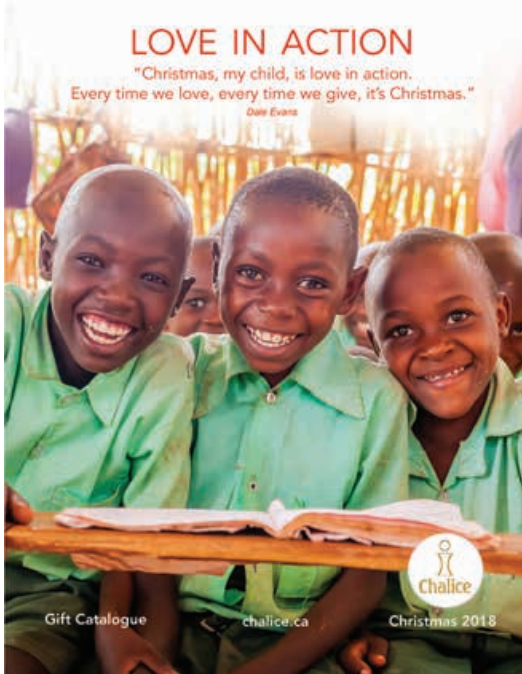




Christmas gift catalogue impact stories 2018



Thank you for your support.

We are overjoyed to share with you some of the stories received from our sponsor sites about the children and families impacted by your support of our 2018 Gift Catalogue.

Putting your love in action resulted in almost \$1.7 million in much needed items used to improve lives in the communities where we work.

Water tanks end thirst

The joy radiating from the children at St. Mary's primary school in Mombasa, Kenya is contagious. With no water source, life was previously very difficult for the students and teachers at the school. It was hard to maintain proper hygiene, and the young children were unable to bring enough water and food to meet their needs each day.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, two large water tanks were given to the school, which were filled with 2000 litres of water during the rainy season.

The water tanks improved hygiene conditions, provided safe drinking water for the children, and supported the parents and teachers to start a school feeding program.



[x2] double your gift!

A private donor is generously offering gift matching for two gift items this year up to \$100,000. Look for the [2x] in our 2019 catalogue to double your impact this year!

Orphanages and high risk babies and children # 353

Most needed gift # 700





Livestock improves lives

The Dudik family from our Pochaiv site in Ukraine work hard to provide for their family, but without formal education, they found themselves working seasonal farming jobs. While they grew a small vegetable garden at home, it wasn't enough to meet their basic needs.

They were relieved when their two children were enrolled in our sponsorship program, alleviating some of the financial strain on the family. Mrs. Dudik loved cattle and dreamed of owning her own cow. She learned milk processing skills from her grandmother and wanted to open her own small dairy business to help support her family.

Since the family couldn't afford to buy a cow, her dreams were out of reach until her family received a cow through our gift catalogue! Now, Mrs. Dudik is able to process milk. She keeps a portion for her family's needs and sells the rest to customers. The family is looking forward to their lives improving thanks to the generosity of gift catalogue purchases.

Encouraged entrepreneurs

There are many single parents at our sponsor sites who care for a disabled child or infirm parent. They are willing and able to work but must stay home to care for their family.

In Arica, Chile, Cynthia was so happy to receive the gift of a washing machine, two beds, and mattresses. One of her children, Camila, suffers from a congenital defect causing breathing and digestive difficulties. She has been hospitalized several times and requires constant care. "Thank you for the washing machine," Cynthia says. "I am now working from home washing bedding for people in my neighbourhood. I can't go out to work because I have to take care of Camila, but now I can work from home, which has helped us a lot."



Lively classrooms

Our Mercy Care site in Kenya used a portion of their gift catalogue funds to improve the education of children in remote villages.

They purchased both English and Kiswahili books for children in secondary schools where families were unable to afford the required text books. In many of these schools, children perform poorly in their national exams in languages due to lack of learning materials.

Our gift catalogue program also supplied three public primary schools with 75 desks. Previously, students had been sitting four pupils at each desk or on the floor. This caused disruptions and made it difficult for students to write and teachers to instruct. Lessons are going much smoother thanks to the new desks. The students and teachers both express their gratitude to the donors who made these wonderful gifts possible.