

STORY OF CHANGE

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Eunice Chigwere in red shirt

My name is Eunice Chigerwe, I am 38 years old and I am a mother of three and a member of Shallom Parenting Support Group where I assist the Home Visitor. The ECD parenting project has changed my life and that of my children.

Last year I attended a two a day two day training of trainers workshop for Home Visitors and PSG leaders in Area A community center in Mufakose where I learnt life skills that really changed my way of parenting.

This workshop taught me how to apply positive parenting skills to my children not only that it also equipped me with skills that I will use as I interact with my fellow friends and PSG members. As the workshop was progressing, I was caught on the wrong side that is I realized that I was punishing my children instead of disciplining them. I used to beat my children with a wooden cooking spoon and sometimes I would even kick my 2 year old son. I learnt that punishment is different from discipline in the sense that we you punish a child you will inflict pain rather than teaching the child the good ways, discipline is about teaching your child to follow the good ways that he or she will not depart from.



Eunice Chigerwe in striped shirt during the TOT for Home visitors and PSG leaders

My dream was to be a motor mechanic but my father had to hide my acceptance letter at Polytechnic College. The ECD project as also taught me to forgive, other negative parenting skills that we use on our children are based on how we were raised. After more than 15 years HOPE came and restored my long lost relationship with my father. I learnt to forgive my father for what he had done and I felt relieved that I am now a joyful person and my children enjoy my company, thank you Tata Mike and Mrs Moyo. I also realized that as a parent I have been spending less time with my children because I would be busy and stressed with financial issues. The workshop taught me to share my problems with others as this lessens my burden as well as help me to relieve stress.

To my surprise I thought that facilitating a workshop was difficult but alas, was taught that the caregivers give answers and I just add a few. I do the questioning and the caregivers do the answering. My self-esteem has been boosted and I am also helping my children to have a healthy self-esteem.

When we finished the ten ECD parenting sessions through our PSG, I and two of my colleagues formed an income generating group Kupfuma Ishungu, and after training in business skills we qualified to get an interest free loan. HOPE bought us three boxes of ungraded eggs and each of us got a box of 30 dozen eggs. I sold and managed to buy another box. Prizes of eggs went down and I realized I could no longer make profit so I changed to buying fewer eggs, freezits, sausages and some vegetables. I managed to pay fees for my child who is in ECD B, and now my now three year old boy does not spend time chasing the “Gure” traditional dancers as I have plans to play with him as well as provided him with home - made toys.



We now request HOPE to assist with a cheaper play center for our children. Thank you HOPE for such ECD training. I am now well equipped and ready to disseminate information to other caregivers and also work hard to pay back the loaned funds so that others may also benefit.

EUNICE WAS ENGAGED AS HOME VIISTOR FOR THE LAST GROUP THAT WAS TRAINED IN SEPTEBER TO DECEMBER 2017 AN IS CURRENTLY VOLUNTEERING WITH HOPE worldwide ZIMBABWE

FORTUNATE MUNEMO'S STORY



Fortunate Munemo is dressed in a red jacket

HOPE worldwide Zimbabwe yakandikurudzira kuita mabasa emaoko kuti mhuri yangu irarame, parizvino handisati ndawana chekuita asi ndiri kutsvaga kuti ndingaitei. Vanotikurudzira zvakare kurima mavegetables akasiyana siyana anopa utano kuvana. Chirongwa cheHOPE worldwide Zimbabwe chakachinja upenyu hwangu zvakanyanya nekuti iyezvino ndave kutozivawo kubata mwana zvakana. Ndatove zvakare munhu ane high self-esteem kuburikidza nechirongwa ichi. Ndakadzidza zvakare kuti matoys emwana

haangotengwe nemari chete asi kuti ndokwanisa kugadzira matoyo emwana asi kuti machira anogadzira chidhori chemwana.

Ndatenda!!!!

Story translated in English

Fortunate Munemo is one of the caregivers who benefited from the Nutrition program. Her husband went to South Africa in search of greener pastures but he has never returned home or called. Life became difficult for Fortunate and her children. Her children are twins aged 2 years and she struggled to make ends meet. One of her children was not developing well and at the clinic she was told that the child is malnourished. The clinic then introduced her to HOPE *worldwide* Zimbabwe so that she can be assisted with food to give to her children. At times the children would go to bed on an empty stomach because things were hard for Fortunate. She was very fortunate to be enrolled in the Nutrition program and was given food. Life changed for the better since then, her child gained weight and her condition improved and she is now able to walk like what other children her age do.



Fortunate Munemo with her child during the food distribution seen carrying three packets of Soya chunks

HOPE *worldwide* Zimbabwe has encouraged her to start income generating projects so that she can be able to take care of her family and she is now in the process of finding a project that will change her life and that of her children. Her life was changed through HOPE *worldwide* Zimbabwe's programs as she is now able to nurture her children in the right way. Fortunate is so grateful with what HOPE *worldwide* Zimbabwe has done for her and her children.

Thank you!!!!!!

Story collected by Catherine Ngowera