

CASE STUDY

Mama Mkubwa programme, Africa

In Africa there are 13 million children orphaned because of a disease called HIV/Aids.

In the past there were no orphans in Africa. If a child lost their parents the people of the village or tribe would look after them and become their family. Today, Aids is making this impossible because there are now so many orphans and less people alive or well enough to care for them.

In Tanzania, The Salvation Army have set up a programme called 'Mama Mkubwa' to care for the children orphaned by the disease.

Translated in to English, the name means 'Big Mother'. The aim is to care for children in their own communities rather than have to send them to homes and orphanages.

Mama Mkubwa aims to enable orphans to remain in their own community. Volunteers support child headed households and orphans staying with relatives through counselling and practical support and give them a chance to have fun through kids' clubs and other activities.

So far the programme has helped 800 children in 18 different communities. The Salvation Army is hoping to help even more children by setting up the programme in other communities.

