



Global
Care

News from Global Care and our partner projects

Spring 2026

NEWSBRIEF

LAUNCHPAD FOR LIFE

Zimbabwe

When young people leave home, independent living can be a shock.

When young people are forced to leave home because, at 18, they are now 'too old' to stay, it can be a recipe for disaster.

In such cases, the transition to independent living may be too hard to handle, and the young person pays a huge personal, social or emotional price.

This Lent, we would like to develop a better option for young men aging out of the Houtberg Childcare Centre (HCC), a residential shelter with which we have partnered for many years in Zimbabwe.

Pictured: John White (CEO), Pastors Henry and Mishack on the land laid aside for the transitional home.

the problem

HCC is a residential shelter for young people without a safe family to care for them.

However, to comply with social services' safeguarding rules, once a young person legally becomes an adult at the age of 18, they are no longer allowed to stay at the Centre.

This is incredibly challenging, for multiple practical, emotional and social reasons. The most recent young man to leave HCC in these circumstances really struggled. His rent alone cost two thirds of his small apprenticeship wage and he found solo living very isolating, compared to living with over 20 children and young people at HCC, and with no other family support.

This Lent we want to raise **£22,000** to build, furnish and equip a transitional home for young men leaving HCC.

There are currently three young men who desperately need this support, who are all 18+, living in temporary accommodation arrangements which are less than ideal.



Can you help us?
Give now at
[globalcare.org/
Lent-2026](https://globalcare.org/Lent-2026)

the solution

We want to build a transitional home on land owned by HCC, a simple three bedroom house with a latrine, for up to three young men at a time, each staying for two years.

For the first year they would live rent-free, but during the second year they would contribute to rent and other bills. They would have to cook, farm the land, and look after the property, all in preparation for full independence, but they will also be offered training and support in managing independent living, through the oversight of the HCC team.



working



household skills



farming

The team at HCC believe this will provide a structured, supportive transition to independence, helping young people move forward in a planned, secure way.

“The boys are often reticent to leave the home at 18, and the shift to adulthood can be overwhelming without adequate support”, explains HCC’s Pastor Henry.

“This is a crucial step in ensuring that boys who age out of the childcare system have a safe and structured path to independence, reducing the risks of homelessness, unemployment, and social isolation.

“Through this initiative, we aim to empower these young men with the tools they need to build successful and fulfilling lives.”

Global Care has experience with this type of initiative, as we delivered a similar programme for young people leaving the Home of Hope – a residential home we ran in Romania until 2016.

CEO John White, who oversaw the programme in Romania and oversees the work at HCC, says the lessons learned in Romania will be invaluable in Zimbabwe.

“Outcomes in Romania were incredibly encouraging,” he recalls. “Most of our Romanian young people were able to step into adult life without the chaos and adverse experiences which we know happen for care-leavers, even here in the UK. This success was all down to the stability and support offered through the transitional homes we established, and the dedication of staff.

“We know we can replicate this in Zimbabwe, and the HCC team are very keen to remove the ‘cliff edge’ which the current system creates for their young people, and instead deliver a stable, supportive transition to adulthood.”

What about Girls?

We are planning to provide a similar facility for girls in the future, with higher levels of security and a live-in matron to guarantee safety.

Currently there are three boys in urgent need of this provision. In contrast, the girls at HCC aged 16-17 are attending top boarding schools, so their pathway to independence is likely to be different.



LAUNCHPAD For Lenny

18-year-old *Lenny has lived at HCC for more than ten years.

His memories of life before HCC are fading, but he remembers the scarcity of food and clothing, and a long trek to fetch water every day.

At HCC he celebrates having three meals a day, clothing, friends, security and a stable place to learn. He loves to play football and HCC has given him opportunities to compete.

Lenny recently completed a vocational training course in carpentry and hopes to make a living with his skills.

Since he had to move out of the boys' dormitory, he's been living temporarily in a room on the HCC site with another young man who is too old to stay at HCC. It's not a sustainable solution for either of them, or for HCC.

Lenny will be one of the first residents in the proposed new independent living home.

MEETING NEEDS NOW shaping futures to come

***Neham (pictured on our front cover) and his older brother (pictured right) have lived at HCC for three years.**

They came to Houtberg after their mother abandoned them and left them with their alcoholic father, who failed to provide even the most basic necessities, like food, and went missing for long periods, leaving his two young sons home alone.



