



GMB Brings Smiles to Old People

- By Enesia Runyararo Munyanyi

“Giving is not just about making a donation, it is about making a difference,” these words rang true as the Grain Marketing Board (GMB) donated groceries, toiletries and kitchen utensils to Melfort and Bumhudzo Old People’s homes recently.

GMB Chief Executive, Mr Rockie Mutenha brought smiles to residents and staff as he officiated at the hand-over of groceries at the Salvation Army church run – Bumhudzo Old People’s Home in Chitungwiza.

He said it was not by mere coincidence that the bulk of the things that were donated were food items because the mandate of GMB is assuring food security.

“We are really committed to meet our mandate which justifies our reason for existence. The act of giving is in line with our Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Policy. As an organization it is our responsibility to help those in need as and when we have the capacity to do so,” said Mr Mutenha.

The administrator at Bumhudzo Old People’s Home, Major Meda paid gratitude to GMB for the donation.

Major Meda also quoted a Bible Verse that says, “It is more blessed to give than to receive,”

“I think we all know about “January Disease” which affect most people and corporates more so us welfare organisations that rely on donations from well-wishers. So your (GMB) coming here, came to us as a pleasant

surprise and we are truly grateful for that,” said Major Meda.

Two days later, GMB’s Finance Director, Mr Clemence Guta, led a GMB delegation to Melfort Old People’s Home which is located in Mashonaland East Province between Goromonzi and Marondera.

Mr Guta said GMB desires to keep on supporting Melfort Old People’s Home, whose partnership with GMB dates back to 2008.

“We are determined to ensure that the future of those here can be better by what we do for them and as Grain Marketing Board we will try by all means to keep on supporting you, “ Mr Guta said.

Melfort Old Peoples Home Administrator, Mr Francis Garikai extended his gratitude to GMB for the donation.

“ I am so overwhelmed that again you have remembered us this year, not many people these days are able to do this because of economic challenges,” said Mr Garikai.

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GMB DONATION IN PHOTOS



Some Beneficiaries at Melfort Old People's Home



Some of the Residents at Melfort Old People's Home



Grain Marketing Board Chief Executive (second left) Handing Over Groceries to Bumhudzo Old People's Home Administrator, Major Meda



Grain Marketing Board Finance Director Mr Clemence Guta (left) Handing Over Food to Mr Garikai

A CALL TO ACTION

The Grain Marketing Board recently joined the rest of the world in commemorating the World Aids day, which is celebrated 1st of December every year.

Last year's commemorations were running under the theme "End Pandemic, End Inequalities, End Aids."

Grain Marketing Board Finance Director Mr Guta urged people to take action.

"7,93 million people have been infected, with HIV since the start of the epidemic therefore people should take action." he said.

"This year's theme encourages collective efforts towards curbing the spread of HIV/AIDS on global scale and ensuring fair treatment of the infected and affected without prejudice." Said Mr Guta

National Aids Council (NAC) representative, Ms Agnes Dembeza urged GMB staff to know their HIV status.

Her sentiments were echoed by Population Services of Zimbabwe (PSZ) representative Eugenia Five also known as Dj Loop.

"We have innovative and sensitive inventions to halt the spread of HIV among specific population subgroups such as adolescent girls, young women and men, sex workers, artisanal miners among others," said Five.

HIV and AIDS is a serious global pandemic which has caused untold suffering to both the affected and infected.

World AIDS Day commemorations are held to raise HIV and AIDS awareness so that there is a decrease in the infection rate as well as fighting stigma among

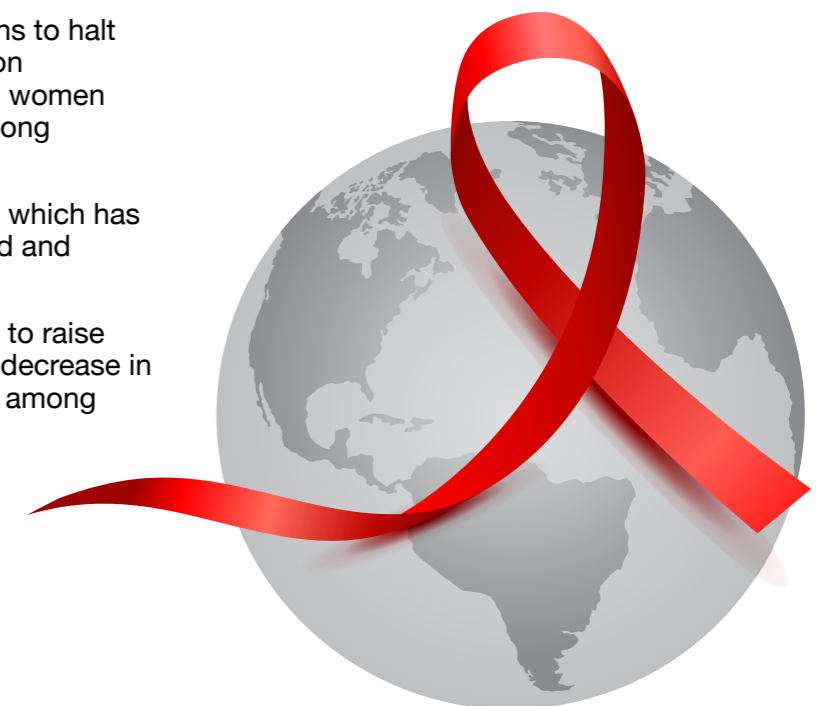
other negative effects of HIV/Aids in the communities.

