

SOUL CITY RADIO

SERIES 7 PART I

EPIISODE SUMMARY 1 – 30 (Completed Episodes)

EPISODE 1

In this episode we are introduced to the characters. We meet Mr and Mrs D again. We hear about DJ and hear a snippet of his show. Amanda shares about the new nurse that is coming and how an extra staff member will ease the workload at the clinic. Nomsa and Thandeka chat. Tumi tells of how she misses her husband Alfred who is away at the mines. Charles and Joshua meet the new nurse Pinkie and the meeting raises a question over Pinkie's personality. We find out that, unbeknownst to Tumi, Alfred has been retrenched and he doesn't want to tell his family.

Messages:

- Health Equity – Community Health Forums
- Manhood – Dealing with unemployment

EPISODE 2

Alfred's crisis deepens as the retrenched miners are told that they have to vacate the hostel. Tumi talks about DJ with Nomsa but Nomsa is unimpressed. Amanda tells Pinkie about the community health forum idea but Pinkie is sceptical about the involvement of lay people in medical matters. Charles and Joshua still don't see eye to eye about issues. Thandeka thinks that the community health forum idea is a good one and wants to help Amanda get it started.

Messages:

- Health Equity – Community Health Forums
- Manhood – Dealing with unemployment

EPISODE 3

DJ and Nomsa meet. It doesn't go well and Nomsa is even more unimpressed with him. She tells her best friend Siphwe about him and they agree that he's probably a typical arrogant male. Alfred returns home to delighted welcomes from friends and family but keeps the reason for his return a secret. We find out about how the clinic is struggling to cope with the workload and problems with equipment, etc. Amanda is still hopeful that a community health forum will be able to help. She talks to Joshua about the idea but he is completely uninterested. Joshua and Mr D agree that committees are a waste of time.

Messages:

- Health Equity
- Manhood

EPISODE 4

Alfred makes up a story about needing a holiday to hide the truth from Tumi. Tumi is just happy to have him home. At the clinic, the long-awaited medical supplies have still not arrived and they are starting to run out of medicines. Pinkie tries to sort out the hold-up. An advert for a meeting to set up a community health forum plays over the radio in Charles taxi and we hear some of the passenger's opinions of the idea. People are reluctant to get involved. DJ finds out more about Nomsa. Pinkie is frustrated about not having enough medicine and is rude to some patients. Joshua and Mr D think there's more to Alfred's return than just a holiday. They speculate about the real reason for it.

Messages:

- Health Equity
- Manhood

EPISODE 5

Alfred clashes with his daughter Nomsa. Nomsa asks her mother more about DJ but still says that she isn't interested in him. People complain to Mr and Mrs D about how rude Pinkie is to patients. Amanda heads off to the community meeting about the health forum with great enthusiasm. Nomsa and Siphwe discuss the shortcomings of most men. Amanda and Thandeka sadly realise that no one is going to come to the health forum meeting.

Messages:

- Health Equity
- Manhood

EPISODE 6

The radio station throws a party to celebrate the first year of Tumi's programme and it's success. Speeches are made and DJ gets up and proposes a toast to Tumi. He says some very nice and positive things about Tumi, which impresses Nomsa. Alfred gets cornered by Joshua and Mr D who start asking difficult questions. Thandeka and Amanda puzzle over what to do next to get a community health forum going. Nomsa 'bumps' into DJ who finds himself unusually tongue-tied. Joshua teases Alfred about Tumi being the 'man of the house'.

Messages:

- Health Equity
- Manhood

EPISODE 7

Alfred is moping around the house, not knowing what to do with himself. He is depressed and frustrated. Pinkie is rude to patients again. DJ talks to Charles about women. Charles realises that DJ is interested in Nomsa. Joshua figures out that Alfred has been retrenched and goes to see Alfred. Alfred admits that it's true. Joshua is sympathetic and asks Alfred to come and help him fix his taxi. Amanda is horrified to find out that people have been complaining about how rude Pinkie is. DJ talks to Nomsa and manages to put his foot in it. Nomsa tells him to leave and he could just kick himself for being so stupid.

