

International Organizations

These charities help others in several countries around the globe

World Vision Canada

Website: www.worldvision.ca

Facebook: World Vision Canada

Who they are: World Vision is a Christian relief, development and advocacy organization that is dedicated to working with children, families and communities to overcome poverty and injustice, in nearly 100 countries.

Ways to help:

- Sponsor a child by donating a monthly fee to support their health, nutrition, and education. Write to your child and receive letters in return!
- Browse their gift catalogue (online) and purchase gifts such as clean water, clothing, medical supplies, livestock, etc. Donating on behalf of a loved one makes a great Christmas gift for the people in your life who have everything!
- Donate to their general fund, which goes towards child protection, community development, education, emergency response, water and sanitation, and more!

Recommended by Dakota S. (grade 8) because “there should not be suffering in third world countries,” and **Michelle V.** (youth leader) because they “support children without assistance.”

Charity:Water

Website: www.charitywater.org

Facebook: charity: water

Who they are: charity:water is a non-profit organization bringing clean and safe drinking water to people in developing nations.

Ways to help:

- Explore their website to learn more about those who need clean water and how we can help
- Donate online (one time gift or monthly donation)
- Gather people together and sponsor a water project

Recommended by Sheldon S. (youth leader) because “all people need clean water and it’s the first stepping stone to health, education, and a good life.”

KIVA

Website: www.kiva.org

Facebook: Kiva

Who they are: We are a non-profit organization with a mission to connect people through lending to alleviate poverty. Leveraging the internet and a worldwide network of microfinance institutions, Kiva lets individuals lend as little as \$25 to help create opportunity around the world.

Ways to help:

- Browse online to choose a borrower, donate a loan, track their progress as they get on their feet and repay the loan, repeat! It’s the financial gift that keeps on giving.

Recommended by Bob B. (youth leader) because “you can track your loans to see how you made an impact in someone’s life. When the loan is repaid it can be re-loaned to someone else so your money keeps giving.”

International Justice Mission

Website: www.ijm.ca

Facebook: International Justice Mission

Who they are: International Justice Mission is a global organization protecting the poor from violence throughout the developing world. IJM partners with local authorities to rescue victims of violence, bring criminals to justice, restore survivors, and strengthen justice systems.

Ways to help:

- Become a “freedom partner” by donating a monthly gift and receiving updates
- Donate on their website
- Organize a fundraiser event
- Contact them to learn about ways our church or a group of people can partner with them
- Follow them on social media to learn about their daily work and people they rescue

Recommended by Amanda S. (youth director) because “modern slavery is real and rampant and God calls us to care for the oppressed. IJM trains leaders in their own countries to carry out the work of freeing people living in slavery and sexual slavery around the world.”

Red Cross

Website: www.redcross.ca

Facebook: Canadian Red Cross

Who they are: The Canadian Red Cross mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity in Canada and around the world. The Canadian Red Cross Society is part of the largest humanitarian network in the world.

Ways to help:

- Browse their website to discover the many needy countries they serve, especially those in areas we often forget about
- Learn about their causes such as disaster relief, migrant and refugee services, health care and more
- Donate online (one time gift or monthly donation)
- Keep them in mind the next time there is a natural disaster that you would like to donate to

Recommended by Eric M. (grade 12) because “people sometimes forget that there are third world countries in need outside of Africa and we should help them too.”

Oxfam

Website: www.oxfam.ca

Facebook: Oxfam Canada

Who they are: Around the globe, Oxfam works to find practical, innovative ways for people to lift themselves out of poverty and thrive. We save lives and help rebuild livelihoods when crisis strikes. And we campaign so that the voices of the poor influence the local and global decisions that affect them.

Ways to help:

- Learn about their “Behind the Brands” campaign so you can make wise purchasing choices
- Donate online
- Fundraise with others
- Contact them to learn more about volunteer opportunities

Recommended by Riley B. (grade 12)

Watsi

Website: www.watsi.org

Facebook: Watsi

Who they are: Watsi is a global crowdfunding platform that enables anyone to donate as little as \$5 to directly fund life-changing healthcare for people in need.

Ways to help:

- Browse through individual health care cases on their website and choose people to sponsor so they can receive the health care they need
- Buy someone you know a gift card, so they can choose a person to sponsor using your financial gift! This is a great gift option for the people in your life who have everything.

