



Leave a  
lasting  
footprint  
in our  
children's  
lives

Remembering  
**Stand by Me**  
in your Will



**STAND  
BY me**



**“Our children will never be included in anyone’s inheritance, so remembering them in your Will means so much as with your help we can continue to make lasting improvements to their lives.”**



Writing a Will is very important and will ensure your family and friends are looked after. Alongside taking care of your loved ones, leaving an additional gift to *Stand by Me* is a wonderful way to bless our children and is one of the most enduring ways for you to care for orphaned and abandoned children for many years to come.

Our children will never be included in anyone’s inheritance, so remembering them in your Will means so much. With your help we can continue to make lasting improvements to their lives, caring for them as Jesus would, by restoring their dignity and giving them a chance to become who God created them to be.

A legacy will enable *Stand by Me* to continue providing children the best care possible. It will help us bridge the gap between the ever increasing cost of child care and the income we receive from child sponsorship donations. It can also allow *Stand by Me* to commit to long term, larger projects such as building new children’s homes, new school classrooms and new facilities across our projects worldwide. This will enable us to rescue many more children from extreme circumstances and provide all our children, that God has entrusted to us, with better living facilities and loving care.

If you choose to remember *Stand by Me* in your Will, we promise you will be creating your own legacy and, whether your gift is financially large or small, it will leave a lasting footprint in our children’s lives.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Spurdle". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line underneath.

**David Spurdle**  
Executive Director



**Jane Gilchrist was a compassionate, thoughtful and caring sponsor. Her generous charitable giving over her lifetime reflected her desire to see children in Africa loved and cared for.**

"When Jane's cancer was diagnosed, we knew she probably did not have long to live. The doctors had said three to six months, but it was three weeks. We decided to honour Jane's memory by building a children's home in Bekoji in Ethiopia. When my brother-in-law and I visited Jane's Home I felt like bursting into tears when we were welcomed by the children singing, but I controlled myself in case the children thought I was unhappy with their singing! It was a HUGE joy to meet the children. Jane's Home is a wonderful memorial to my amazing wife."

**David Gilchrist, Jane's husband**

## Jane's Home

Grace is just one of the children living in Jane's Home. Found at the roadside just three weeks old, *Stand by Me* was the difference between life and death for her. She had no one to care for her and would have been put back where she was found, no chance of survival - but we couldn't let that happen. We adopted her, stood by her, named her Grace and provided her a mum and a family in Jane's Home.

Jane's amazing character shines through the smiles of Grace and the orphaned and abandoned children who live in this secure and loving home. The home is a wonderful example of how a gift in a Will can make a lasting difference for generations to come.

**"I hope to bring my children to visit it sometime. Jane's Home is a wonderful memorial to my amazing wife."**

*David and the children in Jane's Home.  
Grace is the smallest child.*





## A gift that can do so much

Organising and writing a Will can be an inexpensive, quick and simple process. When writing a Will or amending your existing Will to include the children of *Stand by Me* there are three main types of gifts to consider:

- A **residuary gift** is a percentage share of the residue of the estate after family and friends have been taken care of.
- A **pecuniary gift** is a monetary donation of a fixed amount (this can depreciate during the course of your lifetime due to inflation).
- A **specific gift** is a possession such as jewellery, property or shares.

## The best way to help *Stand by Me*

*Stand by Me* is thankful for gifts of any kind and of any size. However, the most helpful gift for *Stand by Me* is a residuary gift. This is a percentage of the residue of your estate once other gifts and payments have been made and it means that your gift rises at the same rate as inflation. A gift like this allows us to meet the greatest needs of the children in our care, changing the lives of needy children and bringing them hope and a brighter future.

If you would like to leave a residuary gift to *Stand by Me*, we suggest the following wording:

*"I give [enter percentage] percent of my residuary estate to Stand by Me, 630 Upper Brentwood Road, Romford, Essex, RM2 6HS, United Kingdom (Registered Charity number 1185124) to be applied for its general purposes and I declare that the receipt of the finance manager or appropriate officer shall be a complete discharge to my trustees."*

## In memory of a special sister

Gifts in memory are one way you can care for children long into the future and ensure that our children experience a life of love and care even after their sponsor passes away.

