

Changing the world  
with **women and girls**

**act:onaid**

Make an incredible  
difference to so many lives  
with a **gift in your Will**

A gift left to  
ActionAid will  
make a lasting  
difference  
to future  
generations  
of women and  
girls living in  
poverty.

Thank you for requesting more information about leaving a gift in your Will to ActionAid. On behalf of all of us, I would like to thank you for considering supporting our life-changing work.

Because of the generosity of people like you, we have been able to change the lives of women and girls living in poverty around the world. We've prevented and responded to violence against women and girls, promoted girls' access to education and fought for equal pay and social protections for women in the workplace. Gifts in Wills have also enabled us to be on the ground saving lives and prioritising women's leadership during humanitarian emergencies.

Our work would simply not be possible without our amazing supporters, which is why I am so grateful that you are considering remembering ActionAid in your Will. A gift left to ActionAid will make a lasting difference to future generations of women and girls living in poverty.

Thank you again for your support,



**Girish Menon**  
CEO ActionAid UK



Fatema (left) is an ActionAid counsellor and paramedic. She works with Rohingya refugee women and girls in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.





Domestic violence survivor Lilian has transformed her life thanks to an ActionAid-supported peanut butter factory in Kenya.

**A gift in your Will could help change the lives of even more women and girls living in the world's poorest places.**

**In 2018 alone, the generosity of our supporters enabled us to:**

- Help set up six women's safe spaces in the Cox's Bazar refugee camp in Bangladesh. These safe spaces have supported nearly 16,000 Rohingya refugee women and girls.
- Support more than 20,000 women to take part in women's groups and claim their rights in Bangladesh, Ghana and Rwanda.
- Reach nearly 61,000 affected people during the first fortnight after the devastating Indonesia earthquakes in late September.

Figures like these are a testament to the amazing generosity of ActionAid UK's wonderful supporters. By remembering ActionAid in your Will, you can build on this progress for decades to come and help women and girls living in the world's poorest countries to make real, lasting change in their communities.

Please turn to the back of your booklet for more information about making this special gift.



## Case study:

# From survivor to rickshaw driver

When Talat married at 17, her husband's family began abusing her. They would demand money and prevent her from leaving the house on her own – not even to see her mother.

After five months of abuse, Talat's mother helped her daughter leave her abusive husband and contacted staff at ActionAid India's Gauravi One-Stop Crisis Centre in Bhopal. There, she received medical treatment, legal help and counselling – all under one roof. Talat also enrolled on a rehabilitation programme for women who have been affected by abuse.

As part of the programme, Talat was given the option to learn to make poppadums or

to train as an auto-rickshaw driver. "When I had the opportunity to learn how to drive, I chose it because I wanted to learn something different," she says.

Talat lacked confidence when she first went behind the wheel, but now feels happy on the road. In the future, she hopes to transport women and girls to and from the centre, as well as teach other women to drive.

Building on the success of our existing Gauravi One-Stop Crisis Centre, ActionAid India plans to support more One-Stop centres in the state of Madhya Pradesh and train more workers and volunteers to help survivors of violence get access to justice.

Our Gauravi One-Stop Crisis Centre has supported more than

**60,000**

women and girls since 2014.

When I had the opportunity to learn how to drive, I chose it because I wanted to learn something different.

**Talat**

ActionAid enabled Talat, a survivor of violence from India, to rebuild her life and become a rickshaw driver.





This nine-year-old pupil's life changed when ActionAid helped provide her school in Nepal with access to safe drinking water, a fence to keep the students safe, sports equipment and educational materials.

## The six steps to making the most important gift of all.

- 1 Work out the value of your estate.**  
Prepare a list of the approximate values of everything you own and any outstanding debts.
- 2 Decide on your beneficiaries.**  
List the people and organisations you want to give to in your Will and think about how you'd like to divide your estate between them. You'll want to make sure your loved ones are well looked after, but we hope you will also leave a percentage of your estate to ActionAid UK.
- 3 Appoint your executors.**  
They'll be responsible for ensuring your wishes are fulfilled. They could be members of your family, friends, a solicitor or even your bank manager.
- 4 Visit a solicitor to have your Will drawn up.**  
It must be signed in the presence of two witnesses. For help finding a solicitor near you, see our "Your Questions Answered" form.
- 5 Keep your Will in a safe place.**  
Your solicitor could look after it for you, or you may wish to store it in a safe place. For a one-off fee, you could store it with the Probate Service.



ActionAid is an international charity that works with women and girls living in poverty.

Our dedicated local staff are changing the world with women and girls. We are ending violence and fighting poverty so that all women, everywhere, can create the future they want.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us and we would be very happy to hear from you.

Tel: +44 (0)1460 238 000

Email: [legacies@actionaid.org](mailto:legacies@actionaid.org)

**On the cover:** Fulera (left), the mother of 14-year-old Sauda (right), was kidnapped for child marriage when she was a teenager. ActionAid now works in Fulera's village to tackle abduction for child marriage and raise awareness about the problems of child marriage.



