

# Child Sponsorship Looking Back – Samuel

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by Sarah Woods



Image: Samuel with a cheeky grin as he eats chicken, ugali, and kale at Future Stars.

In 2015, Samuel arrived at the centre with a harrowing story.

He had been living on the streets of Kibera since the age of 5, alongside several other young boys. They survived by raiding trash bins for food.

One day, Samuel was with a friend (aged 6) who stole a banana from a street stall, so desperate were the group to get something to eat. Tragically, the boy was shot dead by the police. At this point, a charity supporting street boys became aware of the group and began to offer some assistance. However, it became apparent that Samuel was struggling and becoming increasingly vulnerable.

So, in 2015, the charity requested a placement for him. He came to live at Future Stars.

Initially he was very shy and quiet. But, over time, his personality has shined through and we have come to know his gorgeous cheeky smile. He loves to dance and this is, in fact, the activity that drew him out of his shell.

Samuel has had a sponsor almost from the beginning, and his progress is in no small part due to the support and interaction he receives, and the knowledge he now has that there are people (and in particular his sponsor) who really do care about him.

It's hard to imagine the memories that Samuel carries with him. Whilst we can't change his past or erase those memories, we can certainly work towards giving him a brighter future.

Here is Samuel's 'Looking Back' gallery:



## Child Sponsorship

There are many children at Future Stars who would love a sponsor like Samuel's. Could you be that special person who supports a child and ensures their development? Sponsorship costs just over £1 a day and makes a huge difference to the future of one of these vulnerable children.

Why not read some more about our sponsorship programme and the children looking for sponsors...

Make a Difference