What happens when you support us with a gift in your Will?

Ultimately, we build a world that’s fair and just for all. A gift in your Will creates an amazing ripple of long-lasting change. Not just for one person, but for an entire community. Not just one community either, but for a whole region. And not just one region, but for entire countries and eventually, for all of the world we share. A world full of people who deserve fairness, opportunity, and peace. A gift in your Will shows your commitment to creating a better world.

CREATE A RIPPLE OF CHANGE THAT LASTS GENERATIONS

Leave a gift in your Will
Making the fair world you want to see a reality

A gift in your Will has the power to change the world for good

The vision we share is for a world that is fair and just for everyone.

That’s a very different world from the one we all see around us today, where injustices and inequality leave our most vulnerable and marginalised communities far behind. But we know – from over 60 years’ experience – that volunteering has the power to create amazing change. Change that isn’t just for today or tomorrow or next week, but that will live on long after our own lifetimes.

We believe in a world that’s fair, no matter where you’re born. A world that offers the opportunities and peace people need to build better lives. We are delighted to have many wonderful supporters who feel the same way. And we’ll love you to join us.

Making the world a fair and more just place for everyone demands an effective, long-term approach. It’s something supporters like you understand and we are so grateful for that.

The vulnerable and marginalised communities who need help most can only build better lives for themselves if we’re here for the long term. And that’s where a gift in your Will can make a highly significant contribution.

Long-term solutions work harder

As you know, short-term fixes often don’t work and don’t last. But a gift in your Will means we can deliver life-changing support over the long term. It’s a much more effective way to make changes that can last generations.

Adapting to the unknown

If the global pandemic has shown all of us anything, it’s the importance of being able to adapt quickly to a fast-changing world. We can’t know what will happen in the future, but with your support, we can be prepared. A gift in your Will helps us stand strong and act fast, always ready to roll up our sleeves and carry on delivering essential programmes.

Unlocking volunteering innovation

We believe that the power of volunteering is the key to making long-lasting changes a reality. And with you behind us, we can unlock the talent of more remarkable volunteers who will drive the innovations that make even more change possible. A gift in your Will truly is a massive hand up for volunteering.

“I’m a great believer in volunteering. I’ve seen first-hand the difference it can make. To me, it’s the best possible and most effective use of resources and funds.”

Stephen Pidgeon has pledged a gift in his will to VSO
For example, in Rwanda – like so many countries around the world – people with disabilities face huge barriers accessing the quality healthcare and health information they need. This means that they are more vulnerable to sexual violence and sexually transmitted diseases.

Local VSO volunteer Brown Niyosaba, who is deaf herself, is helping others access the support they need. She has taught 80 students about vital sexual and reproductive health issues and also supervises a team of instructors to train community health workers and nurses in Rwandan Sign Language.

Her dream is to empower all deaf people like her to have an equal chance of expressing their ideas, growing as individuals and contributing to Rwanda’s development. And the beauty of her work is that this unique approach can be adopted and adapted in other countries, creating a ripple of positive change for people with disabilities around the world.

A gift in your Will ensures more remarkable volunteers like Brown can create more innovative, life-changing solutions for years to come.

One of the most powerful advantages of our volunteering approach is that when you unlock the power of people, volunteers will constantly surprise you with the most amazing innovations to make long-lasting change possible.

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Your questions answered

If you have any questions about making a gift in your Will, we are always happy to help – you’ll find our contact details at the front of this leaflet. In the meantime, there are many commonly asked questions that we can answer right here.

Why should I write a Will?
By making a Will, you ensure your wishes are carried out, and the people and causes you care about are looked after.

How can I make my Will?
A Will is a legal document and so, for peace of mind, we always recommend that you ask a solicitor to draw it up for you. We offer a Free Wills Service. To find out more please visit our website.

How often can I change my Will?
You can make and change your Will as often as you like, and we recommend changing your Will any time your circumstances change. For example, if you get married, or have a new grandchild.

What information should I include to remember VSO in my Will?
You would need to include our full registered name, which is VSO, and our registered charity number, which is 313757. You can find some suggested wording you can use by typing “VSO gift in Will” in your internet browser.

Are there any tax benefits of leaving money to a charity?
Gifts to charity are tax-free and these gifts are not included when your estate is valued for inheritance tax purposes. If the value of your gifts to charities totals more than 10% of the estate, there are additional benefits too. We strongly recommend that you speak to a solicitor for any advice on tax issues.

Would it help VSO if I told you I’ve left a gift in my Will?
You don’t have to tell us if you’ve chosen to leave a gift to VSO. However, if you do, you will get the chance to hear more about our work fighting inequality and injustice, and you’ll be invited to special events.

“I want to thank each and every one of you who’ve decided to help us, personally. Together we can support the most vulnerable to change their world - our world - for the better.”

Phillip Goodwin
CEO VSO International