WALKING TOGETHER
Your guide to sponsorship
Welcome and thank you for partnering with your new sponsored friend through Unbound! Your sponsorship gives your friend and their family financial resources and the support of a caring community to build a path out of poverty.

You’ll benefit, too, by getting to know your friend as they share about their life in letters to you. And you’ll have a chance to send your own messages of support to inspire your friend.

This guide gives you a brief overview of Unbound and important information to help you get started as a sponsor.

**7 Things You’ll Find:**

- What sponsorship means
- Introducing yourself to your friend
- Child and elder protection
- How sponsorship works
- Getting connected
- Other ways to give
- Our values, history and mission
What sponsorship means

Sponsorship connects two individuals across geographic, economic and social divides. It enables a relationship to develop that’s based on listening, encouragement and mutual respect. These personal relationships have been at the heart of Unbound since 1981 and have transformed countless lives of sponsored friends and sponsors.

As a sponsor you invest in the potential of a child, youth or elder. Your support says to your friend, “I believe in you.” The resources you provide fuel aspirations and help your friend and their family meet basic needs, set goals and strive to achieve them.

We’re grateful you chose to join our community and walk with your friend on the journey to overcoming poverty. A great adventure awaits!

Have questions?

HERE’S HOW TO REACH US:
CALL: 800-875-6564
EMAIL: mail@unbound.org
GO TO: unbound.org
VISIT: 1 Elmwood Ave.
        Kansas City, KS 66103
WHAT’S NEXT

Now that you’re a sponsor, you’ll get to know your sponsored friend.

Here’s what happens now:

1. We’ll let your friend know that you’re their sponsor.
   • Your friend will begin writing to you
   • You’ll receive letters at least twice a year and a photo yearly

2. Introduce yourself to your friend. **This is the most important next step!**
   • Go to unbound.org/register
   • Write a short message
   • Remember to upload a photo
   
   Tip: The easiest way to send a message is through the Unbound mobile app. Download it today on the App Store or Google Play.

3. Go to unbound.org to discover what you can do and learn on our website.
   • View your friend’s profile and recent photo
   • Learn about your friend’s country
   • Discover how our program works
   • Read a message from your friend
   • Send a message to your friend
   • Read stories from around the world
A simple message from you will let your sponsored friend know you care. Here are some ideas to get you started:

- Share about your background, family or pets
- Tell your friend what the weather is like where you live
- Talk about your favorite foods, sports or hobbies
- Ask about their family and friends
- Ask about their school and community
- Tell them what you liked about school
- Encourage them in their education
- Share a favorite holiday tradition
- Ask how they celebrate their favorite holiday
At Unbound, we’re committed to providing a safe and rewarding experience for everyone who’s part of our community — from sponsored friends and their families to sponsors, volunteers and staff. That’s why policies such as the ones below are critical.

Child and elder protection
Unbound works with children, elders and others who live in conditions that make them vulnerable to abuse and exploitation. We take seriously our responsibility to maintain a safe and dignified environment for them and all members of the Unbound community, both internationally and within the U.S. This allows us to facilitate the development of healthy, mutually beneficial relationships.

Messages sent through Unbound are the only approved form of communication between sponsors and sponsored friends. Direct contact via social media or any other means outside of Unbound is against our policy and could result in the termination of a sponsorship. Please visit unbound.org/childprotection for more information.

No packages, please!
Sponsors should not attempt to send packages to their sponsored friends. Unbound’s international offices cannot accept packages for a variety of reasons. Unreliable mail systems mean gifts could be lost, damaged or stolen in transit. If they do arrive safely, the expense and time required for our staff to pick up, process and deliver packages can be prohibitive.

This policy also helps avoid tension and the appearance of inequity that can arise among sponsored friends in the community when only a few receive packages. Thank you for your understanding.
Making your contribution
Your sponsorship contribution provides ongoing support that helps your friend and their family meet immediate needs and plan for the future. You may contribute for your sponsorship monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or yearly.

4 EASY PAYMENT OPTIONS

1. Automatic bank withdrawal
   It’s the most convenient and cost-effective way to contribute.

2. Credit card
   We accept Visa, Mastercard, Discover or American Express.

3. Online
   Go to Unbound.org/PaymentAccounts.

4. Check (payable to Unbound)
   Mail to:
   Unbound
   P.O. Box 219114
   Kansas City, MO 64121-9114

Contributions are tax-deductible as allowed by law unless otherwise noted. Unbound is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization, federal EIN: 43-1243999.
At Unbound, we believe the people living in poverty know best how to overcome it. Sponsored friends and their families use sponsorship funds for what they need. Most receive assistance in the form of cash transfers made by Unbound to individual bank accounts. This method of delivering aid not only honors people’s dignity, it’s efficient and effective.

