

**HOMEOWNER STORY**  
**NAME: JENIPHER NGANDWE**  
**N.R.C: 204411/61/1**  
**PLOT: 392 CHIPULUKUSU**



**FAMILY BACKGROUND**

Jenipher Ngandwe Nkachi is a widow taking care of her two orphaned grandchildren namely Patrick Pikila, 19 and Prince Pikila, 15. She was born on the 10<sup>th</sup> July, 1957 in Lusambo village, Chief Sokontwe in Milenge district. She bore seven children, unfortunately six of them died. Currently, she lives with her surviving child and two orphaned grandchildren.

**FAMILY INCOME**

The family has no stable source of income. However, to make ends meet, Jenipher weeds the gardens and cleans people's homes to make about K10 per day [\$1], which she mainly use to provide food for her family.

Sometime back, she had a vegetable garden in her backyard that generated income through the sales but naughty children in the neighborhood plucked out all the vegetables-this left her with nothing to sell to earn income.

Jenipher bemoans that the family lacks consistency in food, education, clean water and sanitation, proper housing and medical care.

## **EDUCATION**

Jenipher went up to grade seven. She did her grade one to four at Chewe Primary school in Chinsali District and went to Mpumba Primary School from grade five to seven in Mpika District. After passing her grade seven with a division two, there was no money for her to continue schooling so she had to stop school.

Knowing the value of education, she has encouraged her grandchildren to go to school. Prince is currently in grade eight at Kansenshi secondary school while Patrick stopped school and opted for marriage.

## **HOUSE STRUCTURE**

The family lives in is a three roomed house which was built in 1990 with mud bricks. The walls have since developed cracks overtime.

“The house is really hot in hot season as the roof is covered with plastic papers, rotten metal drum sheets held down by stones. In rainy season, the roof leaks making it hard for the family to sleep in the night”, reveals Jenipher.

In addition, the planks that support the roof have also been eaten up by termites. The house has no windows, hence poor ventilation in the house. Luckily, Jenipher owns the plot and has land ownership documents for it.

## **WATER AND SANITATION**

The family fetches water from a shallow well within the yard which is mainly for domestic use. Drinking and cooking water is fetched from a water pump which is 10 meters from her home as it is safe at a cost.

When there is no money to pay for the treated pump water, the family uses the untreated shallow well water for drinking and cooking. Jenipher’s desire is to have clean tap water. The house has a toilet and no bathroom. The toilet is in a deplorable state and it is used by her and her family and the surrounding neighbors.

## **HEALTH**

The common illnesses in Jenipher's household are malaria, coughing and diarrhea. They access free medical care from Chipulukusu Clinic which is approximately 2 kilometers away from the house. Jenipher last went to the clinic in July, 2016 due to a severe cough and diarrhea. Jenipher is HIV positive and is currently on Anti-Retroviral Therapy.

### **NUTRITION**

The family only manages one meal per day mainly of nsima and vegetables which is prepared on either on a brazier using charcoal or firewood.

### **SAFETY AND SECURITY**

There is poor ventilation in the house which puts them at a high risk of acquiring airborne diseases like coughs and colds. The roof leaks in the rainy season and can be easily blown off if there are strong winds or fall on them which could cause serious injuries or death. The door is worn out exposing them to the risk of being attacked or broken into at night.

### **SOCIAL NETWORKING**

Jenipher and her family congregate at the Catholic Church. The family is a member of the Samaritan Strategy Foundation of Zambia which offers them psychosocial counseling.