Recommended by Temi O. (youth leader)

Canadian Lutheran World Relief

Website: www.clwr.org

Facebook: CLWR – Canadian Lutheran World Relief

Who they are: Inspired by God's love for humanity, Canadian Lutheran World Relief challenges the causes and responds to the consequences of human suffering and poverty.

Ways to help:

- Donate online to causes such as community development, emergency relief, refugee resettlement, and more
- Check out the website to learn how to volunteer
- Sponsor refugees – one year commitment to support refugees as they adjust to life in Canada

Recommended by Kellen R. (grade 12) because “we often assume that once refugees get here their lives will be great, but they often need help settling in as many move here without money or resources.”

Living Water International

Website: www.water.cc

Facebook: Living Water International

Who they are: Living Water International exists to demonstrate the love of God by helping communities acquire desperately needed clean water, and to experience "living water"—the gospel of Jesus Christ—which alone satisfies the deepest thirst.

Ways to help:

- Donate online
- Fundraise for clean water projects
- Spread the Advent Conspiracy video to others this season (they partner with LWI)
- Give someone a Living Water gift card so they can donate to a country of their choice – a great gift for people who have everything!

Recommended by Robyn D. (grade 10), **Sydney R.** (grade 10) and **Jake H.** (youth leader)

Country-Specific Organizations

These charities focus on the needs of specific countries or regions

Dalit Freedom Network

Website: www.dalitfreedom.net

Facebook: Dalit Freedom Network Canada

Who they are: We are a Canadian organization joining hands with an international network of concerned people who are committed to free India's oppressed Dalits ('untouchable' class – considered less than human)

Ways to help:

- Spread the word about injustices against this caste – learn more online
- Free a child through monthly sponsorship – provides them with quality education to rise above the oppressive caste system
- Donate online to support the area of greatest need

Recommended by Amanda S. (youth director) because “this class of people are considered less than human, and without access to education they cannot break the cycle of immense poverty and make a life for themselves.”

Roots & Wings

Website: www.rootsandwingsim.org

Facebook: Roots & Wings International Ministries

Who they are: Roots & Wings improves the quality of life for needy children in Mazatlan, Mexico by providing a place of love, care and security. We exist to help children attain physical and spiritual wholeness and enable them to live joy-filled, purposeful lives.

Ways to help:

- Donate to their general fund online
- Sponsor a child so they receive healthy meals, education, healthcare, and loving care from trained workers
- Contact them on their website to learn more about volunteering

Recommended by Carlon S. (youth leader) because “they give children a safe and loving place to go while their parents sift through trash in an attempt to make a living in Mazatlan, Mexico.”

International China Concern

Website: www.chinaconcern.org

Facebook: International China Concern

Who they are: Organization that works to rescue abandoned children, feed house and love children without homes, find schools, fund surgeries, and prevent abandonment and train caregiver, with a focus on sick or disabled children.

Ways to help:

- Donate to their general fund
- Sponsor a child with a monthly donation, which provides them with a home, food, clothes and education.

Recommended by Phoebe L. (grade 8) because they “assist with disabled people.”

Ratanak International

Website: www.ratanak.org

Facebook: Ratanak International

Who they are: Ratanak International has grown from one man's compassion into an international organization dedicated to working *with* the Khmer people in Cambodia, empowering them to rebuild their country. "We see Cambodian people, once vulnerable, oppressed and exploited, living in Christian hope with dignity with access to social services, health care and quality education."

Ways to help:

- Sign up for their newsletter and check their website to learn more
- Order a DVD kit to teach others about their work and how to help
- Donate to the charity so they can continue their work
- Volunteer your time sending out newsletters or meeting in groups to pray

Recommended by Daniel C. (grade 11) because "girls should not be sex slaves. Ratarak helps rescue girls from the sex industry," and **Sarah A.** (grade 9) because "they prevent sex trafficking and the selling of children into slavery."

One Girl

Website: www.onegirl.org.au

Facebook: One Girl

Who they are: We focus on empowering women and girls so that they can create and lead change in their communities. We believe that education and economic empowerment are vital when it comes to tackling the issues that women and girls face in Sierra Leone.

