

Meet Pauline Masaka



Pauline Masaka

Profile

Name	Pauline Masaka
Birthday	June 7, 2003
Birth Place	Lusaka, Zambia
Area of Residence	Old Ng'ombe
Mother's Name	Barbara Chumba
Mother's Profession	Sells vegetables
Primary School	Pakachele Primary School
Secondary School	Chalo Trust School
2018 Grade Level	Grade 8

Pauline's Family

Pauline stays in Ng'ombe with her mother, step-father, three brothers and a cousin. Pauline's birth father is not around, and her step-father occasionally supports the family, though Pauline's mother reported that he often uses the small salary that he earns to buy drinks for himself. Pauline's mother, Barbara, sells tomatoes and other vegetables at the market, and Pauline will sometimes help her to sell after she has finished school for the day. In order to supplement the scholarship gaps, Barbara plans to diversify her business by selling different kinds of supplies and a traditional maize drink. Pauline's younger brothers are in Grades 3, 2, and 1, and her cousin is in Grade 9. The money saved from Pauline's school fees will go toward supporting her siblings' educations.

Pauline's Educational Background

Pauline attended primary school at Pakachele Primary School in Ng'ombe. She normally passes in the second or third position in her class, but before a new student began attending Pakachele Primary in Grade 5, Pauline would pass in the first position. Pauline has held leadership positions in school as a class monitoress and as a prefect. She demonstrated her academic prowess in the KF exams, tying for the third position with Blessing Kasabo (another 2018 KF Grade 8 from Twatasha Primary School) among all the students. Pauline's favorite subjects in school are mathematics and science: mathematics because she likes the

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way it trains her brain to move faster and science because she enjoys learning about the functions of the human body. As she begins secondary school, she will be attending Chalo Trust School.

Pauline's Extracurricular Interests

When she isn't studying, Pauline enjoys creating art and writing and performing poetry. When she was in Grade 6, she performed a poem for the Independence Day celebration at Pakachele Primary. She performed that piece for the KF staff during her home interview, and despite the poem's brevity, Pauline's delivery of it was extremely powerful. In addition to her artistic talents, she helps to coach her younger brothers in subjects that they find difficult. She also plays netball and participates in the choirs of her school and church.

Pauline's Thoughts

Pauline has a helping spirit, which can be seen in many aspects of her life. Firstly, she is often encouraging her friends in their studies and endeavors. Even when she attended the KF exams, she supported her colleagues from Pakachele and gave them words of strength during the breaks between each of the exams. When she finishes school, Pauline would like to study to become a medical nurse. This is because she has an interest in helping people who are sick, and she would like to research cures for diseases that are currently incurable.

Pauline has identified several different problems that she feels need to be addressed in her community, including high noise levels, dirtiness and the expression of bad morals. Rather than being complacent about her community situation, though, she has many plans for ways that she would like to improve her community. These include starting a women's empowerment group, initiating sports programs to keep students occupied and out of trouble, and building schools and clinics to provide social services desperately needed.



Pauline, her younger brother and her mother at the home interview.

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Pauline (far right) and her family outside their home.

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