Messages:

- Health Equity
- Manhood

EPISODE 8

Alfred goes to the store and 'phones his old workplace to find out about his retrenchment package. It's still not in and he's worried about money. Mr D sees that Alfred is not happy. Alfred goes to Joshua's place to help him with his taxi repairs. Joshua cuts himself and pushes Alfred away when Alfred tries to help. Nomsa tells her mother that DJ is nothing but an arrogant womaniser. Tumi tells Nomsa to listen to DJ's show. Joshua doesn't want to let Alfred help him clean up his cut but Alfred covers his hands with plastic bags and looks at the wound anyway. Amanda talks to Pinkie about her behaviour and tells her that she has the wrong attitude. Pinkie is very upset. Joshua asks Alfred how he guessed that Joshua is HIV positive. Alfred hadn't guessed – he always takes precautions. Joshua sheepishly asks Alfred not to tell anyone. Alfred agrees and asks Joshua not to tell anyone about his retrenchment – he wants to find another job before he tells Tumi. Joshua agrees with Alfred's plan saying that if a woman is the breadwinner she will think that she is in charge.

Messages:

- Health Equity
- Manhood
- ARVs

EPISODE 9

Alfred is relieved at having shared with Joshua but still feels useless and depressed about money. He decides to make himself useful and reorganise the kitchen as a surprise for Tumi and Nomsa. Joshua gets caught up in a debate with the other taxi drivers about HIV/AIDs. One of the drivers has very bigoted opinions about ARVs. Pinkie struggles to control herself

and not be rude to the patients. Tumi and Nomsa are frustrated because Alfred has rearranged everything in the kitchen and they can't find anything. Alfred gets upset and storms out of the house. Joshua gets so angry with the bigoted driver that he inadvertently reveals his HIV status.

Messages:

- Health Equity
- Manhood
- ARVs

EPISODE 10

The news of Joshua's revelation gets around. Joshua is worried about how people will treat him from now on. Nomsa excitedly shows Alfred a prospectus for a business course. He knows that they can no longer pay for her to study further and brushes her off. She doesn't understand his response. He gets angry and accuses her of being disrespectful. She is taken aback. Pinkie has to deal with a patient who is making impossible demands. She has to bite her tongue and does her best to remain polite. Amanda intervenes and manages to calm the old man down. She praises Pinkie for trying. DJ asks Charles for help in approaching Nomsa. Charles refuses but does give DJ some advice on how to get on Nomsa's good side. Amanda and Pinkie are concerned at how they have to turn some patients away because they are so overloaded with work. They talk about keeping the clinic open for longer. Pinkie points out that they can't do more than they are already doing. The last of Joshua's passengers for the day gives him encouragement and praises him for revealing his status. He is surprised and relieved to hear this but is still worried about other people's reactions.

Messages:

- Health Equity
- Manhood
- ARVs

EPISODE 11

DJ visits Nomsa at her stall and tries to make some headway with her. He's not getting a warm reception when Nomsa is called away to help her mother urgently. DJ offers to look after the stall and Nomsa is forced to accept his offer. At home, Nomsa finds that her mom needs her to deliver some cakes urgently. She rushes off worrying about what DJ will do while she's gone. The bigoted driver thinks that Joshua was stupid for revealing his status but

Charles and the other drivers come up in support of Joshua. Nomsa returns to her stall to find it surrounded by a crowd. In a panic she rushes forward only to find that DJ, in full swing, is busy selling the last of her stock. Nomsa is impressed with him and they work happily together to sell the remaining items. Nomsa offers DJ money but he declines saying that she owes him a favour. Nomsa worries about what he means but he says that he would never ask her to do anything that will make her uncomfortable. Tumi and Alfred's sex life has not been But when she broaches the subject with Alfred, he is shocked that she should want to discuss such things. She defends herself, mentioning that DJ had done a show on the subject. Alfred is horrified that someone so young should be having talk shows about such an intimate topic. They argue. Tumi changes the subject and asks Alfred when he will be going back to the mines. He reacts with an insulting comment and Tumi goes to bed without wishing goodnight.