Five said PSI Zimbabwe programs and services have expanded to include testing, screening, condom promotion and distribution, and voluntary male circumcision.

A person living with HIV for more than 16 years, Mr Elias Nyakuedzwa urged people to get tested so that they know their status.

"Fear of stigma and discrimination is one of the reasons why people are reluctant to get tested, disclose their HIV status and take antiretroviral drugs but I urge you to take action so that you know your status,"he said.

Fewer people than before in Zimbabwe are getting infected with HIV and dying from AIDS which gives the country renewed hope. "The Aids pandemic could kill millions in the coming years if we do not act urgently," said Ms Dembeza.



Obituary : Gwandoline Chinyemba

- By Enesia Runyararo Munyanyi

Barely four days after celebrating the New Year, the Grain Marketing Board (GMB) family was plunged into mourning following the death of one of its long serving employees- Mrs Gwandoline Chinyemba.

She was the Acting Depot Assistant at Marondera at the time of her death on 4 January 2022 at Borraidale Hospital in Marondera. Mrs Chinyemba was 47 years when she succumbed to a short illness.

GMB's Human Resources Manager, Miss Nyaradzo Makoni described the late Mrs Chinyemba as a humble and dedicated employee.

"Death has robbed us of a humble and dedicated woman," said Miss Makoni in a Circular announcing the death of Mrs Chinyemba.

The late Acting Depot Assistant was born on 24 July 1975 in Marondera. She did her Secondary education at Nagle House School.

Mrs Chinyemba joined GMB on 1 February 2002 as a Receptionist/Clerk Typist based at Lions Den Depot. After two years she was transferred from Lions Den Depot to Rusape Depot under the Human Resources Department.

In June 2004, she was transferred from Rusape Depot to Marondera as an Inputs Clerk. She also had stints at Chivi and Timbermills Depots under the Operations Department.

Due to her hardwork and commitment to duty, in 2019 Mrs Chinyemba was appointed a Handling Supervisor at Gutu Depot. That was before she would trace back to Marondera after a year on a lateral transfer.

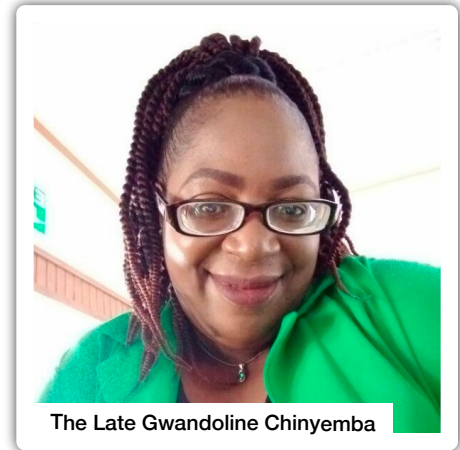
She has been Acting Depot Assistant since 2020.

Dura news interviewed Mrs Chinyemba's relatives and friends who described her as a woman of integrity.

"Gwandoline was a woman of integrity, she was very sociable and prayerful," said Memory Nhidza.

"Gwandoline was a good person, she was hardworking." Tabeth Shava-a workmate at Marondera Depot said.

Mrs Chinyemba's immediate boss at the time of her death, Mr Rabson Nyan'ara (Supply Chain Manager-Marondera Depot) described her as a team player.



The Late Gwandoline Chinyemba

"I was shocked by Chinyemba's sudden death, she was a team player and her death is a great loss to all employees at Marondera Depot. "he said.

Gwandoline's sister Marcia described her late sister as a mother figure.

"Death robbed us, my sister was a true definition of a mother, she was very sociable, friendly, prayer warrior, and a counselor," said Marcia.

Gwandoline was buried at Paradise cemetery in Marondera on 7 January 2022.

At the time of her death, she survived with her husband Arthur Chinyemba, one son and two grandchildren.

