

Choir La Vie (CLV)

PARTNER MINISTRY PROFILE

Choir La Vie (CLV) is a community programme of HEAL Africa in D.R. Congo, which educates people about HIV/AIDS and help those affected by the virus. A child sponsorship programme, operated by CLV for HEAL Africa, seeks — as a key part of the overall ministry — to address needs of children affected by the AIDS pandemic, and their families.



To ensure a wide acceptance in the community and as great an impact as possible, the CLV team works through 'Nehemiah Committees' established by HEAL Africa in all communities where they work. These involve leaders from all faiths since, without the acceptance and authority of the leaders, the chance of success in the context of D.R. Congo is limited.

Children who are supported through the sponsorship scheme have all been impacted in some way by AIDS. Some are living with a parent who is suffering from the disease; others are orphaned and living with extended family or foster carers; still others are HIV+ themselves. All are in a potentially vulnerable situation due to the disease, and require practical help and other kinds of support.



Sponsorship provides unrivalled opportunities to provide healthcare, education and counselling. There is also a system of micro-enterprise loans to help affected families generate a living income.



Children supported through CLV must attend school, where they learn the regular academic subjects like reading, writing and maths. Class sizes vary from 20 to 60 depending on the area and availability of teachers. Many children have previously fallen behind in schooling, due to the unrest in this part of D.R. Congo, and/or the inability of their families to pay school fees.

Some children may not be attending school at all due to ill health. For them, sponsorship ensures access to important medical support and pharmaceutical treatments.

Where possible, children write 3 letters per year to their sponsors.