Messages:

- Health Equity
- Manhood
- ARVs

EPISODE 12

At the clinic, there is chaos as someone's record has gone missing again. The doctor is waiting and Amanda can't find it. To mask what he feels to be a major faux pas on his part, is louder and "braver" than ever. He notices a young man who has been staring at him for some time. This boy's behaviour really irks Joshua. The young man loses his nerve and flees. DJ's favour is a picnic. He has packed a whole basket of things to eat and has thought of everything from drinks to a blanket. He and Nomsa talk about music and fashions and have a good time. Pinkie and Amanda are working late to try and sort out the records. Amanda sends Pinkie home despite Pinkie's protestations. DJ and Nomsa return from their picnic. Alfred is very unimpressed when he sees that Nomsa has been out with DJ of all people. He accuses DJ of sneaking around visiting his girlfriends without first making his presence and intentions known to that girl's family. Nomsa is mortified and protests but DJ steps in and politely and tactfully apologises before the situation escalates. Alfred is still not impressed with him. Amanda, working alone at the clinic, is attacked.

Messages:

- Health Equity
- Manhood
- ARVs

EPISODE 13

Mrs D and Tumi shocked over Amanda being attacked by a thief. Tumi talks to Mrs D about the problems with Alfred and their love life. She knows that there is something wrong but Alfred is not talking and she is getting frustrated. Mrs D encourages her to keep being patient and loving. Thandeka and Charles talk about what happened to Amanda and decide that the community health forum must be reinvestigated. Nomsa tells Siphwe about the picnic. Siphwe is concerned – she thinks DJ is the smooth charming type who can't be trusted. Nomsa reassures her that, at the most, she and DJ will just be friends. Joshua tells Mr D that he is worried that his customers will go to other taxis. Nomsa and DJ talk about how the clinic staff is overworked. They puzzle about how the community could get involved in the clinic. At the clinic, a policeman tells Amanda that it's not safe for anyone to be working alone at night at the clinic. Alfred is still upset about Nomsa and DJ as Nomsa prepares to go for choir practice. She dresses in one of her revealing designs and Alfred tells her she is going nowhere looking like a "lady of the night."

Messages:

- Health Equity
- Manhood
- ARVs
- Volunteering

EPISODE 14

Alfred complains to Mr D and Joshua that his wife and child don't respect him. Joshua says that Alfred must show them who is boss. Mr D disagrees. DJ does a show about volunteering and challenges people, especially men, to volunteer. People talk in Charles' taxi about the show. Some complain that volunteers don't get paid or get abused by others. The young man who stared at Joshua astounds Joshua by asking Joshua for advice about being HIV positive. Joshua gives him advice and encourages him to go to a support group. Joshua is inspired by the encounter. Mr and Mrs D talk about volunteering for something to help the community. Thandeka has supper with the Dhlamini's and they all get inspired to organise the community health forum again. Nomsa complains to her mother about her father. She wants Tumi to talk to him. Tumi tells Nomsa that there's something going on with Alfred and she needs to get to the bottom of it first. Nomsa is upset as she feels that her problems are not being taken seriously.

Messages:

- Health Equity

- Manhood
- ARVs
- Volunteering

EPISODE 15

Things between Tumi and Alfred gets worse as he doesn't want to tell her when he is going back to the mines. Joshua gets asked a lot of questions about support groups and shares with Mr D that he doesn't really know what goes on in support groups. Mr D suggests that he talk to Amanda. Nomsa decides to volunteer to help at the clinic. Alfred doesn't know what to do with himself. He is frustrated because there is not much food in the house. He becomes determined to find work. Mr and Mrs D and Thandeka are going on a crusade to get as many people as possible interested in the community health forum. Alfred and Joshua and a group of men are talking about volunteering. Joshua thinks it's women's work. Alfred almost gives himself away when talking about how he needs to provide for his family. Nomsa is very upset with her father's strange behaviour and confides in DJ. DJ tries to explain things from her father's perspective and Nomsa gets upset with him. "You're supposed to be on my side." DJ refuses to take sides and Nomsa accuses him of not having any guts.

