



Cecily's Fund

EDUCATING ZAMBIAN CHILDREN
ORPHANED BY AIDS

www.cecilyfund.org

Patricia Peer Health Educator



Patricia leading a peer health education session at a Miondolo High School.



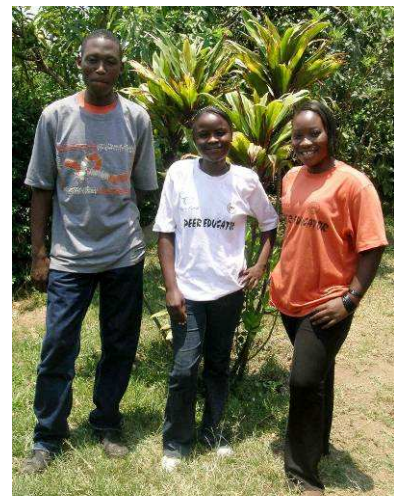
Patricia (right) with her aunt.

“I was born in 1989. My mum died in 1995 and then my dad. My aunt has been looking after me and my sister. We went to Helen Kaunda School. Cecily's Fund started sponsoring me in grade 12.

“I've been a peer educator for eight months. It's very interesting. I meet people and learn how they live and what they know about HIV. I used to wonder about Cecily's Fund. As I found out more I started to think about becoming a social worker. I developed an interest and got motivation from CHEP. I didn't even know much about social work before that, I never thought it would be so important and so much benefit to others.

“I decided to become a peer educator because I used to notice that people didn't know about HIV and I thought I would learn a lot – about people's lives, more about HIV and I would have more knowledge to do my chosen subject, social work.

“There are a lot of things I've learned as a peer health educator. I had heard about this virus called AIDS, but only on the surface, not knowing how it spreads, how it affects people's lives. Being a peer educator made me know every person should be very principled and careful to avoid HIV infection. The information that we've been taught really affects people's lives.”



Patricia (centre) with fellow peer health educators Laston and Gertrude