

THE COMEBACK KID



In the middle, Wema Makoye standing during home visit by SATF staff in April 2017.

Wema Makoye has always been a hardworking student who hasn't taken the educational opportunities given by SATF for granted. She has been a beneficiary through MUVUMA, based in the Kahama district, since 2011, where she was officially registered as a MVC and started receiving support. **(Click here to read more about Wema's story)** She had consistently presented good academic performance at her secondary school, all the way up until she sat for her final Form four national exams in 2013. In 2014, she was selected to join A-level studies at Kishaju Secondary school in Muleba district.

Wema's educational success seemed set in stone, but then, tragedy struck and Wema fell incredibly ill. She was so sick, she could only perform physical tasks with the assistance of others. Being a residential student, things went from bad to worse when her mother elected to withdraw her from boarding school to be a day scholar, believing that she could somehow help her daughter. The support she received was only from her family and community in the form of organized prayers and non-medical treatments. It wasn't long before Wema's health began to deteriorate further. Fear of medical costs influenced the family's decision to not take her to a modern hospital for treatment. Wema struggled more, and three months passed before she sat for her Form six national exams. Despite all of this, Wema miraculously was able to sit for her final exams and scored division two.

While waiting for admission in to university, Wema became gravely ill, unable to walk, let alone study. This time she was completely disabled and could only walk with someone's assistance. All of her dreams to become a university student in 2016 suddenly began to fade. SATF was notified and immediately responded with funds for Wema to receive the medical attention and treatment she needed so urgently.

Our partner NGO MUVUMA followed up on her case closely, and it was determined by the Kahama district hospital that Wema had a muscle weakening condition that required extensive treatment. We were able to pay a visit to Wema at her home in April 2017, (pictured above) and we delighted to note her improved condition and ability to walk without support.

Wema was thrown punch after punch, but refused to get knocked down. Now feeling much better, her resilience is remarkable as she keeps her dream alive of studying at university. Thanks to SATF's intervention, Wema plans on submitting her applications to university for the 2017/2018 academic year. After all Wema has faced, we are going to support her as best we can in the hopes that she will make it through this trying situation, yet again.