Social workers couldn't find family members to take them in, but found a place of safety for the boys at HCC. They're at school, they love playing football, they both hate to be alone – but at HCC there is always someone there for them.

One day, they too will benefit from the new transitional home we want to build this Lent.

Your donations this Lent will help young men like Lenny, and boys like Neham who will follow him, step into adulthood successfully.



Thank you for giving generously today, to transform their tomorrows.

globalcare.org/Lent-2026

Legacies for Life

Zimbabwe

A recent legacy gift is enabling us to restore running water and important irrigation systems at the Houtberg Childcare Centre in Zimbabwe.

The pump servicing the borehole on the centre's land was broken and funds were not available to fix it. Instead, children and staff had to fetch water by hand, both for personal use and agriculture.

Even a small legacy gift can make a tremendous difference in the lives of vulnerable children across the world.

Thanks to a recent legacy gift, we have now been able to release the necessary funds – around £700 – for a new submersible pump to meet this important need.

Soon we expect the boys' and girls' dormitories and shower rooms to have running water again, and the irrigation systems to be back on stream. This will improve the amount and quality of food the centre can grow, which both feeds the children and generates income when surplus crops are sold.

CEO John White said: *"We value all our donors, as we know we couldn't achieve anything without their ongoing support. So it's very special privilege when a donor chooses to ensure that their commitment to vulnerable children in life continues, by remembering us in their will."*

We love to see the impact such gifts can make and will always steward them wisely."

FREE WILL OFFERING

You can now write your will for free and help us rewrite the futures of vulnerable children for years to come!

We're launching an exciting initiative in partnership with expert estate planners, Octopus Legacy, so our supporters can write or update their will for free.

The cost of your will is covered by us up to £150, so

you can write or update a simple will for free, or if you need a more complex will, for example with a trust, you can do so at a discounted rate.

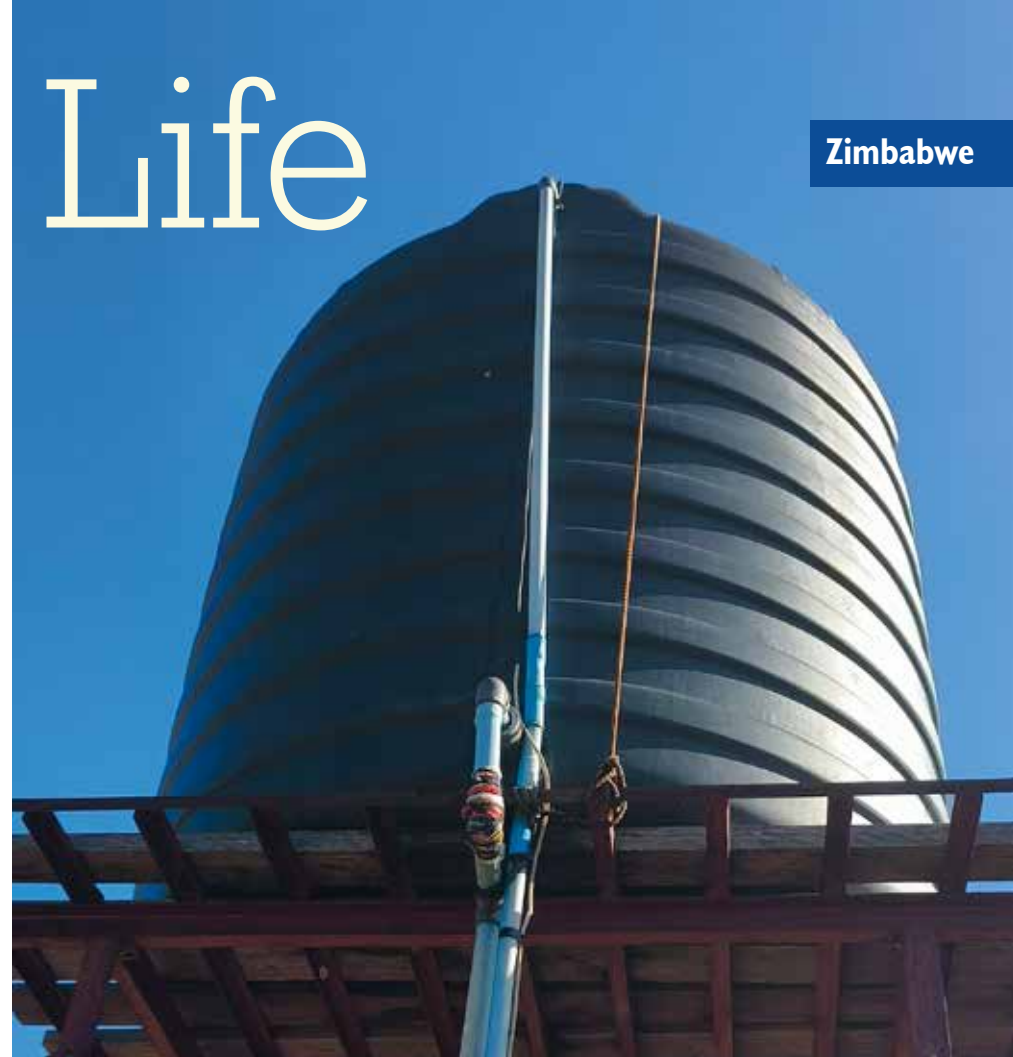
You can choose to do it online, over the phone, or in person - at home or in branch – all methods are covered by the partnership offer.

