

Situations

Situation 1

Mildred lives in Nsana, a village 12 kilometres from Lilongwe. She is 43 years old and has five children. Mildred shows symptoms of both anaemia and malaria. She is very weak and can not walk even short distances. Due to her frequent illness, she assumes she is HIV positive, although she has not taken the test. She does not have enough food at home, and sometimes will not eat for several days at a time. She always ensures that what little food is available goes primarily to her children.

Situation 2

James is a 15-year-old boy, who looks much younger. He is unable to support himself in an upright position because of his cerebral palsy. He is therefore lying down all the time, and cannot participate in natural activities and engage in the social environment. He is also unable to speak.

Situation 3

Linda is two years old, and lives with her 13-year-old sister since their mother has passed away. Life is very difficult for the two sisters, and they rarely have enough food and access to clean water.

Situation 4

Mr Cituwi is 50 years old, and lives with his wife and ten children. He first fell sick in 2004, and has since had persistent fevers, dizziness and has felt very tired. He knows he is HIV positive, but is not taking any medication as he can't afford it.

Situation 5

Mphatso is a five-year-old girl who lives with her elderly grandmother, since her mother passed away a few years ago. The grandmother has no income, which means she can not afford to send Mphatso to school. It also means they struggle very much in getting enough food, and have to rely on begging in the street.

HIV/AIDS (cont.)

Solutions

Solution 1

Diet counselling at the SOS Social Centre.

Solution 2

Free supplementary special meal, called vita meal, from the SOS Social Centre.

Solution 3

A small loan can be given by the SOS Social Centre, to enable the start of a small business to generate income.

Solution 4

Help by an SOS volunteer to make a kitchen garden to grow vegetables.

Solution 5

Refer to the community based rehabilitation programme at Undi (near Blantyre).

Solution 6

Provide a cerebral palsy chair, to help posture and movement.

Solution 7

Free HIV test at the SOS Social Centre.

Solution 8

Free admission to the SOS primary school in the area.

Solution 9

Refer to communicative disorder technician.

Solution 10

Offer a place in a home at the SOS Children's Village in Lilongwe.

Solution 11

Refer to the SOS Medical Centre in Lilongwe, where free ARVs (aids medication) is offered.

Solution 12

Give education and awareness lessons about HIV/AIDS.

Solution 13

Offer to attend courses on income generation at the SOS Social Centre.