Messages:

- Health Equity
- Manhood
- ARVs
- Volunteering

EPISODE 16

Alfred tells Nomsa that she had better be home by eight 'o clock tonight. Nomsa complains and Alfred puts his foot down and tells Nomsa she is being disrespectful. Amanda notices that the number of people attending the HIV/Aids support group has grown. One of them tells her that Joshua has been very helpful in encouraging them to join. Amanda decides to find Joshua and congratulate him for disclosing and thank him for encouraging people to come to the support group. She wants to know if he plans to join himself. Alfred is depressed and frustrated and talks to Mr D. Alfred shares that he has been retrenched. Mr D encourages him to talk to Tumi but Alfred is not sure. Tumi asks Alfred to come with to see her do her show. He makes an excuse. She confronts him about spending his days at the taxi rank. A verbal row ensues and Tumi leaves in a huff. Alfred goes for a job interview at the garage. The manger tells Alfred that they are looking for younger people to fill the position they have on

offer. He tries to argue in favour of experience to no avail and then thanks the manager and leaves feeling despondent. At the clinic Pinkie and Amanda are sadly asking people to leave as it is closing time. "Come again tomorrow and we will put you at the front of the queue." People aren't happy. Alfred goes to the tavern and hangs out with Joshua. Someone spills a drink on Alfred and refuses to apologise. He loses his temper. The situation spirals out of control and Alfred punches the guy.

Messages:

- Health Equity
- Manhood
- ARVs

EPISODE 17

Thandeka is shocked to hear about Alfred's fight. She always thought that Alfred was a good man. DJ and Nomsa talk about Alfred's fight. Nomsa thinks that DJ is criticising her dad. She gets angry. Joshua asks Amanda about the support group. We realise that it is his pride that prevents him from joining a support group. Amanda explains what happens in a support group. Mr D and Mrs D talk about the fight. Mr D tells her that Alfred is struggling with a problem but he can't talk about it. But he is unhappy about his damaged tables and chairs. Joshua praises Alfred for being a man but Mr D disagrees with him that that is what a real man is about. Tumi feels embarrassed about the fight. She goes to Mrs D and unloads. She just doesn't know who Alfred is anymore. Tumi doesn't know if she can carry on.

Messages:

- Manhood
- ARVs

EPISODE 18

Joshua and Charles discuss Alfred's fight. They disagree because Joshua thinks that Alfred behaved like a real man and Charles believes that violence is not necessary. Alfred comes up and confides in them about how stupid it was for him to beat that guy up. Nomsa and Siphivi talk on the 'phone. They agree that family matters should be handled first and DJ will only add to the confusion. She should stay away from him. Joshua puts a poster about living positively with HIV on his taxi. He is going to answer questions and give people information and advice about HIV/AIDS. Alfred feels embarrassed about his behaviour and awkwardly tries to apologise to Mr D. Alfred feels very bad about the broken furniture and offers to try and fix as

much as he can and pay Mr D for the rest. Mr D asks him if he has talked to Tumi. Alfred says that he wants to wait for things to cool down. Charles offers to help in the clinic. The community health forum meeting is going to take place at the school. Mrs D is worried about inviting Amanda. She is scared they will have a repeat of the first meeting when no one turned up. Tumi confronts Alfred about the fight. Alfred considers telling her about being retrenched but then can't do it. He tells her that it's man's stuff.

Messages:

- Health Equity
- Manhood
- ARVs
- Volunteering

EPISODE 19

Joshua boasts that he is the spokesperson of the HIV community and the centre of knowledge for anything and everything that has to do with HIV. Mrs D calls Amanda on her cell and asks her if she will come to the community health forum meeting. Amanda is pleasantly surprised.

DJ confides in Charles that Nomsa is confusing him. DJ thought he had women figured out but it is clear that he has a long way to go. Charles tells him that all women are unique individuals just like men and encourages DJ. Nomsa asks her mother about when Alfred will be going back to the mine. She is very frustrated by the way her father treats her. Tumi hushes her daughter and tells her she will find out what is happening exactly. Amanda tells Charles that the best way for him to help at the clinic is with transportation, as it would really help the patients who are old or frail or live far out. Charles is nervous about using Joshua's taxi but says he'll think about it. Tumi tries to talk to Alfred again. He shouts at her and Tumi tells him that she will not live with A VIOLENT MAN!

