your Will is an important decision. You may find it helpful to speak with family and friends first, and if you have any questions, our Legacy team are happy to help.

## Three simple steps:

# 1

## Consider the type of gift you'd like to leave.

There are three main types of gift that can be left in a Will:

**Specific** - an object or property

**Pecuniary** - a fixed amount of money

**Residuary\*** - a share of your estate, the value of which is calculated after all other gifts and expenses have been paid.

It's important to give our correct details to your solicitor or Will writer. They'll need our registered charity number and address as follows:

**Northern Ireland**  
**Christian Aid Ireland**  
**Linden House**  
**96 Beechill Road**  
**Belfast, BT8 7QN**

Charity number: **NIC101631**  
Company number: **NI059154**

**Republic of Ireland**  
**Christian Aid Ireland**  
**19 Denzille Lane**  
**Dublin 2**  
**D02 WT72**

Charity number: **20014162**  
Company number: **426928**

\* This is the most common type of gift left to Christian Aid. It enables you to take care of all your other beneficiaries and financial responsibilities first.

# 2

## Find a will writing service.

It is advisable to use a solicitor or have a solicitor check your Will to make sure it will have the lasting effect you want. You could ask your friends and family for recommendations or find a local solicitor through one of the following directories:

**The Law Society of Northern Ireland:** [www.lawsoc-ni.org](http://www.lawsoc-ni.org)

**The Law Society of Ireland:** [www.lawsociety.ie](http://www.lawsociety.ie)

If you live in Northern Ireland, another source of information is Will to Give, their website and social media channels have resources and guidance to support you in your decision to write a Will and leave a charitable gift.

**will to give** 

In the Republic of Ireland, My Legacy is an organisation working to make legacy giving the norm in Ireland. Their website has useful information on Will writing, and each year they run a campaign to increase the power of legacy giving to benefit future society.

**my legacy** 

# 3

## Appoint your executor/s

Your executor will be responsible for carrying out the instructions in your Will. You can appoint more than one. An executor can be any person you know and trust. They might be a friend, relative or your solicitor.



Visit [caid.ie/giftsinwills](http://caid.ie/giftsinwills) for more information

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# FAQs

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## Why do I need a Will?

Your Will is your last opportunity to provide for the people and causes you've cared about in your lifetime. It is a legal document that clarifies your wishes regarding the distribution of your property and finances. Without a Will, those wishes may not be carried out.

## What wording should I use in my Will?

We always recommend you seek the advice of a solicitor regarding the best way to word your Will. However you may find the suggested wording helpful: I leave £/€ \_\_\_ or \_\_\_% share of my residuary estate to Christian Aid Ireland, for its general charitable purposes and I declare that the receipt of the treasurer or other proper officer for the time being shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors.

## Will the gift in my Will be charged inheritance tax?

Your gift to Christian Aid will be exempt from inheritance tax, so

it can help to reduce the tax burden on your friends or family. Your solicitor will explain how to make your Will as tax efficient as possible.

## How much of my gift will go to people living in poverty?

Whatever the size, your gift will go to various programmes enabling families and communities worldwide to free themselves from poverty. Our supporters usually choose to leave a gift in general, so we can use it wherever the need is greatest. However, if there's a particular programme you'd like your donation to support, please get in touch with us, and we'll be happy to discuss it with you.

## Can I change my mind?

Yes, of course. You can change your Will by making an official alteration called a codicil. You must sign a codicil and get it witnessed in the same way as witnessing a Will.







If you're considering remembering Christian Aid in your Will, thank you. You can be sure that your gift will be used wherever it is needed most, and your kindness will be felt for generations to come.

We understand that your Will can be a personal matter. However, letting us know about your intended gift can help us to plan our work more effectively. More importantly, it means we can thank you for your generous support in your lifetime.

**Together, we WILL bring about the change we want to see in the world.**

**I hope it. I Will it.**

To find out more about remembering Christian Aid in your Will, contact our friendly Legacy team in complete confidence.

Phone: **Belfast: 028 9064 8133 / Dublin: 01 496 70 40**

Email: **giftsinwills@christian-aid.org**



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