



The face of AIDS is the face of a child

Twenty years after AIDS was first reported, it has become the most devastating disease humankind has ever faced. More than 60 million people have been infected with the virus. Ten people are infected each minute ... 95% of these in developing countries.

Of the nearly 40 million people living with HIV, nearly 3 million of these are under the age of 15. More than 13 million children have lost their mother or both parents to AIDS, and that number is rising fast – especially in Africa.

The face of AIDS in Africa is the face of a child: scared and yet full of hope for a better future.

THE CRISIS IN AFRICA

Of all the children and adults infected with HIV/AIDS, 70% live in sub-Saharan Africa. An estimated 8.8% of adults in Africa are infected. In Botswana, Swaziland, Zimbabwe, Lesotho, Zambia, South Africa, and Namibia, at least 1 adult in 5 is living with HIV.

THE IMPACT ON CHILDREN

While adults account for nearly 90% of all AIDS infections, the greatest victims are children. HIV/AIDS attacks breadwinners in the family – leaving children and the elderly to provide financially. Affected families cope by cutting costs on things such as food, health care, and education. As the disease wipes out an entire generation of providers and nurturers, children as young as 10 years old are left to run households by themselves.

By 2010, AIDS is estimated to leave 40 million orphans in Africa alone. Nearly 6,000 kids are orphaned each day. That's 2.3 million a year. At that rate, all of Chicago would be orphaned in 15 months. (Orphaned is defined as losing a mother or both parents.) 90% of AIDS orphans live in Sub-Saharan Africa.

WHAT WORLD VISION IS DOING

In areas where the rate of HIV/AIDS infection is the highest, many children must meet their physical needs alone, while also coping with the emotional burden of caring for a parent who is chronically ill. World Vision comes alongside these children, offering, where possible, the essential assistance needed by children and their families. This includes spiritual and psychological counseling; nutritional support; protection against abuse and neglect; community-managed day care for young children; assistance preparing for the loss of a parent; training in household management and vocational skills; and care for chronically ill adults in the household. World Vision also focuses on teaching prevention to children and young adults through community counselors, youth clubs, sports and recreation activities, drama, and music.

HOW CHICAGO CAN HELP

Educate friends, and opinion makers about the issue and the need for more support for children and their communities.

Pray for the children who are orphaned and vulnerable, and for the relatives, community members, and aid workers who help them. You can use the prayer calendar on the opposite side of this information sheet.

Organize your friends, family, or church to offer prayer or financial support to organizations that are working with AIDS orphans and vulnerable children.

Sponsor a child in an AIDS infected area of Africa. For just \$26 a month, you can meet a child's basic needs while improving the health of the entire community.

Support programs in Chicago and around the world that provide care, counselling, education and income generation in communities suffering the effects of HIV/AIDS.

Call World Vision Chicago at 773.921.3900 x21 to learn about more local activities to fight HIV/AIDS; or visit www.worldvision.org/chicago.

JULY

More than 6,000 children are orphaned by HIV/AIDS each day. Join World Vision Chicago in praying for these young victims. The following calendar offers information and prayer requests for each week.

June 31 - July 6

For vocational training opportunities

At 15 years old, Nicole Ruyambaze is the head of her household. Her father died in 1994, and her mother in 1998. Shortly after, her older sister was raped, became pregnant, and died of AIDS. Nicole was left to care for her younger siblings and a new baby. With little education and no skills, Nicole might have been forced into prostitution, if it weren't for vocational training provided



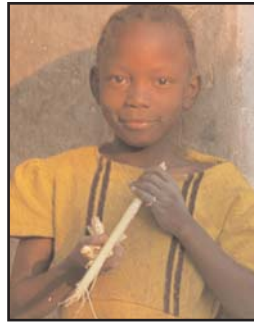
by World Vision. Now Nicole is studying auto mechanics, a career which will enable her to care for her family. World Vision also helps Nicole with money for transportation, but she walks to school instead, preferring to use the meager amount to buy food. Recently, World Vision gave a goat to Nicole's family. It's a gift that will greatly improve their health and finances.

Pray for Nicole and other orphans who need access to vocational training. Career opportunities offer hope for a better future.