Messages:

- Health Equity
- Manhood
- ARVs
- Volunteering

EPISODE 20**SCENE 1**

Alfred is at home depressed when Joshua arrives. Joshua tells him not to run away from his problems. Alfred snaps back telling him that he is not one of his passengers that needs advice on wheels. Joshua decides to leave. Mrs D finds Thandeka and in a panic tells her that a couple of people have told her that they can't make the community health forum meeting. Thandeka says it's too late to stop now. She reassures Mrs D. Joshua is giving advice to someone about HIV. A passenger asks him about ARV's and he is stumped. Nomsa goes to the clinic to volunteer. She's enthusiastic but gets a less than warm reception from Pinkie. Amanda arrives at the school hall. She is puzzled and asks Mrs D what all these people are doing here; is it PTA night or something? Mrs D laughs and says no – these people have all come to elect a community health forum! Amanda can't believe it. Joshua is irritated at being caught out by the passenger who asked him about ARVs. Charles tries to talk to Joshua about using the taxi to volunteer for the clinic but Joshua just brushes him off.

Messages:

- Health Equity
- Manhood
- ARVs
- Volunteering

EPISODE 21

DJ does a programme asking about manhood and what it means. He talks about stereotypes and what society expects a man to be. He invites listeners to call in with their thoughts and ideas. Joshua and Mr D listen to DJ's show from the shop. Joshua is not as positive or open-minded as Mr D and voices his reservations about DJ. "What can such a young boy know about being a man?" Alfred and Charles listen to DJ's show and talk about how to be a man if you're unemployed. Alfred shares with Charles that he's been retrenched and he can't find other work anywhere. Charles tells Alf that its important to acknowledge his emotion and not keep it bottled up. Joshua asks Amanda about ARV's and she suggests he comes to the support group. Joshua is very reluctant. Mrs D and Tumi talk about DJ's show. Tumi thinks that whatever Alf is going through probably is being made worse because he thinks he has to be a man about it. Mrs D agrees and says that men feel they have to live up to the stereotypes about being a man. Joshua tells Amanda that support groups are for women.

Amanda points out that support groups are a way for people to get the information that they need and suggests he come to the next HIV support group meeting where they'll be talking about ARV's. He reluctantly says that he will think about it. Nomsa is fills Sphiwe in on DJ's programme. Sphiwe is impressed that a man could put together such a great insightful show. Sphiwe says that Nomsa sounds like she's falling for DJ. Nomsa denies this.

Messages:

- Manhood
- ARVs

EPISODE 22

Joshua goes to the support group. He asks that they should not make a fuss about him; he is only here to observe. They understand his reservations and they make him as comfortable as possible. Alfred congratulates Mr D on being elected chair of the community health forum. Alfred talks about being depressed. Mr D sympathises and again encourages him to talk to Tumi. At the support group Joshua hears about ARVs and what they are and how they give HIV positive people hope.

Charles gets a call from Nomsa at the clinic with a list of patients who need help to get to the clinic. She explains that she has volunteered at the clinic but no one has time to give her any training so all she is doing is odd jobs. She says that she is frustrated and complains about Pinkie. People at the support group raise fears about ARVs being poisons. They are reassured that that's not the case. The discussion turns to side effects. Joshua can't resist and starts asking questions despite himself. At the end Joshua is asked if there's anything he'd like to share with the group, he is taken aback. He declines the offer but thanks everyone for making him feel welcomed and the light they have given him about ARV's, which he will now pass onto his passengers. Alfred talks to Tumi about how after listening to DJ's show on manhood he asked himself some hard questions and now he wants to talk to her about something important to do with his job. Tumi is interested but distracted as she unloads a shopping bag and complains about the cost of living. Alfred hesitates and then talks about being sorry about the fight instead of about losing his job.

Messages:

- Health Equity
- Manhood
- ARVs

- Volunteering

EPISODE 23

Amanda and Pinkie chat about how good things are going to be now that there is a community health forum. Alfred talks to Charles about how he couldn't tell Tumi about being retrenched. Charles encourages him to try again. Nomsa takes a peace offering to DJ. She has been waiting outside the station for him. He is touched and pleased by the offering and they make up. She tells him that she has volunteered at the clinic but she can't work with that Pinkie woman. She decides to go and see Amanda to talk about it. In the taxi Joshua explains to one of the passengers about ARV's. Joshua is happy with himself for the information he just shared. He finds out that the youth who spoke to him when he first disclosed (Angelo) is very ill. Charles is at the petrol station and gets a shock as he realises how much fuel he is using for the transportation of patients to the clinic. He mutters that this volunteering business is going to be expensive. Joshua tells Mr D about the support group and how good it was. He's going to keep going because support groups are not just for sissies and there were other men there. Then he has a bright idea. He's going to see if he can get ARVs for Angelo. Alfred tells Tumi that he has been retrenched and apologises for misleading her all this time. He says he will understand if she wants him to leave. Tumi is amazed but quickly recovers and suddenly understands all his strange behaviour since he's been home. But then she realises that she feels angry with him. "We promised to be husband and wife and support each other and you have kept this from me. That's not how a relationship works."

