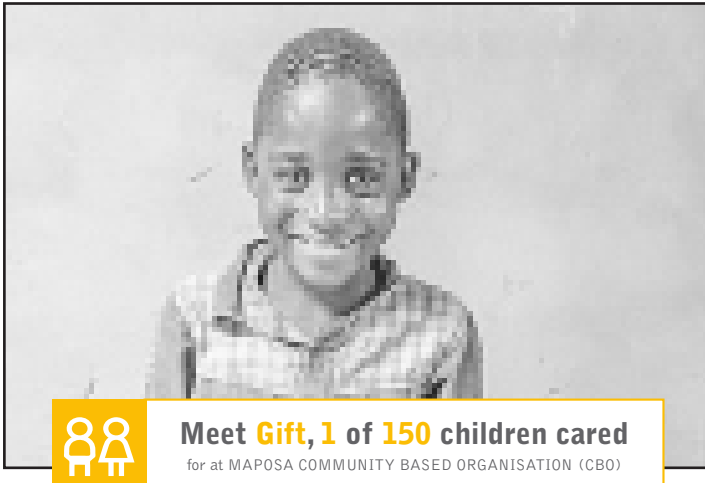


Thirteen dedicated local volunteer Care Workers, coordinated by Promise, support the most vulnerable children in the community of Maposa. The love and care they provide ensure that each child is physically, emotionally and spiritually cared for.



Care Worker Beatrice has a good relationship with ten-year-old Gift\*. He feels safe with her and often spends time with her family at her home. At first glance, Gift and his two younger siblings seem to be doing okay as both of their parents are still alive. But there are challenges that exist beneath the surface that make this family among the most vulnerable. Sadly, Gift's mother struggles with her mental health, making it difficult to care for her family. It is not unheard of for her to chase her children away and abuse them. Gift's father tries to provide for his family by finding odd jobs in the community, but this is rarely sufficient in providing for all their needs. Recently, Gift's mother gave birth to a new baby. Thankfully, the Life Centre is a safe haven for Gift, where he receives holistic care, can spend time with his friends, and dream of becoming a strong soldier who can protect others.

### Community Update

The weekly Relationship Groups are very strong in Maposa and are a safe place to share challenges and hear God's word. The Primary Caregivers are welcome to participate in these groups and in the day-to-day activities at the Life Centre, which they gladly partake of. The Care Workers inclusiveness comes from the healthy management of Maposa CBO, who take seriously the holistic care of the children. The Care Workers are committed to taking the children to the local clinic when needed, with some even volunteering there so that it is easier to access medical care when needed. An ongoing challenge in Maposa is a lack of father figures, leaving a desperate need for positive and Godly male role models. The local Hands at Work team in Luanshya is hoping to have more males join in caring for the children. Despite being surrounded by many local churches, Maposa still struggles with church involvement but the Luanshya team looks forward to the church growing in their understanding of the Biblical mandate to care for the vulnerable.



### Activities and Projects

This year an under 5s structure was constructed (pictured left) for Maposa CBO, and a grand opening to celebrate the construction and praise God for his faithfulness was held. The opening was attended by various community leaders and government officials in the area - a testament to the good relationships that have been cultivated. The building allows the children under five to have a place to sleep, eat their morning and afternoon meal, play with one another and learn about Jesus, all while their older siblings are in school. In April, the Forge team visited Maposa, which was a great encouragement to the Care Workers, children and Primary Caregivers. A weekend camp was held over Easter at Kachele (the Hands at Work base in Zambia) which 20 children from Maposa attended. The camp was a huge blessing for all that attended. Throughout the year, blankets, secondhand clothing items, and basic hygiene items like soap, toothbrushes, and toothpaste were distributed to those in need.

