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IBRAHIM MBUMA

Photo was taken August 2012. (R) His usual mischievous look (L) after he got ahold of some face paint.

Ibrahim was born in May 16, 2005 in Songea, Tanzania. His father's name is Juma Mbuma and his mother's name is Maria Komba. He lives at Mkuzo with his mother and his one brother and one sister.

Both his mother and father passed away. His father passed away shortly after Ibrahim was born, leaving his sick mother and siblings to care for themselves. His mother was not in good health and had no means of taking care of the family. The children would haul Ibrahim on their backs and go to the streets to beg for food for their survival.

A person on the street had watched them begging for food for months and finally approached their mother about finding help from an orphanage for her children. In 2007 they reached out to SWACCO, the Songean Women and Children's Care Organization. SWACCO is supported by the Mwangaza Jitegemee Foundation and they work together to serve those orphans and widows in the community. In 2007 Ibrahim was accepted by SWACCO and life has improved dramatically, not only for him, but his entire family.

The Foundation provides Ibrahim with food, clothes, medical and clinical services and all of his schooling needs, including tuition, school uniform, books and school supplies. Currently he is in standard one at Msamala Primary School. He enjoys school and loves to be read to. He also enjoys playing netball with the other kids. His chores include working in the garden and feeding the chickens.

Ibrahim is very high spirited. He comes home every day with a ton of energy and is always looking for someone to play with.