



## 2019 GiveWell Grants for Global Health and Development in Southeast Asia and Bangladesh

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Dear Evaluation Committee,

Thank you for the invitation to submit an application for the 2019 GiveWell Grants for Global Health and Development in Southeast Asia and Bangladesh. Please find our responses to the four questions specified for first round applicants. A list of the supporting documents, organized by question and VA's response, is also provided in the attached document.

Link to dropbox folder with supporting documents (also shared directly to GiveWell through dropbox):

Feel free to contact me with any questions or further requests.

Best,

Kristen Hurley

**1. What does the charity do? What program does the charity implement, and what role does the charity play (i.e. providing funding, technical assistance, direct implementation, or other)?**

Vitamin Angels (VA) is a 501(c)(3), US-based non-profit organization, focused on the global public health problem of undernutrition. Our mission is to help at-risk populations in need – specifically pregnant women, new mothers, and children under five – gain access to life-changing vitamins and minerals. To achieve this mission, VA provides annual grants of vitamin A supplements (VAS) and albendazole (a deworming agent) for children ages 6-59 months, and multiple micronutrient supplements (MMS) for pregnant women to qualified field partners. These field partners have an intimate understanding of the communities they serve and target hard-to-reach women and children. Hard-to-reach is defined as individuals not reached or underserved by national health services, thereby representing a critical coverage gap among vulnerable populations in need of essential nutrition interventions.

In addition to providing VAS, deworming, and MMS, VA also provides technical assistance (i.e., through VA's Learning Solutions Platform) to ensure partners are distributing the products according to best practices.

In 2018, Vitamin Angels reached over 70 million children under five and pregnant women in 70 countries through a network of over 1,600 field partners. VA operates programs in all 8 countries listed in Affinity Impact's portfolio of interest (Bangladesh, Cambodia, East Timor, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, Philippines, Vietnam). In 2018, VA's programs served approximately 11.6 million beneficiaries through 76 field partners in 7 of these countries. Within these countries, VA's largest programs and opportunities for growth are in Indonesia, Philippines, and Vietnam.

**2. What is the evidence that the program works? Please give links to or attach any citations demonstrating the program is effective, such as high-quality, academic evidence (that may not be specific to the charity) and monitoring and evaluation reports about the charity's activities.**

All of VA's interventions (vitamin A supplementation, deworming, and multiple micronutrient supplementation) are evidence-based interventions and corresponding research articles are included as supporting documents.

Additionally, VA has a rigorous monitoring and evaluation (M&E) platform designed to validate the extent to which VA's mission is achieved, increase VA's credibility among its donors and technical constituents, and support administrative decision-making through the availability of more timely data. Finally, VA contracted an outside agency to conduct an independent evaluation to examine satisfaction within our global network of field partners.

**3. What is the program's budget? Please include budgetary information to help us estimate cost-effectiveness. If possible, please include known information about the total costs of a program (including indirect costs and funding contributed by other charitable and government entities)**

and the total number of people served by a program.

In 2018, Vitamin Angels' cost to administer our global program was \$113,017,000, with \$106,824,000 in direct program costs and \$6,193,000 in indirect costs.

In 2018, Vitamin Angels' global program served 70,645,888 children under five and pregnant women.

**4. How would the charity use an additional \$250,000? Please include information on what the charity's priorities for using additional funds are.**

Based on a needs assessment that considers coverage gaps, beneficiary needs, and existing infrastructure and capacity, Vitamin Angels could reach an additional 525,000 children with vitamin A and albendazole, and an additional 35,000 pregnant women with multiple micronutrient supplementation in Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam with an additional \$253,400.

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**Kristen M. Hurley, PhD, MPH** | Director of Programs



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*One of Charity Navigator's "10 Best Humanitarian Relief Organizations"!*

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 **Vitamin Angels Grant Application First Round Cover Sheet.pdf**  
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