World Hope International responds to four fundamental human rights:

Every child deserves clean water
WHI trains local well-drilling teams to bring clean water to communities without it. One well brings clean water to approximately 700 people. Community leaders are trained in well maintenance so clean water can keep flowing even after their teams leave. Children and families learn how to keep themselves and their communities healthy and clean, through hand-washing, regular bathing, oral hygiene, safe food preparation, trash pick-up and more.

Every child deserves food
1 in 7 children go to bed hungry every night. Parents struggle to find reliable, sustainable work in order to provide food for their children. WHI provides skills and resources necessary to get parents working. We educate and train adults to be successful entrepreneurs, connect communities rich with natural resources to global markets and teach sustainable farming techniques. When parents have work, children have food.

Every child deserves an education
Education opens doors. Children who are educated are less likely to be exploited and more likely to find work. Educated children become advocates for economic and social change within their communities. WHI works directly with in-country staff to provide tuition fees, uniforms, supplies and medical care as needed for children. WHI currently supports over 2,000 students’ educations. We build schools, improve classrooms and train teachers to ensure students receive the best possible education.

Every child deserves freedom
Slavery still exists. The victims? Women and children. WHI’s Emergency Aftercare shelters in Cambodia and Sierra Leone provide a safe place for survivors to recover, and support to reintegrate back into their communities. Each survivor receives physical and psychological care, and most are connected with legal counsel so traffickers can be prosecuted. We train local citizens to identify and report signs of trafficking in their communities, increasing neighborhood accountability.

Why four program areas?
The needs present in today’s world are deeply interconnected. Our four program areas complement one another, and act as a comprehensive response to poverty. Students who are drinking clean water stay in school and longer. Further education leads to better job opportunities. Stable families are less vulnerable to traffickers’ lies. Children who are free from slavery grow up with opportunity, dignity and hope. The upward cycle continues.
This is Sonia.

Every day, she rose at 4am to walk a grueling six miles with a 40-pound water jug on her head. Her destination? A murky brown stream.

Every child deserves clean water.

Sentho was born hungry.

She and her twin sister, Sinnah, weren’t expected to see their first birthday. Like many Sierra Leonean children, Sentho and Sinnah were born to a chronically malnourished mother.

While pregnant with the twins, Mariama fell ill to an abdominal disorder caused by malnutrition. When Sentho and Sinnah were born, they were severely underweight. Instead of re-nourishing the twins up to a healthy body weight through breast feeding, which can reduce the chance of child death by nearly three times, the twins ate only rice porridge.

By the time they were eight months old, Sentho weighed a meager 9 lbs, Sinnah 8.5. A healthy eight-month-old weighs twice that.

The twins’ growth remained stunted, and Mariama remained too ill to provide proper care. By the time Sentho and Sinnah were nearly a year old, World Hope International, in collaboration with UNICEF, began child nutrition work in Sierra Leone. The initial nutrition survey assessed thousands of mothers and children, including Mariama, Sentho and Sinnah. The twins were classified as acutely malnourished, and at high risk of death. The three were immediately referred to a nutritional therapy program where Sentho and Sinnah received supplementary nutrition and breastfeeding.

Within six months, the twins had reached an age-appropriate and healthy body weight. Mariama regained her health, and continues to attend the World Hope Mothers Support Group where she receives instruction and advice on child feeding practices.

Sentho and Sinnah, once thought doomed to die, celebrated their second birthday this year. The now healthy twin sisters look forward to celebrating many more.

Sonía’s family of seven used the contaminated water for cooking, bathing and drinking. During the dry season, the stream would often dry out and Sonía would walk three miles further before she would find another running water source. Sonía would return home as the sun began to set, carrying her dirty water, or no water at all.

“I wished I could learn. I wanted to be in school,” Sonía said. “But I had to find water for my family.”

In the Nhazilo village of Mozambique, Sonía’s lifestyle is not unusual. Attendance rates at the local school house were dismal, food was often contaminated and disease spread quickly. A major culprit? Dirty water.

When Sonía turned 13, World Hope International brought clean water to her village. WHI trained a local well-drilling team to do the drilling, maintenance and upkeep of the well. The impact, Sonía told us, has been tremendous.

“On days with no water,” Sonía said, “I had nowhere to bathe and nothing to drink. Now, my life has changed.”

Sonía’s dream to go to school has finally been fulfilled, and thanks to clean water, she now arrives at the school house freshly bathed each morning. She still wakes up with the sun, but now it is to study and practice for her exams. Sonía’s classroom is brimming with students who no longer spend their days fetching water.

*Names have been changed for child protection purposes.
Wasim is a refugee.

Growing up in war-torn Afghanistan, Wasim's childhood was a waking nightmare.

