

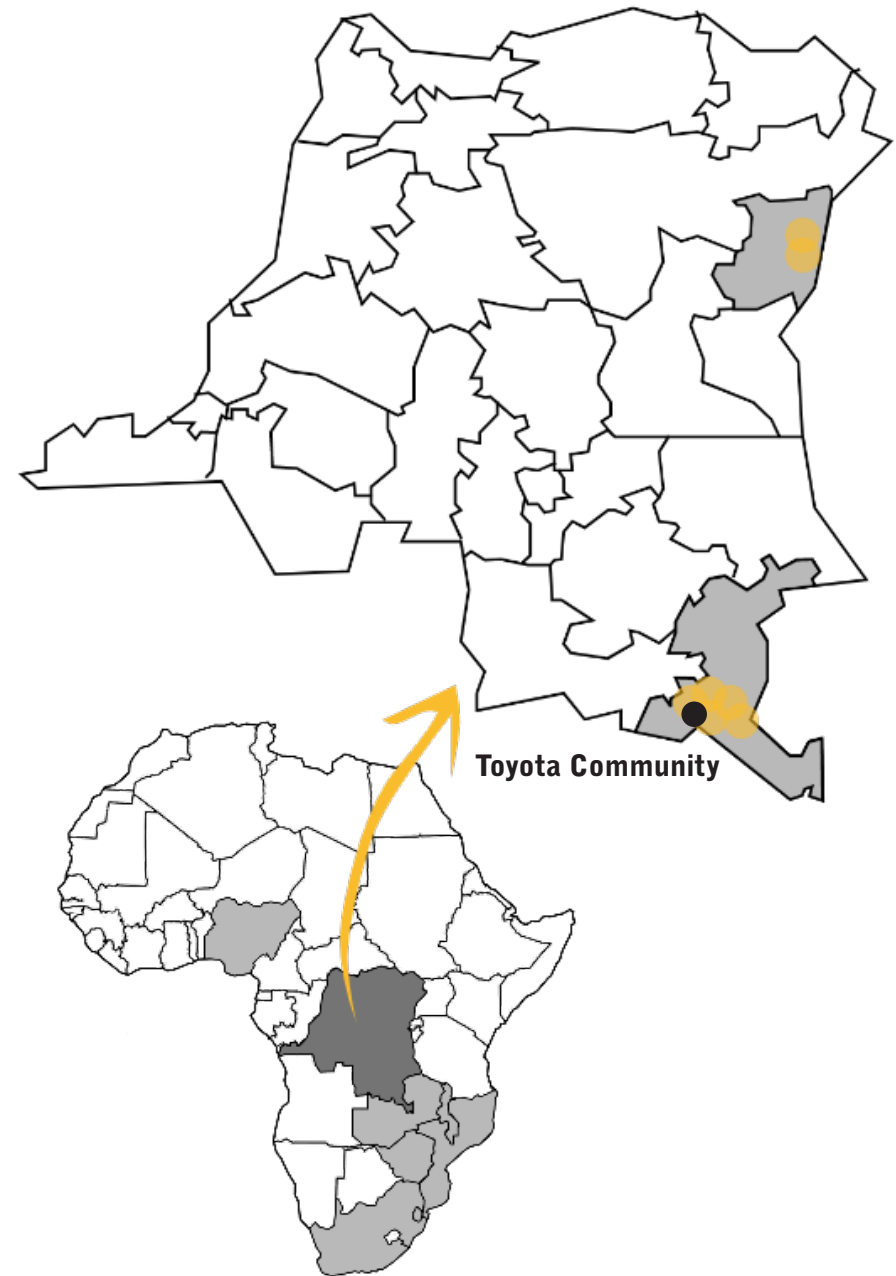
HANDS AT WORK IN AFRICA

WHO IS A  
CARE WORKER?

