



VEGAN COMPASSION GROUP SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2026



Dear Friends,

Although we have no new projects to report since our Annual Report at the end of 2025 (in fact we have one fewer for the moment), our commitment to the three that are ongoing

has increased and demanded greater financial support. This applies particularly to our provision of daily evening meals for children at the vegan orphanage *Caring for All Beings* in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

Sending supporter-donated funds to faraway countries is a great responsibility and potentially perilous. We receive relatively regular applications across the world from organisations we know nothing about. Some are obvious scams, while a bit of research easily unmask others. Some might well be genuine and it hurts a little to have to cast them aside, partially because of limited funds but also because it's near-impossible to verify their legitimacy as stringently as we feel is necessary. We place great emphasis on being able to create trusting relationships with the organisations we partner with.

Our admiration for the three charities that currently receive VCG funding goes almost beyond trust: their work in providing humanitarian aid in punishing circumstances is truly inspiring. In keeping with our vegan beliefs, the programmes we have undertaken embrace efforts to alleviate the suffering of both people and non-human animals.

Under the leadership of Joshue Mufabale, the DRC vegan orphanage feeds, homes and provides love, education and skills training for children who have lost family in the brutal civil war that has plagued the country for more than two decades.

In Nepal, the *Magic Marble Foundation's* Care Centre in Kathmandu offers accommodation, medical attention, rehabilitation and long-term care for rescued and abandoned dogs. Its mission is to create a compassionate and sustainable model of animal care rooted in vegan ethics and practices – a message it takes beyond the centre itself to educate local communities.

In Ethiopia, another nation to have suffered a vicious civil war, we have been working with the *International Fund for Africa* on school feeding programmes for almost a decade now. There is ample evidence that the food we continue to sponsor for vulnerable children and their families has improved educational opportunities for many, as well as alleviating short-term hunger.

You can read more about these initiatives below.

With gratitude for all your support,

Mark Gold, Founder

June 2026

Supporting orphans in the Democratic Republic of Congo

The vegan orphanage *Caring for All Beings* in the still dangerous city of Goma in the east of the country is providing shelter and a new life for children whose lives have been devastated by the long-running civil war.

Our involvement began in October last year when we began providing funds for an evening meal three days a week.

From January 1, 2026, we were able to increase this to seven days – thanks largely to the generous support of those who answered our special appeal in last year's Annual Report and elsewhere.

Before that date, a lack of resources meant that 24 of the children could only visit as day residents and had to head off at 4 pm to find a floor to sleep on. They faced dangerous and frightening journeys to and from the centre, at risk from violent attack and even rape. But our provision of food every evening both relieved hunger and allowed all of the children to move full-time into a safe and loving environment at *Caring for All Beings*. They now have a home that strives to give them 'everything a parent would give their children when they have the means'.

Through regular Zoom meetings, it's been a privilege to watch the children's development under the inspiring leadership of Joshua Mufabale (known affectionately as Mr H, or Mr Humanitarian!) as they learn English, help to grow vegetables, cook vegan meals and learn skills that will later serve them well in their communities.

As I write, the DRC faces a new challenge with the deadly outbreak of Ebola. Cases have

already been reported in Goma itself, leading the orphanage to go into a difficult lockdown at the end of May. Although there are a few promising signs that the virus might be brought under control more swiftly than was first feared, the danger remains considerable.

While we had already committed to providing meals until the end of 2026, we have helped further at this very critical time by bringing forward our agreed funding dates. With some uncertainty over future food availability if the virus spreads, this has allowed the orphanage to purchase medium-term stores of staples, ensuring that the children will be well fed even if shortages occur.



Feeding homeless dogs in Nepal

As a vegan humanitarian organisation, one of our main aims is to encourage an understanding of the idea that all animals experience pain and suffering, and that the theoretical circle of compassion that exists for people should be extended to include non-humans. In our small way, our primary aim is to achieve some measurable good for humans and non-humans alike, while also offering an ethical context for our actions.

