



GUIDE TO

Leave a legacy with
**Children Change
Colombia**

Simple steps and guidance to
help you make a difference





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Our work

Over the last 35 years, CCC has helped more than 77,263 children to overcome the traumas of poverty, armed conflict, displacement and lack of education through over 76 projects.

Our three main focus points are recruitment into armed groups, sexual and gender based violence, and exclusion from education, as we believe these are the most neglected and important issues for children in Colombia.

More recently, we have also been working on three cross-cutting issues of **raising awareness for the environment, children and young people on the move, and the pandemic.**

By leaving a donation in your will, you will be giving the opportunity of a lifetime to even more children to have a brighter future.



Together with Acadesan, CCC is currently helping improve Afro-Colombian children's access to 'ethno education' and protect them from illegal mining in the Chocó & Valle de Cauca region.

Getting started

Leaving a charitable legacy in your will is much simpler than you might think. However, there are some important steps that need to be completed in order to fulfil your wishes.

1. Make sure your loved ones have been taken care of. Choose **who you want** to put in your will.



This is the number one priority and should come before considering leaving any money to NGOs like CCC.

2. Work out the value of **your estate** and decide which gifts you want to give



Calculate your total number of assets (e.g. car, house, jewellery, possessions, bank accounts etc.) and then subtract from this your total number of liabilities (debts, mortgage, overdrafts etc.).

3. Make sure your will is written according to **your wishes**, including specific details wherever necessary.



CCC currently has a partnership with FreeWills (www.freewills.co.uk) who provide free online advice for creating your legally binding document.

4.

Choose an **executor** or executors, who will ensure your wishes are carried out in your absence.



This can be a family relative, friend or legal professional.

5.

Choose an **executor** or executors, who will ensure your wishes are carried out in your absence.



Inheritance tax is usually a 40% charge on your estate above the threshold. It can be a complicated matter. To find out more, visit the [HMRC website](#).

6.

Don't forget to consider **inheritance tax**



You should use a professional writer when writing your will. Your will must be signed and witnessed. We recommended you keep copies of your will and kept where it can be easily located.

7.

Follow the CCC donation instructions to secure your legacy. **If you have left a gift to us, please do let us know** so we can pass on our gratitude, on behalf of both us and our beneficiaries.



Follow [this](#) link to donate. Donations can be made via cheque, direct debit, bank transfer, over the phone, or see other options.

8.

Lastly, keep **your will up to date**.



This is especially important if your circumstances change.

Please be careful in vulnerable circumstances, or case of illness: the donor must be of sound mind, and given a terminal illness, a third party solicitor must be involved. Please ensure your donation does not interfere with any family inheritance disputes, and that your wishes are 100% your decision without the pressure of any outside party.

Frequently asked QS

Q. Are there different types of gift that can be left in a will?

A. Yes. The three types are: pecuniary, which means leaving a fixed amount of money; specific involves leaving particular item of value, such as land, shares or possessions; residuary entails leaving a percentage or share of your estate to your chosen charity once all your other payments have been taken care of, and these are the types of gifts that generally have the most impact.

Q. What are the tax implications of leaving a gift to charity?

A. If 10% or more of your estate is left to charity, this will reduce your inheritance tax. Similarly, your donation may be subtracted from your estate before inheritance tax is calculated. Make sure to sign a gift aid form, as this will also allow the reclaiming of any tax paid on your donations. However, it is important to check implications for your specific situation, which can be done by contacting HMRC.

Q. How big does my donation have to be? Is there a minimum?

A. There is no prescribed amount, you may leave as much, or as little, as you feel comfortable with. Any donations will have an impact on our projects and be a great help to the children in Colombia.

Q. Do I have to be a certain age in order to add a charitable gift to my will?

A. No. You can indicate your wishes whenever you feel ready and know what your wishes are. This can be anything from the ages of 40, 50 or 60.



CCC real life stories

PazA la Mochila

In 2024, Children Change Colombia launched the 'PazA la Mochila' project, which aims to create educational spaces where children and young people can understand the history and complexity of the Colombian armed conflict, assess their impact on society, and mobilise communities towards peace-building and non-repetition.

The project is based around a 'Mochila' (backpack), which provides both physical and digital resources to be used in workshops either directly with children and young people, or with community leaders and educators who can then transfer their experience and knowledge to their local community.

As of August 2025, our physical backpacks have travelled all over Colombia, with 55 backpacks visiting 12 regions and 30 establishments all over the country. In total, 280 educators and 4,000 children have benefited from this programme, not including the countless extra families and community members to whom these peace-based strategies are being passed along.

It is through projects like these that the message of peace can continue to be spread across the country and through generations.



Young Livelihoods & Bilingualism in Santander



CCC's project in Santander aims to empower adolescents and young individuals by equipping them with entrepreneurship and employability skills, with an emphasis on learning English, to successfully enter the working world. This will be achieved through education in financial literacy, job seeking, green and sustainable business practices, entrepreneurship education, and English language lessons.

The project targets 500 students from rural schools across Santander, along the Ruta del Cacao road.

By providing them with these tools, the project aims to enable them to take control of their economic futures, ultimately leading to improved livelihoods and a reduction in unemployment levels within the region.

