

## In their own words...

### Tanzania: Mirerani Good Hope Programme

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**M**oise, 16-year-old boy, “I was born in 1989 in Singida Region at Kiomboi District town. When my mother and I left Singida to Arusha I was in class 3.

While in Arusha my mother didn't take me to school because she had no job and therefore, any income to meet my educational needs. She started looking for opportunities so that I could go to school again. Then the Mirerani Good Hope Programme (MGHP) found me and took me to school.

The programme met all my needs, like school contributions, my exercise books, uniforms and shoes. I continued with school and successfully completed primary education. I am now in form one at Mbuguni secondary school. The programme has assisted me all the way from primary school until now in secondary school. They met me at the point of my need. Had it been not the assistance from the Programme my dreams for education would have been shattered. Many people come to Mirerani in Arusha knowing that there is a lot of money and opportunities in life. That is why parents come with their children here. My mother cannot afford my education. I live only with her and have not known my father.”



**N**oemia, “I was born in 1989 in Mwanza Region. I started going to school until I reached class 5. I could not continue with school because my father passed away when I was in class 4.

I started living with my grandmother as an orphan without a proper fatherly love and care. My grandmother was not able to pay for my school contributions and meet my school needs. I also had no other relative whom I could depend on for assistance and survival.

Then a certain man and woman from Arusha came into our neighbourhood. They convinced my grandmother that I go with them to Arusha so that they can support me through education. My grandmother agreed since she was not able to support me any longer. I also liked the idea of going back to school.

Things changed when we came to Arusha in year 2001. My guardians did not think of my education anymore. I then worked as a house girl. The first year, then the second, I did not go to school and my dreams of going to school ended. I fortunately heard from neighbours that there is a programme called Mirerani Good Hope, which helps children who are in worst forms of child labour with alternatives in life like education and vocational training.

I then ran away from my guardians and joined the Programme at their Drop-in Centre. They took me to school in class 5 until I completed class 7 and went through to secondary school after passing my primary education exams. I am in form 1 at Mbuguni secondary school. The programme has been providing for all my school needs, including fees, exercise books, uniforms, hostel fees, etc. I see the future is bright and will continue with education to the highest-level possible.”