His family of five lived in a small shack in Ghazni, Afghanistan. **Wasim recalls falling asleep at night to the crashing sounds of distant bombs, waking up each morning grateful to be alive.**

Fearing the day their children would become casualties — or even combatants — of war, Wasim's parents made a late night decision that would forever change their family's life. Packing what would fit into two small backpacks, a 12-year old Wasim and his family left the only home they'd ever known. After a horror-filled three-week journey through war zones and refugee camps, Wasim and his family found themselves in a city and country they knew nothing about. Despite the unfamiliarity, Baku, Azerbaijan offered Wasim's parents the invaluable — a safe place to raise their children.

Wasim's family moved to a neighborhood overflowing with other Afghan refugees, many of whom had lived in Baku for years. Wasim quickly made friends with his neighbor who invited him to class at the nearby English school.

**The following afternoon, Wasim attended his first class at the World Hope International English and Computer School in Baku. He hasn't missed a day since.**

Wasim has worked with instructors to improve his English grammar, reading comprehension and conversation skills. English will bring him greater educational and professional opportunities, and a better say in where he wants to raise his family.

Once Wasim graduates from English school, he hopes to attend university in Canada. From a child refugee to a future university graduate, Wasim's knowledge of English is helping him realize dreams he never thought were possible.

WHI is no longer distributing gift packs. Thank you to all who brought hope to children through WHI gift packs.

Meet Kady.

As an infant, her starving and desperate mother tried to sell her on the streets of Sierra Leone for $5.

Her mother was jailed, and Kady was left in the care of a local policeman’s wife, who waited eagerly for the day Kady would “come to good use.” By the time she was four, Kady was forced to perform household chores from early morning to late evening. **She was eating nothing but burned bits of rice, and sleeping on the ground outside.**

When Kady’s previously absent father came looking for her, the policeman’s wife manipulated him. She promised good care and education not only for Kady, but also for her sister Tenneh. Kady’s father agreed. The young girls worked day and night, received no education and ate barely enough food.

**For Kady and Tenneh, all hope was lost.**

The girls were seven and eight years old when World Hope International staff intervened and took the girls to WHI’s Emergency Recovery Center in Freetown, Sierra Leone. The girls spent four months in the Center, receiving counseling, medical care, education, life-skills training and love. By the time their four months had ended, Kady and Tenneh were happy, healthy girls.

WHI staff conducted a comprehensive family assessment and deemed it safe to reintegrate the girls back into a relative’s home. Through family counseling, WHI staff helped to strengthen family bonds that were previously absent. A reintegration package further enables the family to support and protect their children.

**Kady and Tenneh won’t be victimized again.**

Thank you for giving the gift of hope in honor or memory of your loved ones. Please visit www.WorldHope.org to find a full list of honorees and memorials. Gifts will be published in our 2013 Annual Report.
DID YOU KNOW?

- There were zero cholera related deaths in the villages where WHI’s hygiene education programs operate during Sierra Leone’s 2012 cholera outbreak—the country’s worst in 15 years.

- Prior to 2011, over 6 million mangoes would rot annually in rural Sierra Leone. Through WHI’s Outgrowers Project, previously poverty-stricken farmers are now connected to an international market they can sell their mangoes through.

- At WHI, sustainable solutions aren’t just a talking point. While some development groups drill a well and immediately move on, WHI trains a local well committee to maintain the well long after WHI’s well-drilling team leaves.

- After securing a $400,000 U.S. State Department grant, WHI opened a first-of-its-kind trafficking recovery center last year in Sierra Leone for girls and women subjected to forced labor and sex trafficking.

- In February, World Hope International welcomed John Lyon as the new Director of International Programs. John brings a wealth of development expertise to WHI.

- We’re moving! Effective April 1, our new mailing address will be: 1330 Braddock Place, Suite 301 Alexandria, VA 22314

Bringing hope to the least of these

It’s worth repeating—90,000 people were brought hope through World Hope International’s programs in 2012. 90,000 people! God is GOOD.

Jesus’ command to serve the poor is clear: “Whatever you did for one of the least of these, you did for me.” The 2012 numbers are proof—God is using people like you to make a difference in the lives of the least of these.

Today, God’s work is still far from done. There are many more people, children especially, suffering needlessly. Jesus says, “Let the little children come to me.” At World Hope International, we envision a world where every child has clean water, food, education and freedom from slavery. We envision a world where every child’s heart is filled with hope.

Our goal is this: By 2015, we will bring hope to 1 million children, one child at a time.

The goal is large, but so is the expanse of suffering. The littlest of the least of these need us. Will you join us? Together, we can make a lasting difference.

We look forward to your continued partnership in 2013.

Tom Armiger
President & CEO