

## **It Takes a Goat to Raise a Village – A Story from Tanzania**

Mwamedu Maiga lives in the village of Mnero Membeni in the District of Nachingwea with his wife and five young children. He is HIV positive, which makes him extremely vulnerable to health problems. He was one of many identified by PWRDF partners in the Diocese of Masasi as needing immediate help. Adequate nutrition is a critical component of treating HIV and AIDS because medication is not nearly as effective in someone who is malnourished.

Through a PWRDF food security program that was matched by Global Affairs Canada, Mwamedu received a pair of goats and his life changed immediately. The nanny goat produces milk daily. The Maigas consume one litre and sell the surplus milk to people in a neighbouring village. This steady income allows the family to pay school fees for the children, and to buy drugs and food staples to enrich their diet. Once his goats had bred, Mwamedu passed the first baby goat on to another family in need, as is the practice in the program. Passing it on not only benefits one family, it benefits whole villages and beyond.