

Limpho

My name is Limpho. I am a Mosotho girl of 14 years.

I was born in Lesotho, southern Africa in 1992.

We are 5 in my family.

I have two younger sisters who are 8 and 11.

My older sister Ntsoaki is 16- years-old and my older brother is 15.

Our father used to work in the mines in South Africa. He returned home in January 2003 and died in November 2003.

My mother died in June 2005.

We are now alone in the hut.

My brother sometimes works as a herd boy but he does not make enough money for us all. He is very smart and his teacher said that he should go on to high school but there is not enough money for the school fees.

My older sister tries to find money and sometimes she has to go out at night to work in the local bar. She cannot work now because she had a baby last month. Her baby cries all the time and is very sick. We do not have the money to go to see the doctor.

I will finish Standard 7 at the end of the year and my dream is to go to high school. My sister says there is no money for school fees and so I must find a job. I am sad because I like to go to school. I want to become a doctor and help all the people in my village who are sick. If I became a doctor then I could make money and buy food and clothes for my sisters and the baby.