

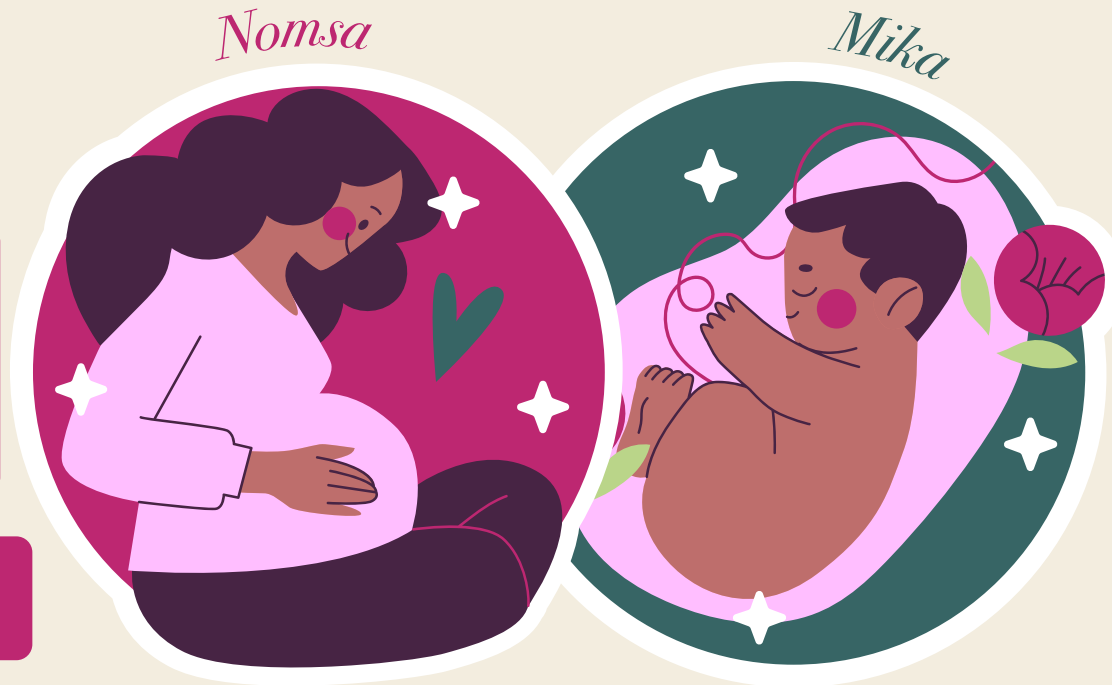
WHY PREGNANT WOMEN LIKE NOMSA NEED INCOME SUPPORT

Nomsa is single and pregnant. She is only eligible for state support **after** her baby is born.

Sometimes Nomsa has to skip meals because **food costs** too much.

Pregnant women like her are more vulnerable to unemployment at a time when their energy needs are greater — **she needs 50 000 calories or more over nine months**.

If she doesn't eat well, her unborn baby won't grow well.



Mika was born too small (*less than 2.5 kg*). Babies born with low birth weight are **2.5 to 3.5 times more likely** to become stunted.

Stunting is a sign of poor brain development because of **chronic malnutrition**.

Mika is eligible for the Child Support Grant. But nearly half of eligible infants (48.3%) under one are **not accessing the grant**.

The Maternal Support Grant can change things for moms like Nomsa:

- Improves mom and baby's health and reduces low birth weight deliveries.
- **Affordable** and **cost-effective**, costing R2 billion annually which is just 0.1% of government spending.
- Reaches women in informal work and female-headed households excluded from maternity benefits.
- Sets the foundation for an **easy transition** to the *Child Support Grant*.