



World Neighbors Fact Sheet

Mission Statement:

World Neighbors inspires and strengthens communities to find lasting solutions to hunger, poverty and disease and to promote a healthy environment.

Purpose:

The purpose of World Neighbors is to strengthen the capacity of marginalized communities to meet their basic needs and to determine and sustain an inclusive and equitable development process.

What is World Neighbors? :

World Neighbors is an international development organization striving to eliminate hunger, poverty and disease in the most deprived rural villages in Asia, Africa and Latin America. World Neighbors invests in people and their communities by training and inspiring them to create their own life-changing solutions through programs that combine agriculture, literacy, water, health and environmental protection. Since 1951, more than 25 million people in 45 countries have transformed their lives with the support of World Neighbors.

Who do we help?:

We aim to serve those who do not have access to education and training to better themselves, their families and their communities. World Neighbors works in deprived rural villages across the globe on three different continents: Asia, Africa and Latin America. Within those areas, World Neighbors works in 13 countries: Guatemala, Haiti, Bolivia, Peru, Burkina Faso, Mali, Kenya, Uganda, India, Nepal, Indonesia and Timor Leste. Currently, World Neighbors benefits 500,000 people across the globe, transforming lives with the support of volunteers, donations and our partners.

Why is World Neighbors relevant today? :

Poverty is a struggle not only in the United States, but internationally. It is World Neighbors experience in poor communities that tells us those people are hard working, industrious individuals. They are just lacking in one area- opportunity. World Neighbors provides opportunities for those people to help themselves through our health, hunger and agriculture education programs. All of these programs provide opportunities for the poorest communities to thrive, and make their lives better. Poor people- just like the rest of us- are in need of a chance to make themselves better, which is provided by our programs.

How was World Neighbors established?:

World Neighbors was envisioned and founded by Dr. John L. Peters after he served in World War II. He returned to America with an ambition to help the poverty stricken people he saw overseas. After giving a sermon at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Oklahoma City entitled "Let's Deal with Basic Issues", a grassroots campaign known as World Neighbors was established in 1951. The very first program was launched in India with generous help of Dr. Peters and many supporters, and has expanded to help 45 countries.

Affiliate:

WOW! (Work of Women) is a membership organization within World Neighbors that mobilizes women in support of a better life for their families and communities in isolated villages throughout the world. Through education, advocacy and fundraising, WOW! members enhance the work of World Neighbors to end poverty, hunger and disease throughout Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean. Visit www.workofwomen.org for more information or follow WOW! on Twitter at @workofwomen.

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