Messages:

- Health Equity
- Manhood
- ARVs
- Volunteering

EPISODE 24

Joshua happily explains ARVs to a group of passengers. Someone asks if Joshua is taking ARVs. He says not yet, but I am helping other people with taking them. Alfred and Tumi talk. He apologises for not sharing with her. They make up and talk about how they can support each other. He tells her that he's feeling spare and useless. Tumi says that he still has a lot to

offer. Alfred pulls her towards him and kisses her passionately. Joshua turns up at the clinic and demands ARVs. Pinkie is busy with all the many sick patients but he insists. They clash. Amanda has to step in. Mr and Mrs D talk about how Alf is a good man because he didn't abandon his family. Amanda explains to Joshua about the selection criteria for ARVs – the CD4 count, support systems and regular attendance of the clinic. He calms down but asks what if he wants to get ARVs and how will he know if he can or not. Amanda says they should start by getting his CD4 count. DJ and Nomsa go to the movies together and have a great time. She tells him about her dad being retrenched and how he had such a problem telling anyone. DJ tells her that he appreciates being able to share his feelings with her. She doesn't expect him to be a "real" man and make him feel bad about his emotions. Joshua is at the taxi rank when an old gogo comes up to him. The gogo says she doesn't know how she could have got to the clinic if it wasn't for the use of his taxi. Could he please thank his driver as well because he is the one that gave his spare time? Joshua is enraged at Charles.

Messages:

- Manhood
- ARVs
- Volunteering

EPISODE 25

Joshua is in a bad mood because he's not feeling well as he has been up all night with diarrhoea. And he's going to sort Charles out for wasting his money. Nomsa comes to see Amanda. She explains that she is frustrated with volunteering for the clinic as no one has the time to train her and so she spends a lot of time sitting around. She doesn't want to carry on. Amanda is saddened by this news. But then Nomsa suddenly says that she has an idea for how she can still volunteer for the clinic. Mr D warns Charles that Joshua is out looking for him and is very angry. Alfred is in the store. Mrs D asks him if Nomsa and DJ are a couple. She has heard that they have been seen together and looking very much in love. Alfred is not impressed to hear this. Alfred tells Tumi to speak to Nomsa and tell her to stop seeing DJ. Tumi tries to defuse the situation but Alfred tells her "I may not have a job but I'm still the man of this house and Nomsa's father." Joshua finally corners Charles and a shouting session ensues. He is told of the cost of running a business. Charles protests about how the clinic and the patients need help and this is important but Joshua refuses to listen. Charles gets angry and tells Joshua he should practice what he preaches.

Messages:

