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SOUTH AFRICA

FIRST PERSON Clinic Gives Woman Health - and Hope

**HIV-positive mother,
once bedridden, sees
medical center as family**

Lettie was thin and weak when she arrived on a stretcher at the USAID-supported Ndlovu Medical Center in Elandsdoorn, South Africa, in April 2004. She could only lie on her stomach, due to severe bed sores; every other position hurt too much.



Photo: Ndlovu Medical Trust

A data capture clerk in the offices of the Ndlovu Medical Trust, Lettie could not walk when she first arrived for treatment. She and her medical staff are optimistic that she will walk again one day.

**Care and treatment by the
USAID-supported Ndlovu
Medical Center have given
Lettie a new chance at life.**

Lettie has two children whom her mother has been caring for since she has been at Ndlovu. She does not see them often, but knows the pain they have endured to watch her suffering through her condition.

After two years at Ndlovu, Lettie, who now works as a data capture clerk in the offices of the Ndlovu Medical Trust, feels she has become part of a bigger family. She says the clinic staff gives her hope that keeps her going. They are committed to her care and are optimistic about her future. Lettie's road has been long, as she has progressed more slowly than many other patients. Despite this, the staff has enabled her to believe she will walk again one day.

Telling Our Story
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