



# HELP

Healing & Empowering Lone Parents

April 2005

## **LONE PARENTS TO BE RECOGNISED AND CELEBRATED**

Lone parents everywhere, their achievements and their positive contributions to society will be acknowledged at a unique celebration service to be held on **11 June 2005** at St Mark's Church, Dalston, East London. It has been organised by the support group Healing and Empowering of Lone Parents (HELP) in conjunction with the Bishop of Stepney.

***Through the work of HELP, I have met so many lone parents who have excelled in their lives – as parents; as employers, as professionals and businesspeople; as community and church leaders, and much more. Their lives, indeed the lives of all lone parents are worthy of celebration. We want lone parents everywhere to feel valued and capable of success”, says HELP founder Triumph Ayo-Isegun. “For too long, many lone parents have been seen as a negative force in society, and have experienced isolation and lack of recognition within their communities. Together we can change that.”***

The service will welcome 1,000 people, offering hospitality, friendship and fun for all the family. Speakers will include Bishop Stephen Oliver, the Bishop of Stepney and Pastor Tayo Adeyemi of New Wine Church. Cindy Kent from Premier Radio will be interviewing selected lone parents. Pam Rhodes, popular presenter of BBC TV's *Songs of Praise*, will be speaking of her experience as a single parent. There will be a gospel choir, display stalls, face painters and other attractions.

***“I am delighted to have been involved in leading this service”, says Bishop Stephen Oliver, the Bishop of Stepney, “because it is one way in which lone parents, with a hard task, can be recognised, affirmed and given hope.”***

**Journalists are invited to attend the event, and HELP founder Triumph Ayo-Isegun, herself a lone parent, is available for advance media interviews and comment.**

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