Leaving a gift in your will can help your values live on, helping Global Care to keep fighting poverty, challenging injustice, and, above all, ensuring vulnerable children can thrive.

Many people choose to leave a gift in their will, but there is no obligation to do so.

Call Octopus Legacy directly on **020 4525 3605** and quote Global Care, or go to will.octopuslegacy.com/globalcare

Scan here to go directly to our page on Octopus Legacy



POWER TO THE

Children at our partners' Hope Centre in Syria are enjoying a transformed learning environment, thanks to a generous Global Care donor.

The centre now has reliable electricity, light, ventilation, running water and refurbished toilets and classrooms, thanks to the installation of a solar power system and significant repairs to the building.

The improvements have been a huge source of encouragement for staff and children alike, after a very challenging year.

The conflict precipitating the fall of former president Bashar Assad in December 2024 forced the Hope Centre to close for a week, but apart from this, staff have kept the centre open through some extremely turbulent times.

Although the long-running civil war was officially declared over with the fall of the Assad government, conflict continues to rumble.

Jaramana, the area of Damascus where the Hope Centre is based, is

home to a large Druze population as well as Orthodox Christians, and when conflict between Druze militia and new government forces broke out in southern Syria in the summer, the government clamped down on movement in and out of Jaramana.

CEO John White says: *"This was an extremely difficult period, and our partners deserve huge credit for keeping the Hope Centre going through everything, because of their commitment to the children and families they serve."*

Over 100 children attend the Hope Centre, which helps especially vulnerable children with basic numeracy and literacy skills in Arabic and English, alongside therapeutic support, which is essential to help traumatized children access learning.

The centre offers a safe place to learn, play and receive therapeutic interventions, helping children manage and complete primary education, and supporting families.

However, before the installation

of solar panels, power cuts meant electricity was often only available for three in every 24 hours, with perhaps only one hour of electricity while the centre was open.

As many of the centre's rooms are windowless, the power cuts meant lighting was inadequate and air quality poor. Computers and phones couldn't be charged, access to printers and photocopiers was unreliable and projection equipment couldn't be used, affecting lessons and activities. Availability of water – which must be pumped to the centre – was also affected by power outages, affecting sanitation.

However, thanks to one donor's gift, these problems have been solved, making a huge impact on the quality of facilities and improving opportunities for learners.

The new solar system on the centre's roof provides all the electricity needed to meet the daily needs of the Hope Centre, improving lighting, ventilation, sanitation and the teaching and learning experience.



PEOPLE



Syria



At the same time a major refurbishment of the centre's main rooms took place, removing and repairing damp plaster, and installing new toilets and sinks. New tables and chairs were purchased, and floor tiles polished using specialist cleaning equipment.

"Bright lighting in the classroom creates more activity, positive energy and enthusiasm."



