

about BE THE ANSWER

OUR MISSION STATEMENT. . .

To empower individuals to use their own talents, in their own ways to make positive change for the 132 million children who are living outside of permanent parental care or are at risk of becoming orphans.



OUR BELIEFS. . .

It takes a village to raise a child. It **TAKES THE WORLD** to raise 132 million orphans.

We, as individuals and society, are responsible for ensuring that all children live in loving, safe and **PERMANENT FAMILIES**.

Living, growing and dying in a family is a **BASIC HUMAN RIGHT**.

We, each with individual talents and resources, must **MOBILIZE as a community** to support children and families, advocate with governments and raise society's awareness of the **WORLD ORPHAN CRISIS**.

Quote from
Anonymous Orphan

We have all been through difficult situations and **pain** that no child should endure. We all know what it is like to be **abandoned** and **AFRAID**. The storms of life have rained **HEAVY** on us.



Kamani (3) and her brother Birsa (5) lost both of their parents to tuberculosis. After their parents' death, Indian Child Welfare officials learned that both Kamani and Birsa also tested positive for TB. At the time of this photo, treatment and hope for adoption continue.

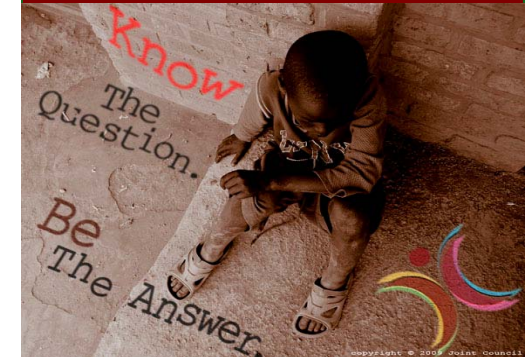


Be The Answer is sponsored by Joint Council on International Children's Services. For over 32 years in 52 countries, Joint Council continues to serve children in need of a family.

www.jointcouncil.org



Be the Answer



Advocating for the right of every child to a safe, permanent, and loving family



Here's how:

1. Become the Answer

You can *Be the Answer* by committing to a \$40/year donation. By doing so, you will be joining tens of thousands who have already committed to *Be the Answer*. Join and...

2. Become a Leader in Your Community

Use your affiliation with *Be the Answer* to raise awareness and motivate your friends, family, and community to *Be The Answer* themselves. You have the skills, the passion, and the power. Use it to lead others. Encourage them to join you in your effort by...

3. Spread the Word

Use your blog, Facebook page, Twitter account, or YouTube to bring awareness to the cause. Display your *Be The Answer* logo, add the *Be The Answer* video, post *Be The Answer*, and explain why solving the world orphan crisis is important to you. By spreading the word, you are giving a voice to the vulnerable children and families of the world. And don't forget to...

4. Host A Dinner or Other Event

Combine all of these ideas and host a dinner in honor of the children. Ask for a donation per plate. Show the *Be the Answer* video. Give out your brochures. Set up a donation jar. And while you are on a roll you might as well...

5. Support Country and Program Initiatives

Let your voice be heard by leaders of governments around the world and within your community! Children living in orphanages simply are not heard. Raise your voice for those who cannot speak for themselves. Don't know how? Then join one of our initiatives. In the past two years, we have launched eight different campaigns with local, national, and international governments. But you don't want to stop there, you want to...

6. Volunteer

Being the Answer is not for the faint of heart. It takes time (whatever you can give), skills (not too much), and money (just a tiny bit). So volunteering is critical. You want to help with a range of events, projects, and day-to-day advocacy. Got a computer and a phone? Then where you live is not important. Let us know how you can help. Finally, don't forget to...



Watch *Be The Answer* on YouTube

Visit *Be The Answer* at
www.jointcouncil.org

7. Be Creative!

Be the Answer is all about you using your own talents, in your own ways to make change. Are you an artist or musician? Use your creative talents to inspire others. Do you have excess "stuff?" Sell the items you no longer need to support the cause. Are you a college student? Raise awareness on campus. You have the power, and you have a camera, so...

8. Document, Produce, and Publish!

When you're out there supporting, advocating and using your skills to support the orphans and vulnerable children don't forget to document the events and share what you are doing with the community...post your photos on the *Be The Answer* page on Facebook. Share your ideas and encourage others to join the effort!

If all of the world's orphans and vulnerable children lived in one country, it would be the 9th largest in the world.