Ways to help:

- Browse through their website to learn about how educating women builds a better society
- Donate online to this cause

Recommended by Temi O. (youth leader)

Local Organizations

These charities serve those who live near us

NightShift Ministries

Website: www.nightshiftministries.org

Facebook: NightShift Street Ministries

Who they are: NightShift Street Ministries is a non-profit, multi-denominational ministry working with poor, vulnerable and under-resourced men and women in Surrey

Ways to help:

- Volunteer for the day or night shift to provide outreach and community programs
- Donate online
- Donate food, blanket and clothing donations to their warehouse

Recommended by Kris S. (grade 11) because "they help low income youth and adults in Surrey."

Salvation Army

Website: www.salvationarmy.ca

Facebook: The Salvation Army in Canada

Who they are: The Salvation Army is an international Christian church that exists to share the love of Jesus Christ, meet human needs and be a transforming influence in the communities of our world.

Ways to help:

- Donate online or become a monthly donor
- Visit their thrift stores to support their ministries
- Gather a group and contact a local branch to make a meal for the homeless
- Volunteer to help at a thrift store or ring the bells for a Christmas kettle

Recommended by Ethan H. (grade 8) because “they raise money through thrift shops and fundraising to serve meals to the homeless, provide shelters and necessities to the needy, help senior homes, and because they are a Christian organization” and **Ryan P.** (grade 8) because “they help people who are in need.”

Union Gospel Mission

Website: www.ugm.ca

Facebook: Union Gospel Mission

Who they are: Demonstrating the love of Christ, Union Gospel Mission is determined to transform communities by overcoming poverty, homelessness and addiction one life at a time.

Ways to help:

- Volunteer with a group to make a meal, or volunteer on your own in their kitchen, thrift stores, etc.
- Host a fundraiser event to donate
- Collect personal care items and non-perishable food for their outreach programs
- Donate to this ministry online

Recommended by Corah R. (grade 9) and **Sarah A.** (grade 9) because “they serve food and help lots of people without homes in need of a meal and support.”

Children’s Organizations

These charities focus on helping children both locally and globally

International Rescue Committee

Website: www.rescue.org/child-soldiers

Facebook: International Rescue Committee

Who they are: IRC provides immediate protection, health care and critical emotional support to children who have been demobilized or have escaped from armed forces.

Ways to help:

- Sign up to get news updates about this issue
- Donate on their website to help with healthcare, clean drinking water, prevent sexual violence, and help child soldiers
- Learn about rescue work on their website

Recommended by Rayna B. (grade 12)

Make a Wish Foundation Canada

Website: www.makeawish.ca

Facebook: Make-A-Wish Canada

Who they are: The mission of Make-A-Wish Canada is to grant the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy.

Ways to help:

- Donate online
- Join a seasonal campaign or event and discover ways to help
- Fundraise with others
- Volunteer for this organization

Recommended by Tarek B. (grade 8) because “it helps kids who have serious diseases or sicknesses fulfill a dream.”

No Child for Sale (campaign of World Vision)

Website: www.nochildforsale.ca

Facebook: World Vision Canada

Who they are: Branch of World Vision that works to educate people about child slavery and exploitation and do something to stop it.

Ways to help:

- Browse their website to learn more and get resources to share with others
- Donate to their cause
- Sign the petition to demand change
- Learn how to shop ethically so your purchases don't support child slavery

Recommended by Breanna S. (grade 10) **and Shoshawna P.** (grade 10)

SOS Children's Village

Website: www.soschildrensvillages.ca

Facebook: SOS Children's Villages Canada

Who they are: SOS Children's Villages provides orphaned and abandoned children with a safe and loving home, and also helps strengthen vulnerable families.

Ways to help:

- Sponsor and child or village
- Make a one-time donation
- Learn more about how to volunteer with them

Recommended by Teri W. (youth leader) because “there are so many orphaned kids who don't get the love, help and funding they need.”

Covenant House

Website: www.covenanthousebc.org

Facebook: Covenant House Vancouver

Who they are: We help youth aged 16 - 24 who have fled physical, emotional and/or sexual abuse, those who have been forced from their homes or those who have aged out of foster care.

