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JITEGEMEE
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CECILIA MAPUNDA

CECILIA was born in 1995 in Songea, Tanzania. Her father passed away when she was a little girl and her mother seeing the great responsibility of raising the child alone with no resources, deserted her child leaving Cecilia outside her grandfather's house. Her grandfather lived alone and had nothing. He was old and sick. At such a young age Cecilia had to do all the chores of keeping up their small house. She took on menial jobs, gleaning and searching for leftovers in order to survive with her grandfather. As her grandfather became older and more sick he wanted something better for his granddaughter.

Upon hearing about SWACCO, Cecilia's grandfather asked the village civil officer to find a way of getting his granddaughter into the orphanage. SWACCO, the Songean Women and Children's Organization, is the local organization which is solely supported by the Mwangaza Jitegemee Foundation. The request was considered serious and Cecilia was accepted in 2007. Upon acceptance to SWACCO, Cecilia was finally able to start school which brought both her and her grandfather great joy. SWACCO provides her with food, clothes, medical services, and for all of her education needs including tuition, school uniforms, books and school supplies. Cecilia is now relieved from the previous pressures and concerns and she concentrates on her studies. Currently she is in form three at Sarpientia Sec School. Cecilia is doing well in her school and after school she likes playing netball, reading her books and assisting with kitchen work and gardening. Cecilia is compassionate with her friends she will fit well in the society.