



Providing Family Support To Help Vulnerable Children Thrive

Support a family through our child sponsorship scheme.

Tushinde is a development charity that works with **families in crisis that have multiple issues**. A child at risk is usually referred to us by a school, clinic or community elder. It is often around the time of a significant event like the death of a care-giver or the birth of a new child to a family already struggling or after the family has been evicted for not paying rent. Very often the children are not in school. **The majority of families on our scheme have been affected by HIV**. When we take on a family in crisis, they are given a dedicated social worker who works with them to make sure that the children have a roof over their heads, they are in school and have enough food. The social worker will also address other family issues like illness or addiction in the family, protection from abuse, neglect and other physical harm. He or she will also take the details of each child that we decide to support in school and this information will be used to compile the profiles for child sponsorship.

This support is £25 a month. We will support the family until the child turns 18 and in some cases support them even further. How that money is spent over the years will vary. Often when a family enters the scheme in crisis, they will need much more than £25 per month. With that £25 we **pay school fees, join the family up to the government health insurance scheme and give the main carer a weekly allowance for purchasing food for the children**. In that crisis phase they may also need food packages, clothes and bedding, emergency medical care and help with rent arrears. As these are families with challenges, they will need regular social work follow-up. In the crisis phase it's maybe as much as twice a day, once a family is stabilised we drop to monthly, then quarterly visits. We also follow the children up at school and we expect all families to attend our quarterly community days where we weigh and measure the children and we organise relevant talks for the parents and activities for the children.

Once the family is stabilised which is usually after two to three years, we work with the main care-giver to **help him or her start a business**. This is with the aim of getting the family more financially independent and on reduced support from Tushinde. Your sponsorship will still pay health insurance for the child until his or her 18th birthday and we will monitor their progress through school visits and our community days. If we feel that they are at risk of going into crisis again, we will increase our support. After supporting your child, what is left from the £25 a month you give will go to help other families on the scheme who are in crisis or do not yet have a sponsor.

Our work gives great results and it is amazing to follow a family from despair to dignity through independence. With your help we can support more children. For only £25 a month, you can change a child's life for the better.