Keiner's Story

Keiner's life has been disrupted by conflict from a young age. His father was murdered when he was 3, and his mother abandoned him and his siblings soon after. His grandmother was left to raise them, and he spent his childhood in La Sierra Nevada on the North coast of Colombia. Despite the hardships, Keiner always dreamt of starting his own business. At 16, he attended a school supported by our "Education, Livelihoods, and Entrepreneurship" project, where he received psychosocial support, English classes, and entrepreneurship workshops. Through our partnership with Politécnico Gran Colombiano, he then received a full scholarship to study Law, and he hopes to become a lawyer and use his skills to help his community.

While studying, he has also found a unique way to give back to his community by participating in the "Sé" project as a music teacher! As part of this initiative, Keiner is honing his musical talents while simultaneously learning how to teach and inspire others. This opportunity allows him to channel his passion for music into a tool for education and transformation in his community.

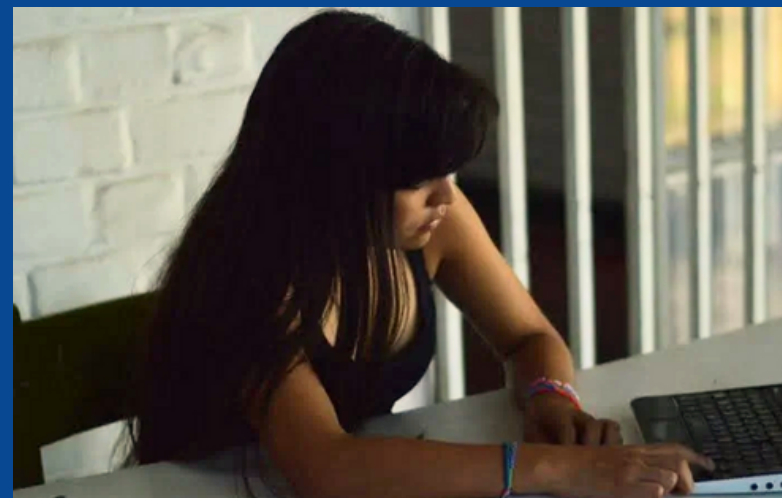


Sandra's Story

"My story is a hard one to tell. After my parents separated when I was 11 years old, a friend of theirs sexually abused me. I got pregnant but lost the baby after a few months. Shortly after, I ran away from home and started dealing and taking drugs. I had two children but their father left me to raise them without any money or any support. I felt there was no other option - I started working as a sex worker.

It was then that **Hogar Amanaser** a project supported by CCC approached me and started to help me. Before I enrolled in their project, my children stayed indoors all day because I was too afraid for them to go out and play on the streets. Now, they participate in workshops which teach them how to avoid sexual exploitation and drugs. They are a lot happier and so am I as I know they will have a much better childhood and life than I did.

I have been participating in the project for one year. With the support, guidance and opportunities they have given me, I have finally managed to leave sex work. I am now studying and thanks to the family workshops, I am now much more committed to my children. These workshops have reassured me and helped me gain access to my rights, participate in beauty training and made me realise I want a fresh start in life. I am looking for a job to provide a better future and life for me and my children."





35 years of CCC history



1991

CCC founded following a documentary by Desmond Wilcox about homeless and at-risk children living in the sewers of Bogotá. This tragedy sparked an emotional response from many around the world.



1996

Fe y alegría was introduced. They had children from gangs engage in music, dance and recreational activities.



2003

We started to work with Colegio del Cuerpo. They provided support to children that had witnessed war, improving their self-worth and how to cope with life as a displaced individual.

1992



A children's home is built. Housing 300 children and providing them with education, vocational training and healthcare.

1990s



Flying Doctor Service came into place. This service worked toward eradicating fatal diseases that children are prone to, such as malaria and cholera.

2000s



We supported the Cedavida Organisation. Cedavida worked with families that had been displaced by the conflict.

2004



We began working with Fundamor Foundation. They provide medical, educational and emotional support for orphaned and abandoned children affected by HIV and AIDs.



Asociación Cristiana de Jóvenes (ACJ)

Combat sexual and gender-based violence, a 'silent' issue, with effects that can endure generations. Approximately 70% of cases go unreported, and an estimated 200,000 children are abused each year.

2010



Fundación CRAN

Provides foster homes and psychosocial support for children formerly associated with illegal armed groups.

2015



ACADESAN

Work against the use of child labour in illegal mining, deforestation and cocoa farming. by tackling high student drop out rates and improving the quality of education.

2019



Caribbean Project

Improving education by providing teacher training, resources and extracurricular activities to improve social skills and vocational training. CCC's first directly implemented project in the Sierra Nevada of Santa Marta.

2022



Scholarship Programme

Provides full online scholarships to young people in partnerships with Colombian universities. In addition to tuition fees, scholars receive work tools and psychosocial support during their studies.

2024

2013



Tiempo de Juego

Prevent children from becoming involved in gangs by promoting the understanding of rights, positive youth leadership and safe environments.

2016



Fundescodes

Supporting children in Buenaventura, a key area in the Colombian conflict, to protect children's rights and to support those who have been exposed to violence and suffering in conflict.

2020



COVID Support

Providing an emergency response during the COVID-19 pandemic, supporting 25,000 people with food, water and hygiene kits, alongside tablets and laptops for remote learning purposes.

2023



Football for Peace

Empowers young children by combining psychosocial support, technical football training and peacebuilding education



If you have any further questions or would like to get in touch, here are our contact details as well as some useful links:

[Website](#)

[Instagram:](#)

@childrenchange colombia

[Facebook:](#)

@ChildChangeCOL

[Twitter:](#)

@ChildChangeCOL

[Email:](#)

info@childrenchange colombia.org

Our recommended wills agency is

[Free Wills.](#)

