

World's Children Child Safety Policy

Overview

World's Children believes that every child has the right to be free from fear, physical or emotional abuse, and exploitation. As a humanitarian agency, our goal is to prevent any circumstance that could infringe upon a child's safety. World's Children is committed to conducting its programs in a manner that respects the privacy, safety and wellbeing of the children we serve through our child sponsorship program and through the projects we support.

We ask our sponsors and donors to join us in upholding the World's Children Child Safety Policy. While the vast majority of individuals are trustworthy, we must safeguard against the few who are not.

World's Children wants you to have the opportunity to develop a meaningful relationship with your sponsored child in a way that is safe, secure and fulfilling for both of you. We ask our sponsors to abide by the following standards while participating in our child sponsorship program.

Children's Information on the web

In an effort to safeguard our children's privacy, we publicize only limited information about the children we offer for sponsorship on the web. We have this policy to protect our children from potential online predators who could gain information about a child's identity and location. For this reason we do not include last names, community names or locations, or other information by which the location of sponsored children could be easily identified. We ask our sponsors to abide by this policy as well.

Please do not post your sponsored child's last name on the internet or social media sites. For example, it's fine to update your Facebook status by saying "I just sponsored a little girl named Lakshmi from India!" But it is not okay to post her photo and say "This is my 6-year-old sponsored child, Lakshmi Rani Kumar, at the Shanti Sadan Orphanage in a small town called Kolar in India."

Downloading, copying, or other replication of photos or other information that are a part of the World's Children website without advance written permission from World's Children is strictly prohibited. Child profiles are not for distribution or use other than providing information for potential child sponsors through the World's Children Sponsorship Program.

Correspondence between child sponsors, sponsored children, and orphanages

As part of the World's Children Safety Policy we monitor and review the letters and packages sent to sponsored children. To protect the privacy of all parties, we do not allow children and sponsors to exchange contact information and require that all correspondence be sent through

our headquarters in Oregon. This requirement may be waived for longtime sponsors through prior approval of the Program Director.

Because your privacy and security are equally important to us, sponsored children and their families are discouraged from contacting you directly without World's Children knowledge. This is to protect you from being solicited inappropriately for additional funds. Any contact initiated by your sponsored child or their family that makes you feel uncomfortable should be reported to our office.

Visits

While visits to the orphanages that we support are permitted, all visits to sponsorship locations must be coordinated with our headquarters in Oregon at least 60 days in advance. Unannounced visits are not permitted. Prior to visiting a home, project, or sponsored child, an application form and release form are required. A background check may be required. We hope you understand that we employ these standardized regulations to protect the safety and privacy of the children. Visits can be truly rewarding and life-changing experiences. Usually sponsors are accompanied by World's Children staff when visiting the homes and projects we support. To coordinate your visit or learn more, please contact World's Children at 541-904-0789.

Thank you for joining us in our efforts to keep the children we support safe by upholding the World's Children Child Safety Policy.