The US-based organisation Magic Marble Foundation (MMF) shares our beliefs. Having in the past supported its feeding programme for schoolchildren in Uganda, we have more recently become involved with its state-of-the-art veterinary centre in Kathmandu, Nepal. Our first donation enabled the purchase of new medical equipment and our second covered the cost of meals and funds towards MMF's sterilisation programme for homeless dogs – plus a small contribution towards a compassion and care education initiative in the local community.

A third donation is due before July 1st and will cover the cost of nutritious vegan meals and vitamins for dogs at the centre – 60 at any one time – until the end of the year. Many dogs arrive at the facility suffering from malnutrition, injury, neglect, abuse or abandonment. Some are disabled, blind, elderly or recovering from serious medical conditions. They depend upon the consistent nutrition, medication and attentive daily care that they receive from the dedicated team.





School feeding programme in Ethiopia

Our partnership with the International Fund for Africa (IFA) in Ethiopia dates right back to the formation of our charity. Over the years, we have supported several of this pioneering vegan organisation's school feeding programmes, some of which have been curtailed or replaced because of security issues caused by the civil war in which millions have died. We have also answered IFA's special requests to assist its efforts to feed desperate displaced people fleeing from violence.

The latest partnership has seen us provide funds to feed 75 of the most economically vulnerable students at three primary schools – Tetese Primary School (27 beneficiaries), Sheriye Primary School (17) and Dire Meda Primary School (31) – located in the Northern Shewa zone of the Amhara region of this vast country. Each month, the students' families receive a take-home multigrain mix carefully formulated to ensure maximum nutritional

benefit. The food parcels include barley, wheat, maize, chickpeas, beans, sorghum, teff and whole lentils. Macaroni is also distributed separately.

It's regrettable that our funds limit us to helping only the most extremely economically challenged, chosen by a combination of head teachers and local authorities. While the parcels are primarily aimed at helping the students themselves, alleviating their immediate hunger and helping them to focus on their studies, the quantities provided allow their whole families to benefit. IFA also give training to all beneficiary families, demonstrating a variety of Ethiopian vegan recipes that can be created using the multigrain blend.

Two further benefits of the project are that two parents are employed to administer it and local growers enjoy a reliable income.

We will be renewing this project in the autumn.





Donation of multigrain cereals to beneficiaries

... And here comes the begging bowl!

Like so many other charities, we rely almost entirely on public donations to continue our work. Even though we are very fortunate to enjoy the support of a small and steadfast group of regular supporters, generating funds remains a constant anxiety – as it must be for others.

As mentioned, we have already been able to allocate funds to feed the children at *Caring for All Beings* and the homeless or sick dogs in Nepal until the end of the year. Resources have also been put aside to continue with the school feeding programme in Ethiopia from September. While we haven't been able to renew our contribution to an excellent year-long humane education programme in Guatemala, that decision was only partly the result of funding limitations. (The director with whom we had established a trusting relationship is no longer employed there and we need to be surer of the new regime before considering further commitment).

The problem is that the future becomes the present all too quickly! Having already committed record amounts in 2026, we now have to start thinking about 2027. How do we raise enough to continue or even expand current projects? Will it be possible to help others in need?

We know that we co-exist with many small and worthy charities and that everybody has limitations on the number of causes they can assist. All we would ask is that if you sympathise with our aims and the practical projects we undertake, please do keep us in mind if and when you might have the possibility of making charitable donations, whether now or in the months ahead.

Better still, would you consider joining the kind and loyal group of people who have set up a monthly direct debit to support us? Direct debits are particularly helpful in allowing us to forward-plan.

You can send individual donations or set up a direct debit [here](#).

Many thanks!

For more information, visit:

Website: vegancompassiongroup.co.uk

Email: info@vegancompassiongroup.co.uk

Facebook: Vegan Compassion Group

To donate, visit:

https://vegancompassiongroup.co.uk/vcg_public/vcg_donate.php