

A gift in your Will to



Widows in Nepal learn food preparation to secure an income for themselves

Throughout the world, millions of women and girls experience violence and discrimination as part of their daily lives.

For over 28 years Womankind Worldwide has been helping courageous individuals escape violence and transform their lives. We help women come together to claim their rights and create change in their communities. Together we are changing the world.

We have a vision of a just world where the rights of all women are respected, valued and realised. You can help us achieve this for the women and girls of tomorrow by leaving a gift in your Will to Womankind Worldwide.

How gifts in Wills help women around the world

Leaving a gift in your Will is one of the best ways to support a cause that you care about. The women and girls we work for have benefited from the kindness of supporters who have remembered our work in their Wills.

Patricia Frost from London left a gift to Womankind in her Will. Her friend Helen says, “Pat admired the work Womankind does and I know that she would be happy to think that she can still help women who lack most of the freedoms we take for granted.”

Womankind Worldwide has over 28 years of experience, supporting effective projects that use the understanding of local women’s organisations. We provide tailored support and expertise in women’s human rights to help women’s organisations thrive.

Because we work with local women’s organisations, building them up through training and support, our work has lasting and wide-reaching effects. For example:

- In 2016, **3,927 girls** became aware of their rights thanks to programmes led by our partner **Humanitarian Assistance for the Women and Children of Afghanistan**.
- **5,995 people** were reached by **59** community based anti-violence teams, trained by our partner **National Association for Women’s Organisations in Uganda** to provide counselling and referrals to services.



Women in Ethiopia receive literacy training to help with their business management

We cannot foresee where Womankind might be needed most in the future. Supporting women who experience violence during conflict; increasing women’s financial independence; and working to make women’s rights a reality when a government passes new legislation are all possible when we have the freedom to respond to unforeseen needs and seize new opportunities.

By leaving a gift in your Will to Womankind Worldwide you can make a world where all women live free from violence, have a say in decisions and control their own livelihoods more possible.

Every gift in every Will makes a difference.

Over the years, women and men have left gifts to Womankind Worldwide. Some are modest. Some are substantial. Each one has been put to work to help improve women’s lives in practical ways.

Reaching more women in more countries



In 2011 a gift in a Will allowed us to start working in a new country; Sierra Leone, where we now have three partners.

After the civil war, during which over 250,000 women were raped, there was virtually no way for women to get justice after suffering abuse. But now our partners are working hard to change this. For example, thanks to Women Against Violence and Exploitation in Society, community laws have been changed to secure the rights of women and 65% of people interviewed have seen a reduction in violence against women.

When Musu's husband died his family tried to take their land from her. But thanks to WAVES' work in her community she realised she had rights to the land "I can now proudly support my family and my children and grandchildren can go to school and be better educated."

A brighter future for women in Nepal: A generous gift from Nancy

In Nepal when a woman becomes a widow she not only has to face her loss but also the prospect of exclusion, discrimination and even violence.

Nancy had supported Womankind since 2003, including gifts to our partners in Nepal. So using her generous £30,000 gift to support our partner in Nepal, Women for Human Rights, seemed appropriate. WHR works with widows to help them lead more independent, financially stable lives. Nancy's money is being spent on skills training so widows can start their own businesses and gain employment. It will also give them access to markets so they can sell their goods regularly. Nancy's gift has given widows in Nepal a brighter future.



Leaving a gift to Womankind – Frequently Asked Questions

Here are the answers to some frequently asked questions about leaving a gift to Womankind in your Will.

What if I already have a Will?

Adding a gift to Womankind to an existing Will is easy. Your solicitor will write a 'codicil' for you, which you simply keep with your Will, though you mustn't attach it physically to it.

What if I don't have a Will?

If you haven't made a Will yet, deciding to leave something to Womankind is a good reason for going to see a solicitor.

Without a Will, your estate will simply be distributed according to the law, which cannot take into account any wishes you may have expressed verbally during your lifetime.

If you want a partner to whom you are not married to benefit from your estate, or if you want to say who you would like to care for any children should you die before they reach 18, this can be done by making a Will. Making a Will also enables you to get a feel for whether your estate is likely to attract inheritance tax, and to make plans for reducing the amount payable if you wish.

Are gifts to charities in Wills tax efficient?

If what you leave behind is currently worth more than £325,000 it may attract inheritance tax. That means, 40% tax being payable on anything over that threshold. The good news is that a gift to Womankind can be given out of your estate tax free, so it can help you too. Please speak to your solicitor for guidance.

Can I be sure my gift will be spent appropriately?

You can be confident that your support will be contributing to work that is genuinely making a difference and enabling women to achieve real change in their lives. Because we work with local women's organisations, building them up through training and support, the legacy of our work remains even after a project or partnership ends.

We'll be honest, Womankind does need to re-invest some money into fundraising, governance and administration, to ensure the work of Womankind and our partners is sustainable for the long-term, but we ensure this is done in a cost effective way. For every £1 invested in fundraising we raise £4.50.

Can I make a gift to a specific project?

It is more helpful for us when gifts are left to Womankind for our general charitable purpose. We hope that it will be a long time before we receive the gift and there is a chance that we may have raised the funds to complete the project, or, even better, seen such a decrease in need in that part of the world that we can move on to supporting women in a new area.

Should I inform Womankind Worldwide about my wishes?

Your Will is your business but when people let us know that they have put a gift in their Will, we are very pleased to have the chance to say thank you in person.

What kind of legacy is most useful to Womankind?

You can arrange your gift in different ways:

- a **pecuniary legacy** means a gift of a specific sum of money or item
- a **residuary legacy** means leaving all or a proportion of whatever remains of your estate after all other gifts, debts and liabilities have been paid out
- a **specific legacy** is the gift of a specific item of value such as property, jewellery or stocks and shares

Leaving Womankind a share of your estate is most useful to Womankind as it protects your gift from being nibbled away by inflation, as a gift of a specific sum of money might be.

Wording for a residuary legacy to help your solicitor

'Subject to the payment of my debts, funeral and testamentary expenses, I give the whole/___% of my estate not otherwise disposed of by this my Will to Womankind Worldwide (Registered Charity Number: 328206) of Wenlock Studios, 50-52 Wharf Road, London, N1 7EU, for the general purposes of Womankind Worldwide. I further direct that the receipt of the Executive Director or other proper officer of Womankind Worldwide for the time being shall be a full and sufficient discharge of the said legacy.'

Wording for a pecuniary legacy to help your solicitor

'I give £_____ free of tax to Womankind Worldwide (Registered Charity Number: 328206) of Wenlock Studios, 50-52 Wharf Road, London, N1 7EU, for the general purposes of Womankind Worldwide. I further direct that the receipt of the Executive Director or other proper officer of Womankind Worldwide for the time being shall be a full and sufficient discharge of the said legacy.'

Organising a reversionary legacy

A reversionary legacy means leaving to Womankind something that you would like someone else to have use of for their lifetime – for example, a house, money invested in a trust, or even stocks and shares.

If you would like someone you care about to benefit from your assets during their lifetime, and then for the gift to pass to Womankind, please speak to your solicitor. He or she will be able to guide you through the options available to you.

Thank you for taking time to read this information pack.

If you would like to let us know that you have made a gift in your Will, you can contact us through post at Womankind Worldwide, Wenlock Studios, 50-52 Wharf Road, London, N1 7EU or let Charlotte Matthews (who you can also contact with any questions you may have) know at CharlotteM@womankind.org.uk or on 020 3735 5558.



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