The Orphans and Vulnerable Groups Fund supports the efforts of Habitat for Humanity organizations to provide adequate shelter and other interventions for particularly vulnerable people in communities around the world.

These groups — children who have lost one or both parents, people with a disease or disability, and marginalized people suffering social exclusion — are confronted by many barriers to escaping chronic poverty. The OVG Fund supports Habitat in providing the most vulnerable with a hand up through housing solutions.

In fiscal year 2021, 188 U.S. Habitat organizations tithed $744,100 to the OVG fund. These tithes will support programs in Bangladesh, Haiti, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Uganda and Zambia. In addition, one U.S. affiliate tithed on a bequest in September 2020 and funded a Haiti project serving the elderly with $100,000 in support. Another U.S. affiliate gave a special tith of $30,000 each to support one project in Nepal serving marginalized families and a second in Kenya serving orphans and their caretakers.

If you are interested in learning more about how you can support the OVG Fund, please visit the tithe homepage on MyHabitat – hfhi.sharepoint.com/sites/Tithe – or contact us directly at tithe@habitat.org.

Orphans and Vulnerable Groups Fund distribution
Fiscal year 2021
FY2021 Orphans and Vulnerable Groups Fund distribution

**$224,648 TO SUPPORT VULNERABLE CHILDREN IN UGANDA**
Habitat Uganda supports vulnerable children and their caretakers in Kumi district by building homes with a ventilated pit latrine, shower stall and water tank. Family members also are trained on HIV/AIDs treatment and management, succession planning and more. One youth from each household also has the opportunity for training at a vocational school. With support from the OVG Fund, Habitat Uganda will serve an additional 18 families.

**$100,000 TO PROVIDE CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR RISHIPARA COMMUNITIES IN BANGLADESH**
The coastal area in southwestern Bangladesh is home to the Rishi people, who are socially excluded as they are considered part of the “untouchable” caste. With continued support from the OVG Fund, Habitat Bangladesh will construct or renovate 26 houses with toilets and two community bathhouses to serve 150 individuals. Habitat will distribute 180 hygiene kits to families to protect against the spread of COVID-19, and community members will be trained in comprehensive water, sanitation and hygiene practices.

**$116,000 TO HELP VULNERABLE FAMILIES IN SRI LANKA**
Habitat Sri Lanka provides vulnerable families — especially the elderly, widows, and children who have lost one or both parents — with new housing, repairs and hygiene education. Habitat Sri Lanka will use OVG funds to serve an additional 20 families.

**$50,000 TO SUPPORT THE BEDKOT COMMUNITY IN NEPAL**
The Bedkot community consists of Dalits, indigenous Janajati and Brahmins/Chettris, all of whom are minority groups who have been isolated socially and physically. Building on the past success of the Haliya project supported by the OVG Fund in 2018 and 2019, Habitat Nepal will support 15 families in a new community, with new housing, clean drinking water, secure tenure and community infrastructure improvements, such as drainage and street lighting.

**$100,000 TO SUPPORT HOUSING SOLUTIONS FOR THE ELDERLY IN HAITI**
The elderly population in Haiti is particularly vulnerable to poverty, homelessness, disease and disaster because of inadequate support from the government and social services. With the OVG Fund, Habitat Haiti will work in disaster-impacted communities and provide 15 homeowners who are 65 and older with disaster-resilient homes, latrines and water collection tanks. Habitat Haiti also will train 1,000 elderly individuals in reducing the risk of disease related to COVID-19 and cholera.

**$100,000 TO PROVIDE HOUSING FOR VULNERABLE CHILDREN IN ZAMBIA**
Habitat Zambia supports vulnerable children and their caregivers with new housing and improved sanitation. With its holistic programming, Habitat Zambia also provides trainings on succession planning, HIV/AIDs prevention and more. With the OVG Fund support, Habitat Zambia will serve an additional 10 families with new housing and 30 individuals with comprehensive resilience training.

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