

## **REAL LIFE STORY 2**

### **Liberating people from the prison of stigma**

We should not discriminate against people living with HIV-AIDS! I want to liberate people from that stigma.

My neighbor is HIV-positive. I used to avoid her, because I thought her disease was contagious by just talking to her or eating her food. She was lonely I think.

In the lessons about HIV and AIDS in WSWM I learned how transmission actually happens, and also how lonely and cast out people living with HIV actually are. I wanted to do something about that. I now help my neighbour by helping her with the shopping, cleaning and washing clothes.

I think people living with HIV or AIDS should be treated with love and respect. They should be able to live together with us in peace. They are human beings too! I think our community needs that knowledge. With the right knowledge we can also help prevent the virus from spreading, so we also need to support infected people in this.

In my drawing you see a person living with HIV who is liberated from the prison they live in, the prison of segregation and isolation.

Dumisani (16 years old, Malawi)



*I made this drawing, you see a person living with HIV in the prison of HIV-stigma. I'm helping him out.*