CAN YOU HELP GIVE PEOPLE HOPE?

MEET PRECIOUS

Precious, 14, lives in Lusaka, the capital city of Zambia in Africa. Her community has high rates of poverty, gangs, drug abuse, gender-based violence and early pregnancy. Girls are generally treated as less important than boys and often miss out on education.

Precious' life hasn't been easy. Her mum was injured in a road accident and Precious cares for her and is responsible for most of the household work. Having seen many of her friends affected by the problems her community faces, Precious was left feeling lonely and with little hope for the future.

All this changed when Precious was invited to join Circus Zambia's 'Rise Up Girls!' project, a year-long mentoring programme funded by Comic Relief. In a colourful, joyful environment, girls learn circus skills, train for physical wellbeing, and learn about gender equality, sexual and reproductive health rights, and advocacy. At the end of the year, they stage a show for their local community, family and friends, before becoming peer mentors for the next generation of girls.

Thanks to Circus Zambia, Precious has a safe place to go, where she is among friends and feels free to be herself. With her self-belief sky-high, she has new hope for the future and aspires to a career in law so she can help people who can't help themselves.

HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUNG PEOPLE LIKE PRECIOUS?

Many people across the UK and around the world are trying to get by in the face of poverty and injustice. By funding projects like Circus Zambia, Comic Relief gives people hope – providing shelter for those who need it, putting food on plates, offering someone to talk to, or somewhere to be safe.

Anything you and your friends do this Red Nose Day will make a difference. The money you raise will be put to the very best use for those who really need it.

What will you do to give people hope?

To find out more about Precious and watch her short film, go to comicrelief.com/schools Red Nose Day is an initiative of Comic Relief, operating name of Charity Projects, registered charity in England & Wales (326568) and Scotland (SC039730) and company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (01806414), registered address 6th Floor, The White Chapel Building, 10 Whitechapel High Street, London, El 8QS. Photo credit: Loliwe Phiri/Comic Relief.





