

WASH in Healthcare Facilities to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19

During the COVID-19 pandemic, imagine if your doctor or nurse did not have a way to wash their hands between seeing patients. Unfortunately, that's the case for a majority of the healthcare facilities in the areas where World Vision works. Due to already weakened healthcare systems and a vulnerable population, there's a potential nightmare headed to Africa, and other parts of the developing world, unless we act now.

THE NEED

» We know COVID-19 more severely impacts people with weakened immune systems. Sub-Saharan Africa is home to the greatest number of people living with HIV/AIDS. Additionally, sub-Saharan Africa has high rates of malnutrition and malaria. All of these conditions result in weakened immune systems.

» Even more concerning, since the virus attacks the pulmonary system, is the fact that sub-Saharan Africa has high rates of tuberculosis and pneumonia.

» The pandemic will disproportionately impact women because 70% of front-line healthcare workers are women,¹ and there is evidence of increased violence to women during epidemics.

THE DATA²

In areas where World Vision works, only 16% of clinics have basic hand washing facilities

Hand Washing

- Hand washing facility with soap and clean water
- Hand washing facility, but without soap and clean water
- No hand washing facility

In areas where World Vision works, only half of clinics have clean water.

Clean Water

- Clean water on premises
- Limited or no water on premises



38%

16%

46%

- I. World Health Organization, March 2018.
- 2. UNC Water Institute, Evaluation of WASH in 14 countries, August 2019.

World Vision is a leader in educating people on hand washing and reaches one new person with hygiene promotion every 10 seconds.



WHY WORLD VISION?

World Vision has extensive experience in preventing the spread of infectious disease including cholera, Ebola, and HIV/AIDS. This experience is more important than ever as we pivot to combat the COVID-19 pandemic.



The ways to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the developing world are similar to those implemented in the U.S. Priorities include 1) educating and protecting front-line healthcare workers, and 2) educating communities on how to prevent infection spread.

In order to prevent COVID-19, it is critical to ensure that people have a way to wash their hands and understand why washing their hands is vital to maintaining their health. And, of course, it's difficult to wash your hands effectively without clean water.

A PROVEN TRACK-RECORD

In 2019 alone, we reached 4.3 million people with education on hand washing and facilitated the building of nearly half a million hand washing facilities.

In the last four-years, we reached a total of 16.5 million people with hand washing education. We have trusted partners, including Sesame Street, to make these efforts effective.

We have an army of 250,000 community health workers who help reach communities to teach critical behaviors to prevent the spread of infectious disease.



During the Ebola crisis, our work with faithleaders was extremely effective in preventing deaths and has been recognized by the public health community as published in the top medical journal, Lancet.

World Vision's Work in Rural Healthcare Facilities

OUR COMMITMENT

World Vision is a global leader in working with rural healthcare facilities to teach infection prevention, disinfection protocols, and provide hand washing stations and clean water. WHO and UNICEF issued a call to action to provide hygiene, water, and sanitation in healthcare facilities, and World Vision responded with a commitment larger than any other NGO.

This commitment is to reach **800 rural healthcare** facilities serving an estimated **7.2 million people** between **2019-2021**. We are ahead of schedule having reached 399 facilities in the first year of this commitment

WHAT IS WORLD VISION DOING?



Handwashing stations in all patient areas



Provide protective equipment for frontline healthcare workers



Staff training focused on infection prevention and control



Clean water directly on the premises



Mobilizing community health workers to educate community members



OUR PROMISE TO YOU

- » For \$12,500, you can help fund 10% of a healthcare facility.
- » For every donation of \$125,000, we'll provide an impact report (typically within 12 months) of a specific healthcare facility water system that you helped fund—including photos, GPS coordinates, and number of people served.



Sample report



For more information, contact your World Vision representative.

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