

PRISCILLA'S STORY (ZIMBABWE)

PRIMARY (F-2)
PHOTO STORYBOOK

Photo credit: Richard Wainwright/Caritas Australia





This is Priscilla's story.



Priscilla lives with her husband Charles and two of their grandchildren, Obry (8) and Jayden (7), in the Hwange region, northwest Zimbabwe.



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The impacts of climate change, such as unpredictable rainfall, drought and poor quality soils, have made it harder to grow enough food to eat.



In Zimbabwe, almost half of the families live in poverty. This means buying food is not an option either. Without help, people go hungry.



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Life was very difficult for Priscilla and her family. They had to walk a long way to collect water and there wasn't enough food to eat.



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In 2019, Priscilla joined a special program run by Caritas Australia's partner organisation, Caritas Hwange.



Priscilla and her community learnt a new way to farm!



They are careful to not disturb the soil too much and they use lots of soil cover (mulch) to stop the soil from drying out.



The also learnt to grow a variety of drought-resistant crops which require less water to grow.



Priscilla was able to produce a bumper harvest by using her new skills. She has grown millet, sorghum and maize.



And, with her new skills, Priscilla has helped train other farmers in her community to grow more food too.

**“We work in groups,
in a united and
productive manner.
Each one of us in
the group has a role
to play. Some do the
digging of the basin,
while some do the
manure.”**

Priscilla





Priscilla sold some of her crops to start poultry farming.



She sells the eggs to pay for her grandchildren's school fees, books and stationery.



Caritas Hwange repaired a cattle dip tank for Priscilla and her community. The tank is filled with water mixed with insecticide that kills ticks and insects.



Back in 2017, a number of Priscilla's cattle died from tickborne diseases. The dip tanks are very important as they help keep the cattle healthy.



Caritas Hwange also repaired a borehole so Priscilla and her community have access to clean water closer to home for drinking, cooking and cleaning.




They also helped start a community garden to grow nutritious vegetables to eat and sell.



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A woman named Priscilla is standing in a field with several cows and trees in the background. She is wearing a red beanie, a blue jacket, a green t-shirt, and a colorful patterned skirt. She is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background shows a line of trees and a clear sky.

“We are indeed grateful to Caritas Hwange for the knowledge. Today we have knowledge and skills that we didn’t have before and are able to use to earn a living.”

Priscilla



Priscilla and her community now have the skills to build a future full of hope for their families and for future generations.

QUESTIONS

1. Why was it hard for Priscilla to grow enough food to feed her family?
2. How did Caritas Australia help?
3. How does Priscilla support her family now?
4. How will you share Priscilla's story with others?

