

PRAYER REQUEST

Nonhlanhla Shongwe

It has been reported to me that this little family is in dire need of our prayers.

Nonhlanhla has been diagnosed HIV positive. She has had her liver tested and the results will be available tomorrow, which means a 1 hour bus trip to Siteki Hospital. Depending on these results she will have to undergo more testing, again the bus trip to Siteki. It will be quite a long procedure before she will know when and if she will be able to start taking Antiretroviral drugs.

Nonhlanhla is a delightful little girl with a ready giggle, but lately she has become very sad. We continue to love her and treat her no differently than when we didn't know her status.

Nonhlanhla's mom. Mommy has full blown AIDS. She contracted the virus by caring for a child (not her own) who was HIV positive. Gloves weren't provided for her when she was caring for this child, and we can assume that this is how she was infected. She is not well at all, I am not sure whether she is taking ARV's yet.

Nonhlanhla's Granny. Granny has cancer, the doctors have sent her home because there is nothing more that they can do for her. She is frail and not able to care for herself.

Nonhlanhla's sister – Nomsa (11 year old girl) has dropped out of school to look after the Granny and mother.

To make matters worse, the "house" (shack) they are living in is falling apart. It has gotten very cold in Big Bend these last few days. (the last two mornings the temp was 1°C.) The family has been sleeping outside in the open.

Nonhlanhla (our teacher) has been trying to rally the community to help this family with their physical needs.



Please pray for the family, as well as Nonhlanhla (teacher).

Nonhlanhla Shongwe.

Nobuhle Magongo

Nobuhle's mother is extremely ill. She is an alcoholic and she smokes plus we suspect that she is HIV positive. She is refusing to go for the tests. She was discharged from the hospital because she refused the TB and HIV testing. Doctors will not treat patients unless they know what they are dealing with, as the treatment for a person who is HIV pos is very different to that of a person who is otherwise healthy. Nobuhle's aunt wanted to take care of her, but her employer wont allow the child to live on the property with the aunt. The Aunty also tried to have Nobuhle tested for HIV, but the medics refused to test her because only the mother can bring the child for testing. The mother refused to take Nobuhle for the relevant tests.

Please pray for this situation as Nobuhle is losing weight and we need to be able to help her. We are doing the best we can, feeding her healthy meals, clothing her, and teaching her about our Loving Father. Medically our hands are tied.

Nobuhle



Magongo

S'Khanyiso Dlamini

S'Khyaniso's granny is not doing a good job of caring for the children left in her care. We have tried to talk with her, but she just walks away, or just doesn't arrive when we invite her to come and talk to us. S'khyaniso often arrives at school dirty and smelly. We allow her to shower (in hot water) and have given her clean clothes to wear. She is also allowed to wash her clothes after school. It seems that the grandmother objects to this treatment. When S'Khyaniso arrives at school dirty the other children tease and laugh at her, so it is her best interests to be clean. S'khyaniso comes to school once or twice a week.

S'khanyiso is not the only child in this situation, we have 7 other children who bath and wash their clothes at the Centre, so we are not singling her out. The other children love their morning shower, and are learning to take care of their clothing. They seem proud to wear clean clothing every day. Please pray that we can resolve this issue with S'Khanyiso and her granny.

S'Khanyiso Dlamini

