



# PRAYER GUIDE

APRIL-JUNE 2019

Welcome to the Spring edition of the Toybox Prayer Guide. Thank you so much for all your prayers for our work with street children.

*Please feel free to share this guide with your church and friends.*



## APRIL 2019

### Week 1 – (Sunday 31 March – Saturday 6 April)

This week our Easter Appeal is dropping through supporters' letterboxes, with a focus on our new project in Sierra Leone. This year, the appeal tells the stories of girls who are living in the shadows on the streets and often have no choice but to work in the commercial sex industry. We are working with our partner in Sierra Leone to give the girls a way out by enabling them to return to education and get the training they need. Please pray for the success of the appeal and especially for these girls, that a new way may be open for them.

### Week 2 – (Sunday 7 – Saturday 13 April)

Friday 12th April is International Day for Street Children. We will be using this day to raise awareness of the specific challenges that street children experience, especially those who are in conflict with the law. Join us as we pray for all street children around the world.

If you feel led to organise a fundraiser on the day, whether it be a coffee morning with friends or a last-minute bake sale at work, do call us on 01908 360080 and we can send you some resources and help you plan those all important details!

### Week 3 – (Sunday 14 – Saturday 20 April)

**“Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen... to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter?”** (Isaiah 58: 6,7)

Give thanks for the amazing response of our supporters when a raging fire destroyed hundreds of homes in West Delhi. This response allowed us to provide for the immediate needs of these families, which is wonderful, but our prayers are still needed for this community, as it seeks to move on from this disaster.

### Week 4 – (Sunday 21 – Saturday 27 April)

Easter is a time of resurrection, where despair turns to hope and darkness to light. This Easter, join us in giving thanks for the children whose lives have been turned around and who can now celebrate a new life. We also continue to pray for the children whose lives remain in darkness and sadness, who cannot see a bright way forward.

APRIL



## MAY 2019

### Week 1 – (Sunday 28 April – Saturday 4 May)

Part of the challenge we face when working with older street children is helping them in their journey off the streets, while encouraging them to become independent. This week we pray especially for nine former street children in Bolivia, who are being supported in their journey to independence by street outreach workers. We pray that the right balance will be found and that these young people will enjoy putting into practice the life skills they have learned.

### Week 2 – (Sunday 5 – Saturday 11 May)

Join us as we give thanks that our partner in El Salvador has been able to educate not only children and their families with regards to the Right to Identity, but also Registry Offices. This has led to a significant positive change in the attitude of several of these offices, thus making the collaboration with our partner run more smoothly. We continue to pray for all those children whose lives will be changed when they receive their birth certificates.

### Week 3 – (Sunday 12 – Saturday 18 May)

Wednesday 15th May is the International Day of Families. Strong loving families are fundamental to a child's development. Our partner in Kenya is working to strengthen families through economic empowerment, counselling, education around child rights and positive ways for parents to discipline their children, rather than through corporal punishment. Join us as we pray for this work, that it will continue to support more families and build stronger family units.

### Week 4 – (Sunday 19 – Saturday 25 May)

This week we give thanks that, after engaging with the parents of street children in Kathmandu, we have seen an improved level of rapport between the parents and children. This has included an increase in concern by the parents for their children's welfare and education. We pray that this continues to grow as the project goes forward.

### Week 5 – (Sunday 26 May – Saturday 1 June)

We give thanks for 10 youth leaders in Guatemala, who are becoming more active in the development activities in their communities, working to create sustainable recreational spaces for young people. Pray that this may continue to be possible and that the work will not be negatively affected by threats from the local gangs.

# MAY

## JUNE 2019

### Week 1 – (Sunday 2 – Saturday 8 June)

**“A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling. God sets the lonely in families...”** (Psalm 68:5-6a)

Join us as we pray for all children who are separated from their families at this time, whether through bereavement or distance. We pray especially for those who seek new 'families' within the street gangs, that they may have the wisdom to know whom to trust.

### Week 2 – (Sunday 9 – Saturday 15 June)

Wednesday 12th June is the UN's World Day Against Child Labour and our partner in Nepal will be organising events and rallies with the communities to raise awareness about child labour. We take this opportunity to give thanks for this new project, which is supporting working children. The project is in the process of securing permissions required from the Government and has been working with the local authorities and communities to raise awareness of the benefits of stopping child labour. The project will also coordinate with transportation and construction industries to persuade them not to employ children, so we pray for uptake on this advice within these sectors.

### Week 3 – (Sunday 16 – Saturday 22 June)

This week, join us as we celebrate the successful community child protection campaign that has taken place as part of our 'Safe from the Streets' work in Kenya. Give thanks that the campaign was fully supported by the local government and by many different groups within the surrounding community. Pray that this campaign, which highlighted key issues such as sexual abuse and child labour, will have an ever-increasing impact on the children, their families and the wider community.

### Week 4 – (Sunday 23 – Saturday 29 June)

Sport is often a good way to engage with street children, as it helps to establish contact in a non-threatening way. However, it can offer so much more than that and, in India, we are looking to see how sport can be used to develop the education and life skills of street children in Delhi. Join us as we pray that this process will be a fruitful way to have even more engaging interaction with the children, promoting their development as individuals and team players.

# JUNE