**Sue Gillingham writes:** "Brandy's sponsor was my sister Ann, who sadly passed away. She would have been thrilled to know she was still making a difference in this little girl's life even now! We can't change the whole world but we can change the whole world for one child."



Ann



Brandy

Brandy attends the *Stand by Me* Eva Russell School in the Dominican Republic. Life has been difficult for Brandy, her father has been imprisoned all her life and her mother has been arrested many times. Brandy has always struggled with the stigma of being their daughter.

Ann became Brandy's sponsor allowing her to receive a quality education and care at the Eva Russell School. Ann's letters of encouragement have given Brandy the knowledge that she is special and loved no matter who her parents are. When Ann passed away, it meant a great deal to Brandy that Ann's family, in her memory, funded a very special trip for Brandy and her friends to Santo Domingo, the capital city of the Dominican Republic. It was a once in a lifetime experience for Brandy and her friends who had an amazing time exploring the city and seeing the bright blue sea. Brandy will always treasure this special day and every time she thinks of the trip she will remember her wonderful sponsor Ann and the love that she showed her.



## How do I start?

To make writing a Will as clear, simple and stress-free as possible, we have put together 7 steps that we hope will help you.

1. Decide on your beneficiaries. The people or organisations that you wish to leave property, possessions or money to. Your list will probably include relatives, friends, other beneficiaries and, we hope, *Stand by Me*.
2. Work out the value of your estate, listing all your assets and financial details such as bank accounts, stocks and shares, pensions and life insurance, and then list your debts, if you have any.
3. If you do decide to leave a gift to *Stand by Me*, choose which type of gift you wish to leave (page 3). Use the recommended wording in this booklet or contact us if you wish to remember us in your Will in a different way.
4. Appoint your executors. These are the people you trust, named in your Will who are responsible for making sure your wishes are respected. It is advisable to appoint at least two.
5. Arrange an appointment with a qualified solicitor to have your Will drawn up. A solicitor will charge a fee but it should not be expensive.
6. Make a copy of your Will for future reference and note where you keep the details of your accounts, investments, policies and other financial information.
7. Keep your Will in a safe place; your solicitor will often store it without charge. Make sure a relative or close friend knows where the original copy of your Will is kept.

*If you are amending an existing Will with simple changes, you can complete the codicil form in this guide. A solicitor can provide guidance on this.*

"We want our legacy to reflect our passions. We've chosen to leave a gift to our sponsor child Mercy whom we have grown to love greatly and also to *Stand by Me*, so they can rescue others like Mercy long into the future."

Norman and Helen



## A family to belong to

When Norman and Helen heard Mercy's story, their hearts were touched and they became her sponsors. Mercy was only hours

old when she was abandoned. It was shortly after her mother had arrived in a hospital in Kenya in the late stages of labour and given birth, that nurses heard the baby's cries and found that the mother had gone, leaving the precious little girl abandoned and alone.

The hospital staff knew that this tiny baby would need protection, care and love. She needed a family, so they bought her to our children's home where Mercy has received love, care and an education. Through their sponsorship, Norman and Helen supported Mercy, loved her and provided for her. They formed a special relationship through their letters of encouragement, friendship and love.

Norman and Helen consider Mercy one of their own children and to ensure the correct provision is in place for her to be looked after when they die, they have decided to include her in their Will. Being included in their inheritance is a lasting sign for Mercy that she is loved, valued and belongs in their family.



Mercy



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Why should I make a Will?**

When you write a Will, you will make certain that what you leave goes to the people and organisations you desire. A Will is the only way to ensure your wishes to provide for family, friends and *Stand by Me* are carried out after your death. It can also help to prevent unnecessary distress and confusion at a difficult and sad time for your loved ones.

