

**HOMEOWNER STORY FOR BRENDA MUMBA  
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LINDA OPEN COMMUNITY SCHOOL-  
LINDA COMMUNITY**



**Brenda with her children packing charcoal for sale**

### **FAMILY STRUCTURE**

Brenda Mumba was born in 1963- she has lived in Linda for over 3 decades. She is unemployed because she has been terminally ill for many years. She has been in and out of hospital due to several HIV-related infections. For the past 4 years, her oldest son, Ophen, has worked at a near block-making company- he uses his earning to support his mother and sisters.

She currently supports 2 of her children- one who was born with HIV, and three grandchildren [of her late daughter]. After her last sever bout with swelling joints, she recently has decided to engage herself in business. She bought her fiest bag of charcoal for resale. Her husband died many years ago, leaving children, namely, Ophen Mumba [22], Margaret Mumba [ 15], Aliness Mumba [12], Moses Phiri [ 15] and Sarah [12].

### **EDUCATION**

1. Ophen Mumba [22], completed his secondary school education at City of Hope School
2. Margaret Mumba [15] is in grade 9 at Chipapa school
3. Agness Mumba [12], is in grade 5 at Chipapa school
4. Moses Phiri [15] , stopped school in grade 8
5. Sarah Phiri [12], is in grade 6 at Open community school

### **INCOME**

Brenda has been unable to work, and has relied on her son, Ophens' support. Ophen is a hard-working young man, who wants to see that his sisters complete their school- he also works hard to ensure that his mother gets the medical attention she requires when she falls critically ill. Brenda, who recently engaged herself in selling charcoal bought her first bag at wholesale price for K80 [\$8], she anticipates that after she removes the amount required for home consumption, she will make a profit of K4-K6 [just under \$6]

### **NUTRITION**

The family has at least two meals on daily basis. The main meal is nshima with vegetables obtained from neighbors who sell vegetables. The family prepare their meals outside using charcoal.

### **HOUSING STRUCTURE**

The Mumbas home is a 4 roomed house with 6 small windows. It is constructed with blocks and mud mortar [as shown in the picture]. It is roofed with thin old roofing sheets.

### **WATER & SANITATION**

The family accesses water for cleaning, drinking and cooking for free from a private owners tap belonging to a nearby enterprise. It is located within a radius of 20meters. The family uses about 5 twenty liter containers a day. The family currently do have a latrine, as construction in the next plot required them to do so- they currently use their neighbors' facility.

### **HEALTH**

The family experiences coughs and colds due to their overcrowding and poor shelter structure. Brenda and one grandchild, live with HIV. They are both on treatment and are living their lives as positively as possible. Brenda also has a heart condition which she closely monitors. They get their treatment from a hospice, located close to home.

### **SOCIAL NETWORK**

Brenda knows many people in her community She congregates at a church known as Latter house of glory, where she goes on Sundays. Her son Ophen, is working in his community to ensure grade 12 pupils can perform better. He offers tuition currently to 12 students in Math and general sciences at a minimal fee. With his earnings, he continues to support his family and has even raised funds to commence the construction of a classroom [measuring approximately 4x 3.3m]. It is just below window level and it being constructed with baked bricks. Ophen is a young leader in his community and hopes to go to medical school soon.