

# KUCETEKELA FOUNDATION

## Meet Ethen Kantu

### Quick Facts

<b>Name</b>	Ethen Kantu
<b>Birthday</b>	13 September 2001
<b>Birth Place</b>	Lusaka, Zambia
<b>Mother's Name</b>	Matilda Kainga
<b>Mother's Profession</b>	Community School Teacher
<b>Father's Name</b>	Unknown
<b>Father's Profession</b>	Unknown
<b>Primary School</b>	Mpungu Community School
<b>Secondary School</b>	Chalo Trust
<b>2015 Grade Level</b>	Grade 8



### Ethen's Family

Ethen is from a disadvantaged area of Lusaka called Mpungu. 2014 was the first year KF interviewed students from the Mpungu Community School, which Ethen's grandmother runs. The school is erected on the same property as the family's two, one-room homes. The 11 family members whom Ethen stays with live between these two rooms. In the room Ethen lives, he shares a bed with his grandma, and three other children share the adjacent bed. His mother and aunt both work for the community school as teachers. His mother does not have contact with the father, and thus doesn't know where he is or what he does for a living. Ethen has never seen or known his father. As Ethen's grandmother, Juliet, explains, "no one has ever come up to say I'm the father of the child." The school can earn up to 2700 kwacha (about \$400)/ month, but all the school costs, including teacher salaries, must come from this income. In addition, the students at the community school are sometimes unable to pay the 75 kwacha (\$12)/month fee, and thus this revenue can be unstable. Both Ethen's mother and Aunt make 500 kwacha (\$77)/month.

---

# KUCETEKELA FOUNDATION

## **Ethen's Educational Background**

Ethen has attended his family's community school in Mpungu throughout his primary education. He always finds himself in the top three positions in class, and enjoys playing sports. He likes to present himself and his school in debates or quizzes. His favorite subjects include math, science, and English, however he performs highest in math. He wants to be a doctor when he grows up because Ben Carson, who went from being illiterate to highly educated, has inspired him to succeed. Although the KF team was highly impressed by a number of students at the group interview at Mpungu community school, Ethen stood out especially. Despite eating infrequently, he continues to excel in school and was quick to answer all of KF's questions (even on negative numbers)!