Our partners say the work has *"made a huge difference"*. They say: *"Solar energy has improved air quality, creating a healthy environment for staff and students... Water quality has significantly improved and bright lighting in the classrooms creates more activity, positive energy, and enthusiasm."*

"The refurbishment means the premises now have a much more pleasant appearance, reflecting positively on the education and working environment and its output. Thank you - it was a great blessing!"



"Our only outlet, our hope and our strength"

***Aiza, a mum of four, whose two daughters attend the centre, says the Hope Centre has been a rock for her vulnerable family to build on. "You are our only outlet, our hope and our strength", she said.**

Aiza was left with serious mental health issues after being kidnapped and beaten to give up the whereabouts of her husband, during Syria's long-running conflict. The terrified family fled to Damascus but couldn't outrun the ongoing impact of their traumatic experiences.

Aiza's oldest daughter developed a serious stutter and was selectively mute when she first came to the Hope Centre. Aiza herself was consumed by her trauma, by anxiety and the ongoing challenges of displacement and poverty.

But over time, both Aiza and her daughters found hope at the Hope Centre, through attuned, trauma-informed teaching, counselling, care and support. Here, in their own words, they found *"hope and strength"*.

Thank you to all the donors who continue to support the Hope Centre.



You can help more families like Aiza and her girls, as a Syria Change-Maker. Find out more at globalcare.org/Syria



“WITHOUT YOUR HELP WE WOULD HAVE NOTHING”

11-year-old *Vinita’s parents came to Patripul looking for work, as village life in Uttar Pradesh became untenable.

Unfortunately work proved hard to find, and the outlook for this family of six was grim. But then they met the GCare team.

As with so many other families, involvement with our partners has proved to be a turning point.

The team helped Vinita’s dad get a job in a clothes shop, meaning he was able to rent a room in Patripul. It’s not quality accommodation, but it’s a secure roof over their heads.

The team also worked hard to get the children into school, donating everything they would need to get started – books, pencils, water bottles, school bags, tiffins (lunch boxes), even rechargeable study lamps.

When the children finish school they attend the GCare Centre, for extra help with learning and a healthy snack. They are settled, safe, and doing well in school.



“Without your help, we would have nothing”, says Vinita’s Dad. “We were struggling even to get the one-time food, I couldn’t even think about my children’s education. GCare helped me to get the job, GCare helped to get admission in school, and took us in the GCare Centre - not only that my children got all their study materials and even lamps.

“Thank you GCare for your help – without your help we would have nothing.”

Recently 11-year-old Vinita celebrated her birthday – and the children at the GCare centre celebrated with her, with a cake – just look at her smile!

Children in Patripul rarely have the chance to celebrate their special day, as parents can’t afford luxuries like gifts and cake. But if you’re a Patripul Change-Maker, you should take credit for that smile - without your support, the GCare team wouldn’t have the resources to help

children like Vinita and their families. Thank you so much for your faithful generosity!

Want to help children like Vinita?
Become a Change-Maker in Patripul
today. Visit globalcare.org/patripul



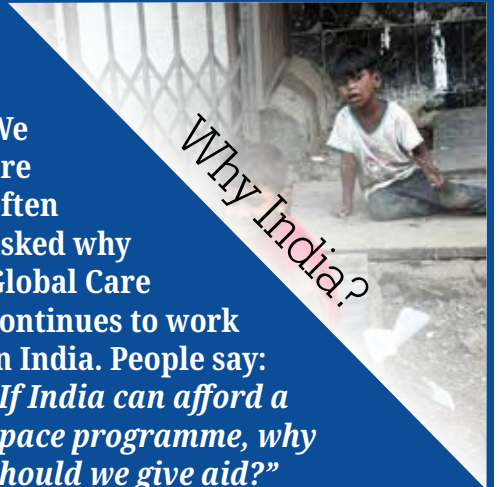
We are often asked why Global Care continues to work in India. People say: *“If India can afford a space programme, why should we give aid?”*

It’s true that wealth in India is on the rise, but don’t assume this wealth trickles down to India’s poor. With a population of 1.5 billion, the country is still ranked in the bottom third of developing countries, according to the UN.

Extreme poverty is still common, and the discrimination enshrined in Indian culture - due to the ancient caste system - ensures it will continue. Even though caste discrimination is officially illegal, Dalit people, as members of the lowest caste, are routinely ignored, abused and exploited.

