

## Meet Gladys Mwangala



**Gladys Mwangala**

### Profile

<b>Name</b>	Gladys Namgelo Mwangala
<b>Birthday</b>	25th June 2007
<b>Birth Place</b>	Lusaka, Zambia
<b>Area of Residence</b>	02/53 Misisi Compound
<b>Father's Name</b>	Mwangala Mwangala
<b>Father's Profession</b>	Security Guard
<b>Mother's Name</b>	Joyce Ndumba Mwangala
<b>Mother's Profession</b>	House Maid
<b>Primary School</b>	St. Lawrence Primary School

### Gladys's Family Background

Gladys lives with both parents in a two-room house, situated in Misisi compound. She has two older siblings both in their high school education at Libala Secondary. The first born is in Grade 12 and the second is in Grade 10. Gladys's father was born and raised in Senanga district. His father died when he was in Grade 7, causing him to drop out when he got to Grade 9. Gladys's father moved to Mazabuka and began working for the Zambia Sugar Company. He later moved to Lusaka in 2000 with his friend. Meanwhile, Gladys's mother was born and raised in Mazabuka. She was unable to complete her primary school education; she dropped out immediately after Grade 7 and moved to Lusaka in 2002 when she got married. Their family income is dependent on her father's salary, who works as a security guard and her mother's salary through her work as a house maid. With time, it has become challenging for both parents to fill in some family gaps calling for financial need. They explained that those days when the dollar was stable, the family's income could stretch to cover a few more expenses, currently the fluctuations in the dollar have led to a high cost of living, making it so difficult for the family to afford all family expenses.

## **Educational Background**

For her primary school education, Gladys attended St. Lawrence Primary in Lusaka. She has consistently been number one in her class from Grade 1 through Grade 7. She did impressively well on the KF entrance exam, ranking 2<sup>nd</sup> from a pool of 50 potential candidates. She also assumes a position of class leader with the following duties: keeping the class quiet, collecting text books from the staffroom on time and making sure the classroom is kept clean at all times.

## **Extracurricular Activities**

Gladys is involved in various activities outside class, for instance she is a great poet. She finds freedom and expression in the arts. Music is another activity she greatly enjoys. She sings both at church and school. She is an active choir member at the New Apostolic Church in Misisi, where she also serves as their youth leader. Gladys is also an active member of the Dreams Club at her school where she serves as their leader and is responsible for ensuring attendance of all members during their monthly meetings.

## **Her Thoughts**

Due to the high rising number of teenage smokers in her community, Gladys would love to be a nurse. She has seen first hand, the devastating effects of smoking to the human body through the loss of her friend.

Her love for Science and Mathematics has further deepened this ambition to become a nurse. However, she is conflicted by the prospect of also being a journalist. She claims her love for poetry and public speaking appeal to her future ambitions as well.

She would love to visit the United States of America in the near future because she perceives it as her dream country. Her hope is to see massive development in Zambia in the next 10-15 years. She says many people prefer going to developed countries for studies, work or for other activities because Zambia does not have much development but if our country could gain development within a period of time, it would lessen the people leaving for other countries, hence promoting our own country.