

Your donation gives hope to AIDS sufferers and orphans in South Africa and provides help so that they can lead a normal life.

AIDS destroys the livelihood of many South Africans and their families since those infected can find no jobs and children are left as orphans. The Masangane project brings back hope to AIDS sufferers and to the children affected.

Many South Africans infected with AIDS are unemployed and have been abandoned by their families. Their future is bleak — they are robbed of the possibility of living a normal life. Although the state provides them with vital antiretroviral medicines free of charge, the medication alone does not solve their problems. This is why the Moravian Church in South Africa (MCSA) started the AIDS programme "Masangane" where people infected with HIV receive all-round help in the form of advice and pastoral care. Masangane also assists these people to complete formalities with authorities as this helps them obtain the necessary medicine.

Income by rearing chickens and tailoring

The aim of the Masangane project is to help children and adults lead a normal life again. The project supports men and women

infected with HIV to earn a livelihood by providing them with hens and building materials to make chicken coops. The rearing and sale of chickens helps them earn their own income. They can stand on their own feet again. It gives them courage and strengthens their self-confidence.

Education and food for AIDS orphans

AIDS turns many children into orphans — in South Africa there are roughly over a million of them. The Masangane project supports them with food and education and stands by them when they have problems. These girls and boys receive help to fill out the necessary forms to claim orphan's allowances. Children are looked after at all-day church kindergartens where they receive hot meals. For children of school age, the project takes over the cost of school fees and school uniforms.

In order to reach as many female and male patients as possible, Masangane has many volunteers outside the four centres in the Eastern Cape – 20 of them were trained as home-based careworkers. They visit AIDS sufferers at home, report on progress of the disease and are quick to recognise when a doctor is needed. Since most of the care workers are also HIV positive, they give the patients hope that they can still lead a normal life despite their illness.

DONATE

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