As Global Care remains committed to helping the MOST vulnerable children, we cannot ignore the plight of despised Dalit children, even as India grows in power on the world stage.

Why India?



NO TEARS NOW

Aashi's story

11-year-old *Aashi's parents wouldn't let her go to school. "What's the point of educating girls?" they said.

She knew of other girls at school and it made her sad. Aashi says she often wept.

One day she was sitting on the doorstep of their shack in Patripul, when a member of the GCare team walked past.



The rest, as they say, is history. The GCare team approached Aashi's parents. They still refused to send her to school but agreed she could start attending a GCare Centre.

"GCare opened the eyes of my parents and said boys and girls are equal in the sight of God."

Aashi is thriving there. In fact, she is doing so well, and learning so much, that her parents are coming round to the idea that education for girls is perhaps not such a pointless thing.

The team hope to start Aashi at a Hindi school in the next few months. *"In our community girls are not respected, and not given any importance,"* says Aashi.

"I was left alone. But GCare came and opened the eyes of my parents and said boys and girls are equal in the sight of God. Thank you GCare!"

Aashi wants to be a nurse. Thanks to the GCare team she now has a chance to succeed.



Why Patripul?

Patripul, where our partners work, is home to thousands of Dalit families from across India. They came to Mumbai looking for work and ended up here, in cramped shacks on illegally-held land.

Patripul has no water supply and no sewage system. Social problems such as alcoholism are common, and medical care is inadequate. Unemployment is high and many rely on low-paid casual work, begging or illegal activities.

Education gives children the potential to escape poverty, but few children in Patripul receive a good education. Dalit children face segregation and violation of basic rights in school. Girls are often expected to marry young. Many families may send their children out to work or beg.

Our partners believe all children deserve the chance to break free of the poverty and prejudice which binds them. They run three centres in Patripul providing basic education and homework support for up to 250 disadvantaged children, and advocate for Dalit children in schools, and even in their own families.

Change-Makers are regular donors giving £20 per month or more to support the work of projects like the GCare Centres in Patripul and the Hope Centre in Syria.

We are desperately in need of more Change-Makers willing to give in support of both these initiatives, as the cost of running these wonderful centres is far higher than the regular income we receive. Each year we rely on trusts, one-off gifts and legacies to make up the difference.



If you'd like to help more children like Vinita and Aashi with a regular donation, please go to globalcare.org/patripul or phone us on 030 030 21 030.

Be a Change-Maker

feeding the hungry, helping the sick

South Sudan A grant of just over £6,000 paid for essential food and medicines for children at Thurlith School in South Sudan, in the face of a widespread cholera outbreak.

The outbreak started during a period of flooding, resulting in mass displacement and overcrowding in communities receiving internally displaced families. This accelerated the spread of the disease, affecting nine out of ten states in South Sudan.

Thurlith School, run by Global Care's partners, the Anglican Diocese of Abyei, is in a desperately unstable part of South Sudan, which is itself one of the most fragile countries in the world.



The area struggles with internal tribal conflict and is also home to thousands of refugees and returnees from the war in Sudan.

Healthcare is extremely limited, so the medicines supplied by Global Care were crucial in supporting the 450 pupils at the school win the fight against cholera, malaria and other diseases. Our partners thanked us for the grant: *"We successfully treated every child whenever there was a need for medication. This made it possible to control a risk of cholera, pneumonia, malaria, typhoid and diarrhoea infection for the children at the school as a whole."*

In addition to the medicines, which cost £2,250 from our Children at Risk funds, a further grant of £3,805 from our emergency funds paid for three months of feeding at school for 150 children who had missed out on a distribution by the World Food Programme (WFP).

Thurlith became eligible for feeding through the WFP thanks to previous investment from Global Care, however the WFP distribution was not enough to feed everyone, as numbers at the

12-year-old *Adut made a good recovery from both cholera and malaria, thanks to Global Care's donation of food and medicine.

Adut is an unaccompanied child refugee from Sudan, now living at Thurlith School compound under the care of the diocese, with several other unaccompanied child refugees.



school kept rising. The food supplied by Global Care plugged the gap, to ensure every child was fed until the next WFP distribution.