# HI! MY NAME IS MAMA SAFI.

I am a Care Worker in the community of **Toyota in the Democratic Republic of the Congo**. I am one of the hundreds of men and women across Africa who care for children in their community.

Every day, I spend time with children at the Life Centre, a safe place for them to come to play, eat food and learn about Jesus. I enjoy playing with the children and making sure that they are strong and healthy. The children in our community know that they can count on Care Workers to support them.



# WALK WITH MAMA SAFI TO THE LIFE CENTRE

When I wake up, I help my children get ready for the day. I heat the water that they need to bathe and cook their porridge. I love taking care of my family.

What do your parents do to help you get ready for the day?

Then I finish getting myself ready and start walking to the Life Centre.



2



I walk past my church and hear a prayer meeting taking place. My church community is where I first learned about becoming a Care Worker.

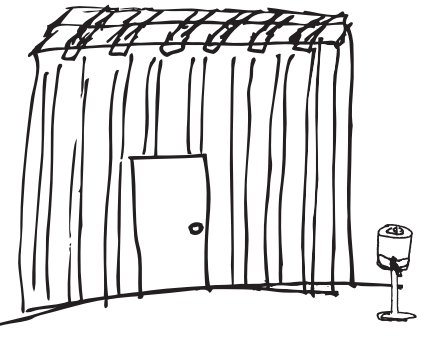
1



As I walk, I meet my neighbour Dorothy along the road. She is coming back from collecting water. We stop and chat for a few minutes about our children and what we're doing during the week. As I go to leave, Dorothy says that she will pray for me, for courage and strength as she knows the role I play in the community in caring for children.

3

As I approach the Life Centre, I see in front of me Noel and Maria walking hand-in-hand. When they see me, they stop and run to give me a hug. They are two of the children that come to the Life Centre. As we enter the Life Centre, we can smell the fire cooking the food and see Care Workers Josephine and Mary preparing the meal for the children.



# AT THE LIFE CENTRE

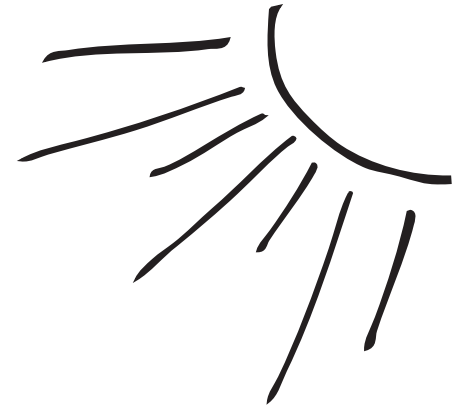
Before the children arrive, all the Care Workers gather together to sing, pray for each other and encourage each other with scripture. These times together encourage me and help me to feel brave when I am feeling sad or unsure.

As we finish our meeting, we can hear the children's laughter as they arrive at the Life Centre. Some of the children start to play football, and others play catch or games with a skipping rope.

Once the food is cooked, we call the children together to pray and sing. Then we wash their hands, and I help serve their food. Today we are serving beans, rice and cabbage.

When their meal is done, the children continue to play. Some take out their school books and ask questions about their homework, and others help clean up the dishes.

As the children get ready to leave, we tidy up and wave goodbye. I talk to a child called Remy whose family I will visit after school. I want to spend time with his mother and encourage the family.

