

16<sup>th</sup> January 2007

My name is Stella Mawiy. I am a girl aged 12 and I was born in 1994 on the 11<sup>th</sup> of November. I am in grade nine at Kansenge Basic school. I live in Katue and I stay in Shikowe. I was born in a family of eight and am the sixth born. My hobbies are going to church, listening to music, reading books, playing netball and making friends.

My father died on the 4<sup>th</sup> of November 2000 and my mother died on the 17<sup>th</sup> of January 2004. After the death of my parents life has been so hard for my family and I. We have been struggling to find food, to pay house rents and to pay for school fees.

My sister who is 22 years old is the one who took up the responsibility of a guardian she has even failed to complete college because of the same problems:

I am a member of Amos youth center. Here at the center we learn a lot of things e.g. HIV/AIDS, stigma, abuse and how to help others. I give thanks to Amos youth center because through the center I have come to know you and I thank you in advance.

I really want to be educated so that I can be able to help my family. Education is important to me because it will enable me to achieve all I want in my life.

Have power to solve problems and help  
other people and my family.

I will really appreciate your assistance  
because it will change my life and  
this will mean a lot to me and my family.

YOURS

STELLA MASIVE

Amos youth center.