10-year-old *Tamaya's family fled fighting in Sudan in May 2024, finally ending up in Thurlith in mid-2025, where staff at the school found Tamaya, her mum and four siblings, begging in the marketplace.

"They were suffering from acute hunger, and at high risk of disease," say our partners. Thanks to the Global Care and the team at Thurlith, Tamaya and her siblings are now able to access food and medicine, as well as returning to education for the first time since their lives imploded.



A VERY HAPPY Christmas



...IN GUATEMALA

A huge thank you goes to all our supporters for your generosity at Christmas.

You smashed our target for our Christmas Appeal – the biggest in recent memory – donating a wonderful £67,787 to help us improve facilities at the Casa Club in Santa Faz, Guatemala City, and to help more street-connected children.

Our partners in Guatemala are delighted with the news that this initiative can now go ahead: *“We can feel God’s blessing on our ministry in Guatemala, and the excitement among the entire team is palpable,”* director Frank told us. *“Words cannot express how*

“All of you, as donors, are just as much a part of this change as we are.”
Frank, Guatemala

grateful our hearts are - we know this will transform the lives of many children living at high risk. All of you, as donors, are just as much a part of this change as we are, working directly with the children every day. God bless you!”

Thank you so much to everyone who donated - we look forward to keeping you updated with news of how this project is impacting young lives.



Guatemala



Zambia

...IN INDIA

You also donated a wonderful £7,734 through our alternative gifts programme – again the most we have raised via alternative gifts.

These donations will deliver 275 solar lamps for marginalised families without electricity or safe lighting, essential school equipment for 150 children at the GCare Centres in Patripul, India, and a magnificent 78 blanket packs providing enough blankets for all 230 children at the GCare Centres, with enough remaining to fund an additional 238 blankets for other vulnerable children and those joining the centres in the future. What a result!



...FOR SPONSORED CHILDREN

Finally, our sponsors donated £11,282 to pay for Christmas presents and parties for all our sponsored children.

We have had some wonderful videos and images back from our international partners showing our sponsored children having a joyous Christmas – you can watch a selection at globalcare.org/christmas-2025-thank-you

Thank you to everyone who helped make this happen! We couldn’t do any of this without you.



Uganda



Bangladesh



India

REAL STORIES, *real change*

If you like listening to good news stories, why not try listening to our podcasts?

Real Stories, Real Change is a podcast series using AI voices to tell the stories of children you are helping. While the voices may be artificial, the stories are absolutely true!

We want to share Global Care's good news stories with a wider audience - why not listen and see for yourself?



You can find us on Spotify by searching **Real Stories Real Change**, or follow the link and leave us your feedback at globalcare.org/podcast

GREAT NORTH GLOBAL CARE

Would you like to take part in the iconic Great North Run? We have five places available for the 2026 event, to be held on Sunday 13th September.

All you need to do is donate £35 or more to secure your place and commit to raising £500 or more for Global Care. All money raised will go to our Children At Risk fund, supporting vulnerable children in crisis.

We'll provide fundraising support and a fantastic Global Care running shirt! Places are available on a first-come first-served basis – secure your place now at globalcare.org/great-north-run



FLOOD DAMAGE AT KADELLA

The worst flooding for decades caused havoc across Sri Lanka in late 2025, including significant damage to our partner's Kadella Centre, which supports people with HIV/AIDS.

Over 2 million people were affected by Cyclone Ditwa. Colombo, where our partners are based, was one of the worst-hit areas.

Floodwater filled the entire ground floor of



Above: the view from the second floor of Kadella. Right: food delivered by boat. Far right: the clean-up begins.



the Kadella Centre, inching towards the first floor where residents and staff were taking shelter. Thankfully no-one was hurt, and they had enough food to see them through until roads reopened.

Flooding was not as severe in Dehiwela, the slum where the Morning Star Care Centre is based, although some families suffered damage to houses and roofs during high winds. Morning Star acted as a shelter for families from the beach slum and was undamaged.

Global Care sent £2,500 from our Children at Risk funds to help with repairs at Kadella including the repair of the kitchen, which was ruined, and replacing food which was destroyed.



*Names have been changed to protect the identity of children.
Global Care, 2 Dugdale Road, Coventry CV6 1PB | Tel: 030 030 21 030 | info@globalcare.org | www.globalcare.org
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