

WHO WE ARE

Unbound is an international nonprofit founded by lay Catholics and grounded in the Gospel call to put the needs of the marginalized and vulnerable first. We build relationships of mutual respect and support that bridge cultural, religious and economic divides. We invite all people of goodwill to join us.

OUR MISSION

Unbound's mission is to walk with the poor and marginalized of the world.

OUR WORK

We connect people across economic, cultural, geographical and religious divides to live in solidarity and work toward a greater good.

Our sponsorship program connects an individual sponsor in the U.S. with a child, youth or elder in another country. Sponsors, through their support, help provide essential benefits such as education, food, health care and livelihood opportunities for families. The families choose the benefits that best fit their situations and meet the needs of their children.

Taking on poverty alone is daunting. That's why Unbound's small group model is a cornerstone of our program. Families come together to share ideas, pool resources and develop livelihoods.

We believe that relationships are catalysts for change. Sponsors and their sponsored friends develop personal relationships through letters and photos. We also offer group awareness trips and coordinate individual visits for sponsors who want to meet their sponsored friends in person.

QUICK FACTS

- We work with more than **280,000 children, youth and elders** in Africa, Asia and Latin America.
- Unbound distributes direct aid as quickly and efficiently as possible to people who need it. More than **92% of all the money we spend goes to program support.**
- 94% of Unbound sponsored individuals and their families receive their benefits through **direct cash transfers** to individual bank accounts. The families determine use of funds to meet their needs and goals.
- Unbound is the only major U.S.-based organization that offers sponsorship for elders.
- In 2021, Unbound provided **\$5.5 million in pandemic assistance** from the Critical Needs Fund and other sources.
- We awarded **\$3.3 million in scholarships** in 2021 to help aspiring young adults pursue higher education.
- With more than 230,000 sponsors throughout the U.S., Unbound has **sponsors in every state.** We are happy to help journalists with **stories about local people** doing great things in the world.
- We have an **A+ rating from CharityWatch**, we meet the **BBB Wise Giving Alliance's 20 rigorous standards** for charity accountability, and we have **top rankings from Charity Navigator, GuideStar and GreatNonprofits.**

HISTORY

Unbound was established in 1981 by brothers Bob, Bud and Jim Hentzen, their sister Nadine Pearce and friend Jerry Tolle. Bob Hentzen, a former Christian Brother, and Tolle, a former Jesuit priest, worked in Central and South America for many years. They developed the sponsorship program to help people living in poverty and to help form real friendships between people from different cultures and economic circumstances.

LEADERSHIP

President and Chief Executive Officer: Scott Wasserman

Chief Governing Officer: David Herbison

Visit the leadership page at unbound.org/leadership for a complete list and bios of staff leaders and board members.

For additional information, contact:

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