ActionAid is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales (company number 01295174). Our England and Wales charity number is 274467, and our Scottish charity number is SC045476. Our registered office is 33-39, Bowling Green Lane, London EC1R 0BJ

A woman wearing a vibrant pink and green patterned sari is seated on the floor, lighting a traditional oil lamp (diya). The scene is dimly lit, with the primary light source being the flame of the diya, which casts a warm, golden glow. In the background, another person is partially visible, and the environment appears to be a simple, possibly outdoor or semi-outdoor, setting. The overall mood is serene and traditional.

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## **Leaving a gift in your Will to ActionAid UK**

Your questions answered

## What type of gift is best?

Any gift you can give to ActionAid UK will make a difference. A residuary gift is popular with many supporters because it takes care of their family first and remains proportional to the value of their estate by keeping pace with inflation. But any gift, large or small, can make a huge difference.

## Who should act as an executor of my Will?

Executors are the people who will carry out your wishes in accordance with your Will. You can appoint anyone you like – perhaps a close friend or family member – but make sure you ask them first. Some people prefer to appoint a professional executor, like a bank or solicitor, but we advise you to be aware of the amount they'll charge for this service before you decide.

## How do I choose my solicitor?

Details of solicitors in your area specialising in Wills can be found by searching the Law Society website [lawsociety.org.uk](https://www.lawsociety.org.uk) or calling their general enquiries line on 020 7242 1222. When deciding on a solicitor, we suggest that you ask how much they would charge for preparing your Will or Codicil and for dealing with your estate if appointed as executor.

During *Will Aid* month each November, many solicitors waive their fees for help drawing up your Will, in return for a voluntary donation to charity. You can find out more in the enclosed *Will Aid* leaflet.

## Inheritance Tax

Inheritance Tax is a tax on money or possessions you leave when you die. It's also sometimes payable on trusts or gifts made during someone's lifetime. Inheritance Tax may be payable on an estate which exceeds the current threshold (£325,000), although no tax is payable on gifts to charities.

Please see [gov.uk/inheritance-tax](https://gov.uk/inheritance-tax) for more information.

As tax is a complex area of law, we recommend you speak to an independent financial advisor or solicitor about the Inheritance Tax implications for your estate.

A properly drafted Will can help reduce the amount of tax payable, and increase the amount of your assets to go to your loved ones and chosen charities.

## Do I need to draw up a new Will?

If you do not wish to alter your existing Will other than to include a gift to ActionAid UK, you can amend your Will by preparing a document called a Codicil. We recommend that you consult a solicitor to ensure that the Codicil is valid and your wishes will take effect.

## Can I save tax by leaving a gift to ActionAid UK?

A gift to ActionAid UK in your Will is tax-exempt and this may save some of the tax your executors would otherwise have to pay from your estate. However, as tax is a complex area of law, we recommend you take specialist independent advice.

## Can I leave a legacy to a specific project or type of work?

Yes you can, but the communities who most need our support changes over time. Your gift is much more effective if you specify that it can be used where the need is greatest. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you'd like to discuss this.

## How will ActionAid UK spend my legacy?

Around **69%** of donations to ActionAid UK are spent directly on programme work, including emergency and humanitarian response. **17%** is spent on raising funds, **11%** is spent on running the organisation and **3%** on campaigning for change.

## Types of gifts in Wills

### Residuary gift:

The remainder of the estate once other gifts and payments have been made. This type of gift is popular because it takes care of others first and remains proportional to the value of your estate by keeping pace with inflation.

### Pecuniary gift:

A fixed sum of money. The value of the pecuniary gift could decrease over time, as the cost of living increases. For example, in fifteen years, £5,000 will buy a lot less than it does today.

### Specific gift:

A named item, for example a piece of jewellery or property.



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**Our dedicated local staff are changing the world with women and girls. We are ending violence and fighting poverty so that all women, everywhere, can create the future they want.**



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REGULATOR**

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**On the cover: Sabita, from Bangladesh, received disaster response training from ActionAid in the aftermath of Cyclone Mahasen in 2013.**



Girls playing at an  
Action Aid-supported  
school in Nepal.

**WILL  
AID**

Every November you can get the peace of mind that comes from making your Will – and instead of paying a solicitor's fee, you'll be helping good causes like ActionAid UK.



Changing the world  
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**actionaid**

Discover an easier way to write  
your Will – and help the causes  
you care for.

## Will Aid is simple.

Early in November, participating solicitors waive their fee for helping people to write a basic Will. Instead, they invite you to make a voluntary donation to charity.

**The suggested donation is:**

**£100** for a single basic Will

OR

**£180** for two basic  
matching or mirror Wills.

*Will Aid* helps raise millions of pounds each year for nine of the UK's best-loved charities, including ActionAid UK.

To get involved, simply use the “Find Solicitor” tool on the *Will Aid* website, and give them a call directly on **0300 0300 013** or email [enquiries@willaid.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@willaid.org.uk)

**Visit [www.willaid.org.uk](http://www.willaid.org.uk) for more details.**