- Health Equity

- Manhood
- ARVs
- Volunteering

EPISODE 26

Charles finds Amanda at the clinic and sadly tells her that he can no longer transport patients. Amanda tells him not to worry but once he's left, talks to Pinkie about how transport for very ill patients is a service that the clinic desperately needs. Mr D talks to Mrs D and Thandeka. He tells them that he spoke to Joshua about Charles using his taxi for the clinic. Joshua is refusing to reconsider. Thandeka thinks he's being unreasonable. Mr D sighs and says that he does have a point – why should he have to provide something for nothing? They decide that transport for very ill patients should be discussed at the upcoming community health forum meeting. Alfred and Charles chat and Alfred says that Nomsa is exasperating him – she won't listen and she's just doing whatever she wants to. Charles is surprised to hear this – he always thought Nomsa was very together. Alf explains about the fights they've been having lately. Charles tactfully says that maybe Alfred needs to explain why he is feeling the way he feels to Nomsa. Mrs D is exasperated because Andile is being naughty - he's refusing to pick up all his dirty clothes because it's women's work. Mr D says that it's time that he had a talk with Andile. "If we all live in this house, we all share in the chores – it doesn't matter if you're male or female!" Joshua has a dizzy spell while talking to Charles at the taxi rank. Charles finds out that Joshua has diarrhoea. He tells Joshua that diarrhoea can be dangerous and insists on taking him to the clinic. Tumi tells Alfred that she's had a bright idea. She thinks that he should get involved in the community health forum. They definitely could use a man of his experience and talent. Alf says he'll think about it and Tumi suggests that he goes to the next meeting just to see what's going on. Joshua has to wait a long time at the clinic before he is seen by a very rushed and busy Pinkie. She takes his temperature, etc. and then tells him to drink a lot of fluids, eat as much bland food such as dry toast as possible and to make the rehydration solution for himself. She gives him Kao Pectin and tells him he should come back in three days. Joshua is astounded and asks "is this all you're going to give me?" Pinkie retorts "It's all you need right now". Joshua also demands his CD4 results. Pinkie tells him they're not back yet. He demands to know when they will be. Pinkie is by now frustrated and says that she will let him know when to come as she moves on to the next patient. Joshua grumbles and complains.

Messages:

- Health Equity
- Manhood

- ARVs
- Volunteering

EPISODE 27

Alfred asks Charles about DJ. Charles is positive about DJ. Alfred and Joshua talk about DJ and his masculinity show. Joshua is still critical of him but Alfred mysteriously says that it helped him to see things more clearly. Alfred and Tumi talk about Nomsa. Tumi is concerned at how the relationship between Alfred and Nomsa is strained. Alfred is concerned about Nomsa's relationship with DJ. They debate the issue and finally come to an agreement that Alfred should talk to Nomsa about his fears for her. Busi (a fellow support group member) comes round to see Joshua. Busi tells him that he was been treated for diarrhoea with the antibiotic Cotrimoxazole. Joshua is angry that he was not given this. Nomsa 'phones Sipiwe. She complains about her father. She is seriously thinking of moving out. She doesn't think she can carry on living under the same roof with him anymore. Alfred talks to Nomsa and asks about DJ. He gives "concern" as the reason for his question. At first Nomsa cannot believe she is being treated like a child. Alfred says he doesn't want her to misunderstand his intentions – he just wants to be a good father. He talks about how difficult it is for him to talk openly with a child about sex and relationships – due to the way he was brought up. They have a frank conversation about men and sex and protection. Nomsa appreciates the way they are able to talk as equals. In the end, though she tells Alfred that he doesn't have to worry about DJ - "we are just buddies". Joshua turns up at the clinic and demands to be given Cotrimoxazole. Pinkie is again rushed off her feet and puts Joshua in his place. She tells him that he should only be given Cotrimoxazole if his diarrhoea is caused by bacteria. As he doesn't have a temperature they will have to see if his diarrhoea doesn't clear up on its own before they can prescribe something like cotrimoxazole or other antibiotics. He tells her that she should just have given it to him – it would save them all time. She angrily tells him that anyway, he can't just walk in demanding things like cotrimoxazole because they don't have any to give him. Joshua also gets angry and demands his CD4 results again. Pinkie tells him once again that they are not back and she can't tell him when they will be. Joshua threatens to report her to the Community health forum. Pinkie tells him that's an excellent idea – the community health forum should know what kind of abuse she has to put up with.

Messages:

