

LIVING POSITIVELY WITH HIV/AIDS



A photographic exhibition looking at how USPG is working with the Anglican Church to support people living with HIV/AIDS in Odibo, Namibia



Welcome

This exhibition looks at the Home Based Care Programme (HBCP), which was set up by the Anglican Church in Namibia - with funding from USPG - for people living with HIV in the village of Odibo.

It is estimated that nearly 25 per cent of the population of Odibo is HIV-positive. Many of those who have died were in their 20s or 30s.

HBCP is showing families how to care for someone living with HIV, while also offering practical help to households that are struggling with poverty. The programme is just one example of how the Anglican mission agency USPG is supporting the world church as it tackles the escalating HIV/AIDS epidemic.

Tackling HIV/AIDS in Namibia



There are dozens of freshly dug graves in Odibo – a result of the HIV/AIDS epidemic which has claimed 30 million lives worldwide in the last 20 years.



Pounding maize in the yard of a homestead, in Odibo, Namibia. Life here is simple but also fragile. Sudden illness and death of the breadwinner can swiftly lead to extreme poverty.



Young people are particularly vulnerable to HIV/AIDS. That's why HBCP supports the 'Living Positively' programme, which raises AIDS awareness in schools.



Proudly wearing her 'Living Positively' T-shirt, this woman demonstrates that it is possible to overcome the stigma that many attach to HIV/AIDS.



A man referred by HBCP to St Mary's Hospital, in Odibo, having suffered medical complications due to HIV/AIDS.

Local volunteers



Young people at Omafo market look at AIDS information leaflets handed to them by HBCP volunteers.



HBCP volunteer Ruth Nakashole applies lotion to the skin of a child who is HIV-positive.



Volunteer Ruth takes food to one of her patients. Ruth said: 'It is difficult to see clients who are not able to take their antiretroviral medication because they have no food to take it with.'



As well as practical help, HBCP volunteers provide spiritual and emotional support. Here, volunteer Ruth prays with Rosaria, a patient with HIV who is caring for three AIDS orphans.



Project worker Vistorina Nghishtende comforts widowed Helena Xanda, who has lost three children to AIDS and cares for 16 AIDS orphans.

Receiving care



Maria Thomas was dying. Then HBCP helped Maria to access antiretroviral drugs. Her health improved almost immediately. She is pictured here with some of the orphans she looks after.



Rosario and her three grandchildren, whose parents died of AIDS. They proudly stand amid the crop that they struggled together to grow.



The care Maria (second from right) received gave her a new confidence and enabled her to join 'Living Positively', a group of young people raising awareness about HIV/AIDS.



Emmanuel Hamenya's wife left him when she discovered he was HIV-positive. He now lives with his daughter, with support from HBCP.



Rosaria looks after three AIDS orphans. She is supported by HBCP.

AIDS orphans



These children lost their parents to AIDS-related illnesses. They are now cared for by their grandmother.



Some AIDS orphans have never known their parents.



AIDS orphans cooking at the house of Rosaria, an HIV-positive client of HBCP.



Many orphans miss out on vital schooling because they are required to help run the homestead.



These are seven of 16 brothers, sisters and cousins whose parents died as a result of HIV/AIDS. They are being cared for by their recently widowed grandmother.

'Still the AIDS pandemic continues to escalate all over the world, particularly among the least developed countries and the poorest and most vulnerable communities. USPG is an organisation which works hard to fulfil the church's requests for help in defeating big issues overwhelming small communities.'

Archbishop Desmond Tutu



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