

**I can cope with the drugs and the sickness and the fear. But the gas bill... /
Crusaid, the national fundraiser for HIV & AIDS.**

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I can cope with
the **drugs** and
the **sickness**
and the **fear**.

But the
gas bill...


Crusaid
THE NATIONAL FUNDRAISER FOR HIV & AIDS

Help for people with HIV and AIDS has been slashed

HIV/AIDS has not gone away in the UK.

Yet the state has slashed support in the belief that new combination treatments mean most people can go back to a 'normal' life. That is so far from the truth.

Treatments are stabilising people, yes. But the five to eight pills you have to take each day in fact bring side effects that can make life very difficult to cope with. Feeling sick. Appearing 'drunk'. Sweats. Feeling too weak to get up. Not things that go down well in the workplace. So, many people are losing jobs and when they do, life is spiralling out of control. Quickly.

The implications are terrifying. Combination treatments only keep working if you maintain a very strict regime for taking medication, keep warm, and eat fresh, healthy food. But on £57 a week*, staying in control of your life and the extra heating and food bills is impossible.

*This is the average weekly income of people receiving help from Crusaid's Hardship Fund.

But the need is escalating. Fast

Poverty resulting from an HIV diagnosis means there are now huge numbers of people whose treatments are at risk of failing. These people urgently need practical help to improve their quality of life and extend how long their treatment works.

At the same time, a whole new generation is being diagnosed – more than ever before in the UK. They need counselling and support over the phone and in person. Some need back-to-work assistance. Others need emergency grants after losing their jobs or being thrown out by family or landlords.

The need for help is huge and growing.

But, because so many people think the crisis is over, raising money to provide that help has never been harder.

Crusaid needs your help. Now

If you would like to help men, women and children to get through the difficulties and distress that come with HIV and AIDS, please choose Crusaid to help you do so.

Why? We know, inside out, the many different problems that people with HIV and AIDS, and those at risk, are struggling with. And we are funding projects to help on all those fronts.

Our Hardship Fund is a lifeline. Your money could stop someone's heating from being cut off. It could pay someone's fare to hospital. It could buy someone a washing machine so they don't have to take sheets soiled by incontinence to the laundrette every day.

We also deliver help through specialist partners. Your money can support helplines and provide information. It can give specialist counselling to children with HIV who are being bullied and educate young people about how to avoid infection. It can also pay for research into new treatments, a vaccine and cure – through the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative.

We'll make your money work hard. We have to.

It doesn't have to cost a lot

£3 a month could help someone living with HIV to travel to a specialist centre for advice on treatments and staying healthy.

£5 a month could soon provide a young person living in a bedsit with a small fridge for storing HIV medication.

£11 a month could give three HIV positive mothers equipment for formula feeding, to avoid infecting their babies through their breastmilk.

£15 a month could provide eight specialist counselling sessions for someone experiencing mental health problems as a result of HIV/AIDS.

Please give your help through Crusaid today >>

Yes, I'd like to give a monthly gift

Standing Order

From: Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss (please circle) Other

First name

Surname

Address

Postcode

Email

Please pay Crusaid £3 ☐ £5 ☐ £11 ☐ £15 ☐ or other £ (please state)

each month until further notice starting on / /

To: The Manager of (Bank/Building Society name)

Bank/Building Society address

Postcode

Account no.

Sort code --

This cancels all existing Standing Orders to Crusaid Yes/No (please circle)

Signed

Date

For OFFICE USE ONLY: To HSBC Bank plc, Rochester Row Branch, 166 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London SW1V 2RB. Sort code 40-06-03. Account no. 81096516.

giftaid it

If you are a UK taxpayer, you can make your donation worth more, for free, by ticking this box. This means the Inland Revenue will add 28 pence to every £1 you give.

☐ I am a UK taxpayer and I wish Crusaid to reclaim the tax on any donations that I have made since 6 April 2000 and any future donations I make*

☐ I am not a UK taxpayer

*To qualify to give under Gift Aid, what you pay in income tax or capital gains tax must be at least equal to the amount we claim in the tax year

We'd like to tell you about what you are helping to make happen, and about Crusaid's events and activities. If you would prefer not to hear, please write NO here _____

We occasionally allow sympathetic organisations to send information to Crusaid's supporters and in return they let us ask their members for help. If you would prefer not be included, please write NO here _____

Please tear this section off along the perforation and place in an envelope to: **Kathy Wilson, Crusaid, FREEPOST SW5453, London EC2B 2BR.** Thank you.

MR1

'I lost my job after being sick at work a few times. It's a side effect of the pills I'm on.

But for my treatment to keep on working, for me to stay alive, I *have* to keep warm. I *have* to eat healthily. How, with no money?'

Peter Griffiths

With your help
Crusaid can help





The difference Crusaid can make

'I couldn't pay the rent – I'm often unwell so I can't get a job, but I couldn't tell my landlord it was because of HIV. So I tried to avoid him by staying out of the house with the children from early in the morning until late at night.

I got so ill again, and ended up in hospital. The children had to go into temporary care, which I hated.

Crusaid gave me a grant to clear my debts, and when I came out of hospital, that gave me a chance to reorganise my housing situation and bring my children home. I can't think about where my family would be without Crusaid.' *Rose Moyo*

Crusaid

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To protect the confidentiality of the people whose stories we have mentioned, names and small details have been changed, and volunteers have generously modelled for the photographs.

All photos by Cristiano Clausetti.