With the support of local Unbound teams, sponsored friends and their families set goals, create budgets for how they’ll use sponsorship funds and plan for their futures. Most focus on education and other basic needs like food, housing improvements and medical care.

Parents or guardians of sponsored children also participate in small self-help groups with other parents, usually mothers. The groups foster a sense of community, and many provide opportunities for savings and microloans to help families start or boost small businesses.

**QUICK FACTS**

- 76% of sponsored girls achieve years of education equal to or more than their national average
- 90% of mothers surveyed believe they have the power to change their families’ lives
- 66% of sponsored elders surveyed reported receiving the medical care they needed, compared to 40% on the waiting list for a sponsor
GETTING CONNECTED

Experience the Unbound world

Find out what makes Unbound sponsorship different and stay updated on the work happening in communities around the world. It’s easy:

- Like us on Facebook facebook.com/sponsorachild
- Follow us on Instagram @UnboundOrg, Twitter @UnboundOrg, LinkedIn linkedin.com/company/unbound-org and YouTube youtube.com/UnboundOrg
- Get our eNews, faith reflections and other email updates. Sign up today at unbound.org/signup
- Read stories, watch videos, and see photos of people and places in the Unbound world. Go to: living.unbound.org

Yes, you can visit your sponsored friend

Whether meeting your sponsored friend or simply experiencing the beauty of another culture, awareness trips offer an adventure like no other. Since 1988, Unbound has led thousands of sponsors and others interested in learning about our work on trips in Latin America, Asia and Africa. Our staff-guided trips are affordable and educational.

Visit unbound.org/trips or call us at 800-875-6564 for the latest on awareness trips.

OTHER WAYS TO HELP

Want to share Unbound with your family and friends and help us grow our community?

- Follow us on social media and share our posts to help raise awareness
- Learn how you can raise funds to support families around the world; go to unbound.org/fundraise
- Discover available volunteer opportunities at unbound.org/volunteer
One-to-one sponsorship is the best way to give families a chance to build their paths out of poverty. But it isn’t the only way we help. Learn more at unbound.org/donate.

**MORE WAYS TO GIVE**

**One-to-one sponsorship** is the best way to give families a chance to build their paths out of poverty. But it isn’t the only way we help. Learn more at unbound.org/donate.

**CRITICAL NEEDS FUND:** Provides essential support in times of crisis, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, natural disasters or other emergencies.

**SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM:** Helps aspiring young adults with educational costs to help them stay in school.

**AGENTS OF CHANGE:** Provides grants to small groups working to improve their communities.

**Make an even bigger impact**

**MATCHING GIFTS:** Don’t forget you can multiply your impact with matching donations from employers. Matching gifts provide assistance to students in our scholarship program.

**PLANNED GIVING:** Combine your charitable giving with your personal financial goals. Explore a variety of giving options that allow you to extend your support of Unbound while reducing federal income taxes.
WHAT WE BELIEVE

The founding vision

The vision for Unbound began in 1981 with Bob, Bud and Jim Hentzen, their sister Nadine Pearce and their friend Jerry Tolle. Bob and Jerry were former missionaries who witnessed firsthand the devastating effects of poverty while working in Latin America.

They met hard-working families struggling heroically to make better lives for their children. The founders envisioned a program inviting people to partner with these families to support and encourage them.

Guided by their faith and rooted in Catholic social teaching, our founders created a personalized sponsorship program. The goal was to empower families and connect the world with their struggles. The founders’ commitment to these principles, demonstrated by their passionate and dedicated example, continues to inspire us today.

Go to Unbound.org/history to see a timeline of historical milestones, including Bob’s extraordinary solidarity walks in the U.S. and Latin America.
Unbound’s mission is to walk with the poor and marginalized of the world.

Our Core Values

1. Theological Base: We are grounded in the Gospel call to serve the poor.

2. Dignity of the Person: Recognizing the God-given dignity of each person is essential to sincere, lasting, loving relationships.

3. Integrity and Accountability: Honesty and transparency are necessary to operate an efficient and effective organization.

4. Respectful Relationships: Relationships of mutual respect between sponsors and sponsored friends are central to Unbound’s mission.