

# Family Sponsorship Newsletter

**Welcome to the February edition of the Family Sponsorship Newsletter.**

## **Secondary School Success**

"Education enhances lives. It ends generational cycles of poverty and disease and provides a foundation for sustainable development" (UNICEF). At AfCiC we believe that every child, regardless of their economic situation, has the right to an education and we are committed to ensuring that all the children we work with have access to primary education.

However, in a country where the job market is increasingly competitive, the need for education beyond primary level is becoming ever more apparent. Unfortunately, despite the government claiming secondary education to now be free, there are still many associated costs (such as school uniform and books etc.), which are beyond the financial means of the families we work with.

Despite its best efforts, AfCiC is unable to cover these costs for the ever growing number of children we work with and, for this reason, we are only able to send children to secondary school if they have a sponsor.

In February AfCiC, with the generous support of sponsors, was able to assist eight children to commence their secondary education. Three of these children are supported through the Family Sponsorship Programme and are a testimony to the success of the scheme. Many thanks to Roger and Sylvia

Howarth, Melinda Stone and David Whittaker whose regular donations made it possible for a member of their sponsored family to have this chance in life.



Joseph Njuguna who recently started secondary school

## **Successful Rehabilitation**

When children join AfCiC's Interim Care Centre (ICC) they have often been on the streets for substantial periods of time without having accessed formal education. Throughout the six month rehabilitation period, children are prepared to return to mainstream educational establishments once they have been reintegrated into their local communities.

It would be futile to attempt to rehabilitate the children without addressing the problems in their home environment which forced them to leave home in the first place. Whilst AfCiC provides each rehabilitated child with a school uniform and the necessary items to return to school, if the family is unable to provide for the child's basic needs, it is likely they will return to the streets once more.

Martin Mwendia spent six months at the ICC before returning home to live with his grandmother. Through the support of his sponsor, Samantha Whittaker, we were able to assist Martin's grandmother in setting up a small income generating activity. As a result, she is able to earn enough money to adequately sustain herself and her family. Now Martin receives regular meals at home and is attending school, he feels no need to resort to life on the streets.



Thanks to Family Sponsorship, Martin continues to attend to school.

### Interim Care Centre

In May the twenty boys currently being rehabilitated at the ICC will return to live with their parents or guardians. AfCiC will assist them in returning to school but, to ensure the longevity of their rehabilitation, it is essential we empower their families to become financially self sufficient in order they be able to support the children adequately.

AfCiC is committed to realising its vision of enabling every child to access education but needs **your support** to do this. If you know of any family member, friend or relative who would be able to make a contribution of just £15 a month in order to support the family of one of the children currently undergoing rehabilitation at the ICC, please put them in touch through the email address [sponsorship@actionchildren.org](mailto:sponsorship@actionchildren.org)

Best wishes

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Ordinator