Monday: Pray for increased access to training
Tuesday: Pray God would provide teachers
Wednesday: Pray for health for the students
Thursday: Pray for increased classroom materials for learning, and financial aid
Friday: Pray these students would be diligent in their studies
Saturday: Pray for access to food and health care while in school
Sunday: Pray for people to care for younger children while older siblings attend school

July 7 - 13

For families facing the stigma of AIDS



As a widow, Mrs. Mazamba should be living a leisurely life. Instead, she has buried five of her nine children (four of AIDS), and is now caring for a sick daughter and 10 orphaned grandchildren. (One granddaughter is pictured above.) The burden of this care is great -- the family eats only one meal a day -- but the social burden is even greater. When her five children died in the same year, Mrs. Mazamba's neighbors accused her of practicing witchcraft to kill her children. One young man beat Mrs. Mazamba. "The story of Job in the Bible is one that I easily relate to," she says. "He was falsely accused by his friends of having sinned against God." Mrs. Mazamba learned the truth about her children's illnesses through World Vision staff in Zambia, who also provide food and other support. And Mrs. Mazamba still trusts God for his provision.

Please pray for Mrs. Mazamba and others who face the stigma of AIDS each day.

Monday: Pray for myths to be dispelled and the truth known about HIV/AIDS
Tuesday: Pray for those who care for orphans
Wednesday: Pray for churches to offer support rather than criticism and judgement
Thursday: Pray that resources might be available to meet financial needs
Friday: Pray for government leaders to speak boldly about HIV/AIDS
Saturday: Pray for the safety of HIV+ people
Sunday: Pray for neighbors to respond

July 14 - 20

For child-headed households

Orphan Nibizi Dontien, and his two younger sisters Coyidungyiye Gloriose, 12 and Nduwayo Marie-Goreth, 13, were left to care for themselves. Like many other AIDS orphans, finding daily food is a struggle. For Nibizi's family, this struggle was further complicated by a relative who tried to steal the children's small plot of land to repay his gambling debts. World Vision social worker, Janvier, came to the children's aid. "I con-

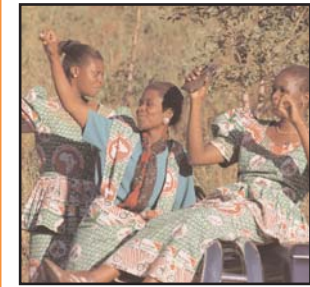


tacted the local administration, but even though I explained the situation in great detail they showed little action in resolving the problem. So I visited day after day, constantly raising the issue until they finally really wanted to attack the problem." Now Nibizi has a full plot of land -- and new seeds and farming equipment from World Vision -- and can care for his family.

Monday: Pray that orphans might have access to food and agricultural supplies
Tuesday: Pray for social workers to have wisdom and persistence
Wednesday: Pray for relatives and neighbors to offer emotional support
Thursday: Pray for God to raise up donors to support projects that benefit orphans
Friday: Pray for new small business and vocational opportunities
Saturday: Pray that younger orphans might be able to go to school
Sunday: Pray for health clinics to accept orphans, regardless of their ability to pay

July 21 - 27

For World Vision's work



An estimated 15 to 25% of all 15 to 19 year olds in Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe are living with HIV/AIDS. To care for those who are suffering, and to prevent further infections, World Vision staff members serve around the clock. Staff teach prevention through dance, puppet shows, speaking in churches, and one-on-one outreach in the communities. World Vision staff also provide medical resources, help children gain access to education, advocate on behalf of orphans, provide vocational and agricultural training, and offer resources to strengthen communities through faith and development.

Please pray for World Vision's 10,000 staff members.

Monday: Pray for the health and energy of staff members working in AIDS infected areas
Tuesday: Pray that staff members would find creative ways to teach prevention
Wednesday: Pray for new health clinics, medical supplies, and trained doctors and nurses
Thursday: Pray for emotional and spiritual strength for staff members and the people they work with
Friday: Pray for new teachers and vocational training opportunities
Saturday: Pray that African governments will support organizations working to fight AIDS
Sunday: Pray for corporations to donate products and money to support AIDS orphans