

# GENETIC CLINIC in Zimbabwe

Only **1** GENETIC CLINIC in Zimbabwe

**43** CHILDREN TESTED  
Many from rural and underserved communities.

GENOMIC TESTS \$0.00 COMPLETELY FREE

17 YEARS OLD  
9 MONTHS OLD

AGE OF CHILDREN TESTED

RARE DISORDERS ZIMBABWE COORDINATES THE GENETIC CLINIC AND OFFERS PRE AND POST-TEST COUNSELING

DISORDERS DIAGNOSED

- MUSCULAR DYSTROPHIES
- MUCOPOLYSACCHARIDOSIS (MPS)
- GALACTOSEMIA
- TUBER SCLEROSIS COMPLEX
- PTCHD1

**3** Children tested in 2024 have since died.

15 Families continue to search for answers...

CHILDREN TESTED POSITIVE **61%**

CHILDREN TESTED NEGATIVE **39%**

## IMPACT

**20** CHILDREN AND FAMILIES RECEIVED **LIFESAVING TREATMENT OR INFORMATION** which transformed their quality of life. RDZ helped families use their collective purchasing power to access treatment.

**2** CHILDREN WITH MPS VI **CAN NOT ACCESS EFFECTIVE** treatment. The patented drug, gal-sulfase, is unavailable in Zimbabwe. There is no compassionate care program in the country.

**6** CHILDREN HAD **NO BREAKTHROUGH AFTER DIAGNOSIS**. Many rare diseases have no viable treatment options. Families continue to receive support.

## LIFE SAVING

CHILDREN WITH MUSCULAR DYSTROPHIES **STARTED TREATMENT** to slow muscle deterioration, improving their mobility and enabling them to resume their schooling.

CHILDREN WITH MPS II RECEIVED **VISION THERAPY**, improving daily life.

FOR CHILDREN WITH GALACTOSEMIA, **VITAL INFORMATION** about correct feeding prevented further developmental delays and disability.

## WHAT IS MISSING ?

- 0 CLINICAL GENETICISTS IN ZIMBABWE
- 0 GENETIC COUNSELORS IN ZIMBABWE

ACCESS TO THERAPIES. EARLY DIAGNOSIS SAVES LIVES, HOWEVER MANY CHILDREN LACK ACCESS TO TREATMENT.

ACCESS TO SPECIALIZED SERVICES AND THERAPIES INCLUDING PHYSIOTHERAPY AND MEDICAL DEVICES

## CALL TO ACTION!

- 1 TRAIN AND SUPPORT** local experts in genetics & genetic counseling
- 2 DONATE** to enable more lifesaving genetic tests for children in Zimbabwe.
- 3 ACCESS TO LIFE-SAVING TREATMENTS MUST BE A PRIORITY.** Government and pharmaceutical companies must be available and availability

**50** CHILDREN WILL BE TESTED IN 2025

## HELP US SAVE MORE CHILDREN.

GENETIC CLINIC

The **itope** Genetic Health Genetic Alliance

UNIVERSITY OF ZIMBABWE

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