



I will not
forget you!

I will remember to pray for . . .
Tomaida, Zambia

Tomaida and her little brother, Mika, lost their mother and father to AIDS. The only way Tomaida could continue school and reach her goal of becoming a nurse was to accept the help of an older man who offered to pay her tuition. He also gave her HIV.

With CRWRC's help, Tomaida and her brother, Mika, who contracted HIV at birth, began receiving Anti-retroviral Treatments (ARVs). Within three months, Tomaida's health improved. However, Mika died later that year.

Tomaida now counsels, mentors, and teaches others about stigma and discrimination, positive living, and ARVs. Her trust in God, her bravery, and leadership inspire many in her community.

After seven years away from school because of her illness, Tomaida is graduating from grade twelve. This time, a CRWRC church partner in Zambia will help her with her school fees so that she can fulfill her dream of becoming a nurse. Pray for Tomaida's continued health and success.

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Web www.embraceaids.org



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Germaine Jean, Haiti

Germaine Jean went to the river to wash her children's clothes. She barely noticed an old rag on the riverbank—until it moved. The rag held an infant who was left to die. Germaine took the baby home and named her Lloydjyna.

In Haiti many pregnant women who come to a prenatal clinic are HIV-positive, and more than 10,000 children each year are born with HIV. Many more are orphaned by AIDS.

CRWRC helps children find caregivers like Germaine Jean. To support themselves, these blended families learn to care for goats and other small animals that provide milk for nutrition or to sell to pay school fees and medical bills. Hundreds of Haitian families participate in this program. Through community-based revolving loan funds, many families who care for orphaned and abandoned children benefit from the gift of a goat.

Pray for women like Germaine Jean who make room in their lives and homes for abandoned children like Lloydjyna. Ask God to supply more women who are willing to take on this task, and to provide resources so CRWRC can expand this work.

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Daka Mary, Zambia

As a young teenager, Daka Mary lost both of her parents to AIDS. To survive, she had to quit school and support herself by selling sugarcane and baking flitters (donut-like rolls). "Life was no better than misery," she says of those years. "Thank God I was picked to take a tailoring course through CRWRC."

Now, at age 21, Daka Mary is completing her training as a tailor. She intends to buy her own sewing equipment, get financial assistance, and request a work permit to start her on her way to self-sufficiency.

"I sincerely thank my sponsors who have...trained me in this skill," says Daka Mary. "This gesture is most welcome and should be extended to other fortunate orphans. May God bless you."

Thank God for his grace in the lives of many people like Daka Mary. Ask him to continue to bless them and to bless CRWRC's transforming work.

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The Aluku Family,
CRWRC East/South Africa

As the daughter of a retired church leader, CRWRC development worker Nema Aluku learned from an early age how to walk by faith. Today, she follows in her father's footsteps as she works to comfort, counsel, and advocate for those affected by HIV and AIDS.

Nema has lost an aunt and uncle to AIDS. Another aunt and her brother have tested positive for HIV. "My father struggles to share his pain, preferring to focus on consoling others, mourning with those who mourn, and praying for the sick," Nema says. "He continues to put his trust in God."

Nema was inspired by her father's faith and compassion as he raised his orphaned nieces and nephews. "Should I trust science? Should I put my hope in humans? No," Nema says. "Though I am at a crossroads, I will put my trust in God."

Pray for CRWRC staff and partners as they love and work with people living with the destruction of AIDS.

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Emmanuel Adyeda, Uganda

Both of Emmanuel Adyeda's parents died of AIDS. A woman from a church in Lira District cares for him, and a women's group that grows onions and other crops to earn extra income supports him financially.

This little boy in Uganda has a name that means "God with us." Emmanuel is an orphan and yet he is firmly in the grasp of our God, who dwells among us. Emmanuel lives in a part of the world where many children's entire lives are destroyed by HIV and AIDS. Yet, God has shown Emmanuel mercy through the women who care for him. In the eyes of the world, Emmanuel belongs to no one. But, our powerful God has transformed his community into one that embraces, enfolds, and nurtures him. God is with Emmanuel.

Remember Emmanuel and other AIDS orphans, that they may be nurtured, both physically and spiritually.

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William Garcia, Nicaragua

The Garcias live in a tough neighborhood in Chinandega, a coastal town in Nicaragua. When William Garcia's younger brother was attacked at age 17, he contracted HIV and died of AIDS two years later. William's family has dealt with more than the untimely loss of a loved family member. They have been ostracized, made the object of cruel jokes, and ridiculed unmercifully. At one point, William's mother considered whether she could go on living.

Sadly, the reaction of the Garcia's church was no different. "A person with HIV or AIDS dies twice," William says. "The first time, it is a social death which precedes the physical death."

In Nicaragua and many other countries, HIV and AIDS carry a stigma that churches do not want to acknowledge. Pray that through CRWRC's community and church partners, William and his family will again be received with hospitality and care by their community and their church.

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