Ways to help:

- Make a donation (one time gift or monthly)
- Host a fundraiser
- Donate non-perishable food, clothing/shoes, bedding and more

Recommended by Teri W. (youth leader) because “we live in a wealthy country and yet many children and youth are slipping through the cracks and turning to life on the streets.”

Animal & Environmental Organizations

These charities focus on caring for God`s creations – animals and nature.

SPCA

Website: www.sPCA.bc.ca

Facebook: BC SPCA

Who they are: BC branch of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, which exists to protect and enhance the quality of life for domestic, farm, and wild animals.

Ways to help:

- Make sure your pets are spayed/neutered and have ID tags so they don't become strays or produce unwanted litters. Avoid buying pets from pet stores – try adopting or getting a new pet from a reputable breeder!
- Learn about animal cruelty on their website and spread the word
- Donate to this charity so they can continue to care for animals and find safe and loving homes for them
- Volunteer at one of their many branches and be a “companion” to cats, dogs and other pets, be a “foster parent” for animals looking for forever homes, and more!

Recommended by Corah R. (grade 9) and **Lauren S.** (grade 8) because they “love animals and the helpless, they assist others including blind or depressed people.”

Protect Our Winters

Website: www.protectourwinters.org

Facebook: Protect Our Winters

Who they are: Our mission is to engage and mobilize the winter sports community to lead the fight against climate change. Our focus is on educational initiatives, advocacy and the support of community-based projects.

Ways to help:

- Write to your local government leaders to spread the word about taking care of the environment and climate change
- Educate yourself about caring for the environment
- Donate to help with political campaigning or find a different environmental organization to support
- Reduce, reuse, recycle! Start a compost, turn off lights, etc.

Recommended by Kellen R. (grade 12) because “God created this earth, but often we just abuse it because we know one day it will be someone else's problem.”

Humane Society International

Website: www.hsi.org

Facebook: Humane Society International

Who they are: Humane Society International is one of the only international animal protection organizations in the world working to protect all animals—including animals in laboratories, farm animals, companion animals, and wildlife

Ways to help:

- Sign up for their mailing list and add your name to petitions as people work to change laws surrounding animal cruelty
- Donate to their general fund so they can accomplish their many projects
- Browse their website and learn more about the many different animals they help
- Learn about which products are cruelty-free and which still test on animals, and then make the switch in which toiletries you buy!

Recommended by Amanda S. (youth director) because “God created animals and nature for us to use but also to care for. If we use animals for food and other needs, the least we can do is ensure they don’t live a life of needless illness and suffering.”

Misc. Organizations

These charities don’t fall under any of the above categories!

He For She

Website: www.heforshe.org

Facebook: He for She

Who they are: UN Women's Solidarity Movement for Gender Equality bringing together one half of humanity in support of the other half of humanity, for the benefit of all.

Ways to help:

- Join the movement on their website and spread the word about gender equality
- Download the action kit to learn more
- Donate online to provide shelter and life skills for refugee women in Jordan, enable Dalit women to work in India, train entrepreneurs in South Africa, and provide loans for workers and farmers in Zimbabwe or Guatemala

Recommended by Emily P. (grade 10) because they “show we have to not only be equal to women, but to men also.”

Dove Foundation

Website: www.dove.us/Our-Mission/Girls-Self-Esteem

Facebook: Dove

Who they are: Dove has a vision of a world where beauty is a source of confidence, and not anxiety. Their website has resources to help educate girls and women about the diversity of beauty.

Ways to help:

- Check out their website to learn more about the negative messages that media sends women and girls about their bodies and looks
- Watch their videos or download their teaching resources to learn more and teach others
- Remind the ladies in your life that they are beautiful the way they are!
- Host a spa night and tell the ladies in your life about this information and encourage them

Recommended by Francesca B. (grade 10) because they “show girls they are beautiful.”

Cassie & Friends

Website: www.cassieandfriends.ca

Facebook: Cassie and Friends Society for Juvenile Arthritis

Who they are: We’re working on raising awareness of juvenile arthritis and other childhood rheumatic diseases by raising funds for research, pediatric rheumatology programs, services, equipment, and educational events.

Ways to help:

- Donate on their website to raise money for research, programs, and more to help young people suffering from Juvenile Arthritis

Recommended by Breanna S. (grade 10) because “I have juvenile arthritis too so I know what it’s like and this organization helps others with arthritis.”