Evidence Action

Building a world where hundreds of millions of people in the poorest places have better opportunities and their lives are measurably improved.
Evidence Action scales evidence-based and cost-effective programs to reduce the burden of poverty. We bridge the gap between research about what works and solutions for people in need, to effectively serve hundreds of millions of people in the world’s poorest places.

**About**

Our organization was founded in 2013 to **address a big gap in the fight against global poverty**—many of the most promising interventions are either implemented at a very small scale, or not at all. We set out to address this gap by **building programs that would scale evidence-based and cost-effective interventions**, leading to significant improvements in quality of life for hundreds of millions of people.

Our model worked. In less than a decade, our two flagship programs, the Deworm the World Initiative and Dispensers for Safe Water, have grown to **measurably impact over 280 million people each year**. This success is achieved through the dedication and talent of our staff, the hard work of our partners, and the commitment of our supporters.

By 2024, we seek to **double our impact**. We are strengthening and expanding our existing programs, and working to identify a new generation of evidence-based and cost-effective interventions that we can scale to reach millions more.

**WHY EVIDENCE ACTION**

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**Our Approach**

- **EVIDENCE-BASED**
  
  Every part of our work across the lifecycle of our programs is driven by evidence. This starts with the interventions we select to invest in, and continues as we use real-time data to refine and adapt our operations, including responding rapidly and effectively to resolve challenges as they arise.

- **COST-EFFECTIVE**
  
  Our pursuit of cost-effectiveness is driven by a recognition that when we optimize every aspect of our programs, we can reach as many people—and do as much good—as possible with each dollar. Every donation, regardless of amount, results in measurable impact in the lives of individuals.

- **SCALE**
  
  Scale enables our massive impact. We invest in solutions for which the need is great, and leverage existing networks like schools or community organizations to grow rapidly, minimize costs, and increase efficiencies. We think big and act urgently—because poverty does not wait.
Our Programs & Impact

**Dispensers for Safe Water** delivers free and reliable safe water access to nearly 4 million people living in rural Kenya, Uganda, and Malawi. Our cost-effective solution reduces the incidence of diarrhea-causing diseases, one of the primary causes of childhood mortality.

- **4 million+** people reached
- **380,000+** cases of childhood diarrhea averted in 2019
- **27,000+** dispensers installed in rural Africa
- **< $1.50** average cost of delivering safe water to 1 person for 1 year

**Dispensers for Safe Water**'s impact:
- **< $1.50** average cost of delivering safe water to 1 person for 1 year
- **< $1.50** total cost per child per treatment
- **280 million** children treated in India, Kenya, Nigeria, Ethiopia, and Pakistan in 2019*

**Deworm the World Initiative** helps governments launch, scale, and sustain school-based deworming programs, reaching more than 280 million children annually. Rigorous research shows that deworming leads to significant improvements to children’s health, education, and long-term wellbeing.

- **1 billion+** treatments delivered since 2014*
- **< $0.50** total cost per child per treatment

**Evidence Action Accelerator** is our engine for new program development, selecting interventions with the highest potential to measurably improve the lives of millions. Interventions are rigorously tested - we only scale those proven to generate cost-effective impact. We are currently accelerating two promising solutions: Maternal Syphilis and Iron and Folic Acid Supplementation.

- **280 million** children treated in India, Kenya, Nigeria, Ethiopia, and Pakistan in 2019*
- **1 billion+** treatments delivered since 2014*
- **< $0.50** total cost per child per treatment

*Government reported treatment data.
Endorsements

Evidence Action has been recognized by several charity evaluators for our large-scale impact, cost-effectiveness, and evidence-based approach.

- **GiveWell**
  Every year since 2013, Deworm the World Initiative has been rated a ‘top charity’ by GiveWell due to its “excellent cost-effectiveness” and “strong track record of demonstrating that its programs are effective”. GiveWell also recognizes Dispensers for Safe Water as a ‘standout charity’.

- **Charity Navigator**
  Charity Navigator gives Evidence Action a perfect Encompass rating of 100/100 in all its rated categories: Impact & Results, and Finance & Accountability.

- **The Life You Can Save**
  The Life You Can Save, founded by leading moral philosopher Peter Singer, features Evidence Action on its list of 21 best charities in the world.

- **GuideStar**
  GuideStar awarded us with a 2020 Silver Seal of Transparency.

- **Vox**
  “We’d benefit enormously from a nonprofit sector in which every charity was as careful and honest as Evidence Action.” — Vox

DID YOU KNOW?

When economist Michael Kremer—who was behind the seminal research for our Dispensers for Safe Water program and Deworm the World Initiative—won the 2019 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences, he gave one of our dispensers to the Nobel Museum “to illustrate how behavioral economics insights have led to life-saving innovations.”

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
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