

Peter Owuori's story

Peter Owuori is one of the pioneers of MTAA Junior Generation group. He joined MTAA in 2016 when he was nine years old. Peter's parents had separated due to domestic issues and Peter had to live with an elderly woman in the neighbourhood; here he worked as a houseboy in return for the support he received. It was difficult for him to combine classwork, excess work at home and focus on his medication. This contributed to his poor health status and poor performance at school.

MTAA-Kenya made an intervention by counseling Peter's parents. They accepted to reunite and took Peter back in 2019. With joined effort from all concerned his health improved due to his adherence to medication; with stable health his school performance also improved.

By participating in *Continuous Behaviour Change* and *Communication* workshops by MTAA Peter has been able to meet several challenges. He has recorded an outstanding performance in the Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) examinations in March 2022. His score was 304 marks out of 500; this secured him a place at an extra-county secondary school – St. Joseph's Shibinga 'W'.

GraceImpact has enabled him to join school by paying his fees for the first year and providing other school requirements. Peter was admitted to his new school on May 16th 2022. He is now 15 years old.

Brian Opwondo's story

Brian Opwondo joined MTAA-Kenya in August 2018 when he was eleven years old. He comes from a family of three children. Their mother is a widow and depends on odd jobs to earn a living. Brian, his elder brother – Boniface who is also a member of MTAA Junior Generation – and their mother are all living with HIV. The burden of HIV in their household has rendered them vulnerable to extreme poverty.

Due to this his mother could not raise the required funds to enrol him in a secondary school, despite his outstanding performance in the 2021 Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) exams in March 2022. Brian scored 356 marks out of 500 and secured a place in an extra-county school. His good performance can be attributed to the *Behaviour Change and Communication* trainings he has received from MTAA since August 2018. Through these trainings Brian understood and accepted his HIV status and was motivated to adhere to his treatment.

With improved health condition he could concentrate on his school work, resulting in a good performance. Brian had been enrolled in Kevaywa Secondary in Bungoma County school. After consultation with his mother concerning his health status, it was agreed that he be admitted to a nearby school for close monitoring by all the concerned parties (MTAA, Nyaporo dispensary and the mother).

Thanks to GraceImpact for ensuring that Brian carries on with his dream of going through the secondary school education. he was admitted at Shibinga 'W' Secondary school on 16 th May 2022. Grace Impact donated Ksh. 30.000 for Brian's school fees for the year 2022 and another Ksh.10.000 for other mandatory school requirements. Brian now is 15 years old.