### **I already have a Will, can I still leave a gift to *Stand by Me*?**

Yes. Adding *Stand by Me* to an existing Will can be easy. If it is a simple change, you can complete a legal document called a codicil (opposite) and keep it with your original Will. When doing so you should seek guidance from a solicitor as to whether this is appropriate for the change you wish to make. You should also give a copy of the Will and codicil to your executor or someone you trust with a note of where the original is kept.

### **Can I leave a gift in my Will to a specific programme?**

Yes. We understand that you may have a desire to leave a gift to a particular programme, child or country. Please contact us to discuss your wishes and preferences as we want to ensure your gift is used exactly as you would choose. We would suggest you use the following wording in your Will:

*"I give [amount] / [enter percentage] percent of my residuary estate] (the Gift) to Stand by Me, 630 Upper Brentwood Road, Romford, Essex, RM2 6HS, United Kingdom (Registered Charity number 1185124) to be applied for its [insert project name] Project (or if the latter project has been completed, the Gift is to be applied for the project with most need as decided by Stand by Me) and I declare that the receipt of the finance manager or appropriate officer shall be a complete discharge to my trustees."*

## Codicil Form

A gift in my Will for *Stand by Me*



**(Please complete both sides of this form in capital letters)**

I [full name]	
Of [address]	
	[postcode]
Declare this to be a [first/second/third]	
Codicil to my Will, dated and made the [day]	of [month]
[year in words]	

The Will shall be constructed and take effect as if it contained the following clause:

I give, free of inheritance tax and all other fiscal impositions,

<input type="checkbox"/>	The sum of	£	
<input type="checkbox"/>	A	%	Share of the residue of my estate
<input type="checkbox"/>	All of the residue of my estate		

Absolutely to *Stand by Me*, 630 Upper Brentwood Road, Romford, Essex, RM2 6HS, registered charity no. 1185124, for its general purposes, and I direct that the receipt(s) of the finance manager or other duly authorised officer shall be sufficient discharge to my trustees.

**Please complete witness declaration overleaf**



## Codicil Form

A gift in my Will for *Stand by Me*



**(Please complete both sides of this form in capital letters)**

In all other respects, I confirm my Will and any other codicils thereto.  
In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this

[day]	of [month]	[year]	
Signed by the testator [name]			
As a [first/second/third]			

Codicil to the Will in our presence:

Testator's signature	
----------------------	--

And then by us in his/her presence:

First witness [signature]	
Full name	
Address	
Occupation	
Second witness [signature]	
Full name	
Address	
Occupation	



### **Who can witness my codicil?**

They must be over 18 and should not be beneficiaries of the Will or codicil, nor an executor or trustee of the Will. You must all be present as you sign first, and then they both sign to say they witness this and each other doing so.

### **How does leaving a gift to *Stand by Me* affect the taxable revenue of my Will?**

Any gift you leave to charity in your Will is free of inheritance tax. The inheritance tax rate may be reduced if you leave more than 10% of your estate to charity. Please visit the following website for more information

[www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax](http://www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax)

### **Can I set up an in memoriam fund?**

You can ask people to make their own donations to *Stand by Me* as an alternative to buying flowers. You can ask your solicitor to include this request in your Will.

### **Do I need to tell *Stand by Me* that I've included them in my Will?**

We understand that leaving a gift in your Will is a private matter. However, if you are able to let us know you are planning to include *Stand by Me* in your Will, we would love to know what inspired you to include the children in our care to be the beneficiaries of your kindness.

### **Who can I contact if I have questions?**

Please feel free to contact us for general legacy advice, you can call us on 01708 442271, or email [hi@standby.me](mailto:hi@standby.me). If you would like more information about our work, please visit our website [www.standby.me](http://www.standby.me)

*The information in this booklet is general advice. We recommend you seek independent legal advice from a solicitor who specialises in probate law.*





Stand by Me  
630 Upper Brentwood Road,  
Romford, Essex, RM2 6HS  
Tel: 01708 442271

16 West Street,  
Carrickfergus,  
Co. Antrim, BT38 7AR  
Tel: 028 9335 0009



Stand by Me  
Registered Charity No.  
1185124  
E: hi@standby.me



@standbyme\_HQ



@standbymeHQ



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