- Health Equity
- Manhood
- ARVs

- Volunteering

EPISODE 28

The man that Alfred fought sees him. He and his friends start trying to pick a fight with Alfred. They taunt him. Alfred tells the guy that he apologises for what happened the other day. This is met with laughs of derision and he is again accused of being a coward. Alfred tells him that he doesn't want to fight him and walks away to howls of laughter. Mr D is nervous about the upcoming community health forum meeting. He is the chairperson and it looks as though he's going to need a UN peacekeeping force from the way Joshua is carrying on. He doesn't know if he can cope. Joshua hears about Alfred walking away from the fight. He talks to Alfred and asks him why he didn't just sort the jerk out. Alfred tells him that he's learnt a thing or two about being a man lately. It's not about being the strongest and winning fights and being the one who provides. It's about having strength of character and self-control. Joshua is thoughtful. The community health forum meeting starts off quite well. They are about to move to the next point on the Agenda when the trouble starts. Joshua says something about the appalling service provision at the clinic and Pinkie answers back hotly. At the picnic spot Nomsa tells DJ about her talk with her father and DJ was right and that he just wants to be a good father. Then a little guiltily Nomsa says that her father was asking about her relationship with DJ and that she had told him that they were just friends. DJ tries to hide his disappointment at hearing this. But then Nomsa tells him that she feels bad about saying that to her father because deep in her heart she thinks that might be a lie and that she has different, more confusing feelings about DJ. DJ is very happy to hear this and they melt into each other's arms. Things degenerate into a shouting match between Joshua and Pinkie at the community health forum meeting. Mr D has trouble bringing them to order. Suddenly Alfred stands up and announces that he can see the problem.

Messages:

- Health Equity
- Manhood
- ARVs
- Volunteering

EPISODE 29

Mr and Mrs D tell Tumi about how it turned out at the community health forum. Alfred realized that the clinic was struggling to get medications on time and that the staff is struggling to cope with frustration and being over worked. Joshua is happy because he has been put in charge of a task force to draft a letter to their MEC for Health. And he has graciously 'donated' the use of his taxi in return for being the preferred provider of taxi services to the clinic. Tumi asks about Charles having to pay for fuel. "Well, that's not sorted out yet but Alfred said he had an idea ..." Alfred goes to the petrol station. He talks to the manager and suggests that they donate one free tank of fuel per week to the clinic. The manager says that he'll give it some thought. Joshua's test results are back from the lab. Pinkie says she will call Joshua to get his results and Amanda says no. She takes his results and tells Pinkie that she must come to her office after closing. The petrol station manager calls Alfred at the store. He says that he will provide a tank of fuel per week for getting patients to and from the clinic for three months and then he will evaluate the situation. Alfred is elated. Joshua immediately takes credit saying it was actually his idea all along. Nomsa tells Tumi that she and DJ have realised that they want to be more than just friends. She asks Tumi to please talk to dad about it. She's worried about how he will react if he finds out. Although they had a positive discussion the other day, he had said previously that she must not see DJ. Tumi says don't worry; I'll talk to him. Amanda takes Pinkie to task for the way she deals with patients. She says that she knows they are overworked but it was unacceptable for her not to explain to Joshua what she was doing. Pinkie protests a bit but actually feels bad about not having followed good nursing practice. Then Amanda tells her that she wants her to give Joshua his test results. And when she does so she must apologize to Joshua. Pinkie is horrified at the thought.

Messages:

- Health Equity
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EPISODE 30

An official letter from the provincial health office arrives for Amanda. Pinkie brings it to her. Amanda has no idea what it could be. Nomsa comes to her mother who's making breakfast and nervously asks her why Alfred is still at home. Nomsa is worried and explains that DJ is coming to pick her up and what will Dad say when he finds out. DJ arrives and to Nomsa's horror Alfred answers the door. DJ says nervously that he has come to pick up Nomsa. Alfred

very sternly says that he doesn't think it's a good idea. Then he laughs at their consternation and says that he trusts them to be responsible. Amanda whoops with joy and tells everyone that the MEC for health is coming to visit because they are modelling working with the community. Pinkie and Amanda talk about how they can dialogue with the MEC and share their difficulties. Joshua arrives for his appointment with Pinkie. They are very stiff with each other. Pinkie awkwardly apologizes to Joshua. After a moment's silence he accepts and then awkwardly apologizes for his behaviour. Tumi and Alfred cuddle and she tells him that she could never let him out her life. "You're my man". He grabs her and says "Well, while the children are out, how about a little 'fun'." She giggles. Joshua tells the Dhlaminis that he's feeling better. He says that he doesn't need ARVs. They ask about his CD4 count and he tells them that it is still quite high. Mrs D says that she's sorry he can't get ARVs. Joshua tells the Dhlaminis that he's actually very happy about not getting ARVs. He is still strong. He intends carrying on with his living positively campaign. Charles happily fills up with his free tank of fuel at the petrol station. "Got people to move and places to go!" He roars off into the sunset hooting happily.

Messages:

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