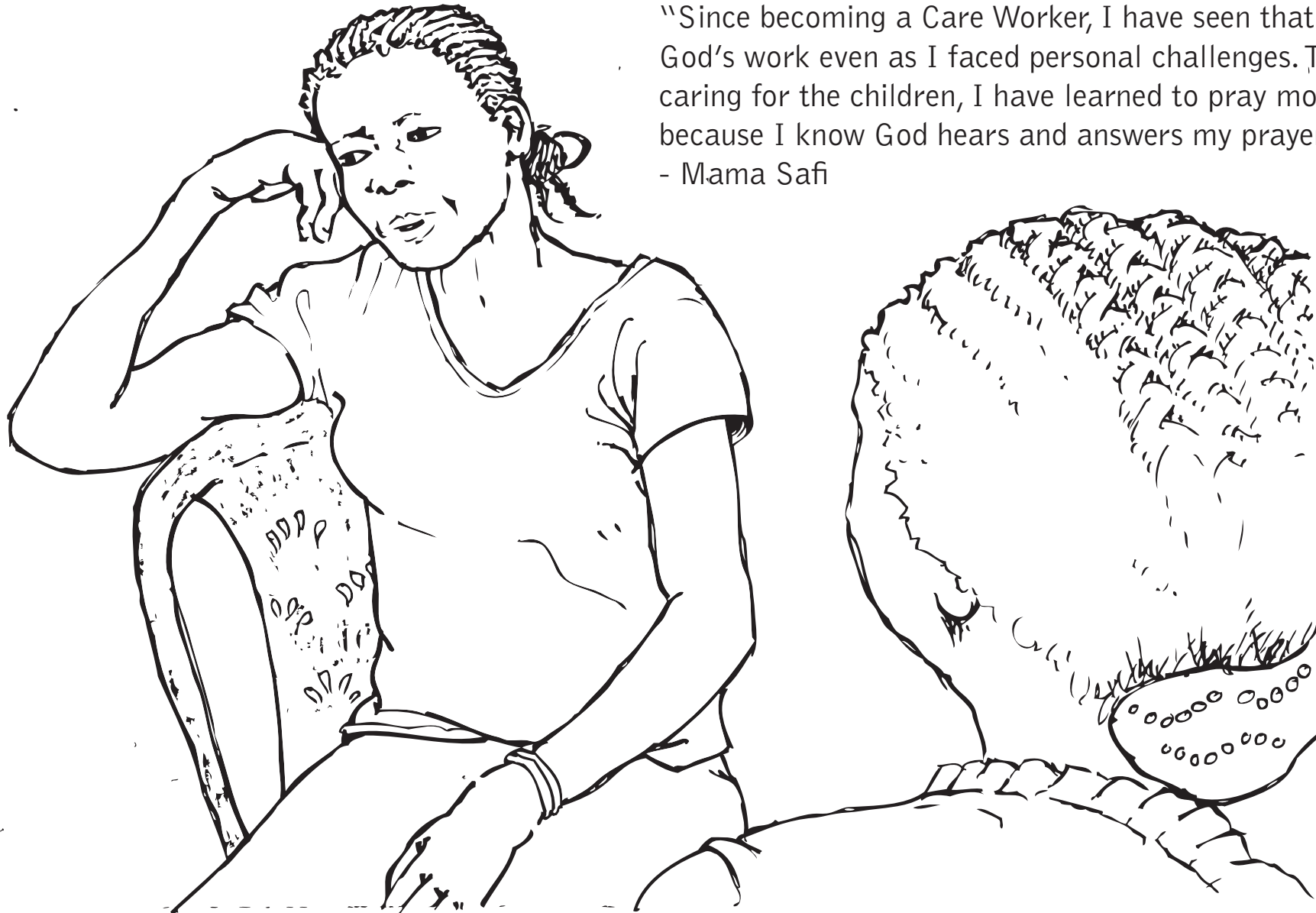


# ENCOURAGEMENT TO OTHERS

As I leave the Life Centre, I walk with Care Worker Josephine. She is going to visit another family. As I walk, I think about how I can encourage Remy's mother. I know that she is struggling and unable to find work. I pray that my time with her is an encouragement and a blessing. After the visit, I'll walk home to start preparing dinner for my family.

"Since becoming a Care Worker, I have seen that this is God's work even as I faced personal challenges. Through caring for the children, I have learned to pray more because I know God hears and answers my prayers!"

- Mama Safi



What did you hear? How can you be praying for Mama Safi and the children she cares for?

Who can you encourage today?