

Alex

“My father died when I was 5-years-old. I lived with mother until I was 13-years-old until she passed away in 2003.

I moved away from my family and started living on the streets because after the death of my mother, my father married another wife who mistreated me and made my life at home difficult. I persisted, but when my father neglected paying my school fees, young as I was, I opted for the streets in search of a better life.

I met other boys on the streets. We used to eat in rubbish pits. At times we helped traders load their merchandise on lorries. That would enable us get some decent food and clean water. All my clothes faded and some were torn. Everything thing was crumpling down on me.

They used to smoke marijuana cigarettes and sniff petrol and glue. They tried to force me to do this but I refused because when I was still schooling, before my mother died, my science teacher taught us about the dangers of taking drugs. Due to all the challenges I was facing on the street, especially child labor, I made up my mind to go back to school.

I am grateful that when L.E.A.D Uganda came in search of kids who wanted to go back to school. I was picked. I mostly want to thank God and L.E.A.D Uganda for having taken us from the streets to some of the best schools in Uganda and also providing us with scholastic materials.

This year I scored a first grade in my National Exams and I was admitted in St. Josephs Nagalama for 'A' Level. I am doing Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Food and Nutrition. I hope to do Medicine or Food Science at university.

I am a changed man now. Everything has changed including my Dad's attitude towards me. I visit my family during school breaks now. My relations with them has improved, now that they know my life is on the move.

When I was still on the street, I thought my future was spoilt and I was just waiting for death only. I am now focusing on my future career. My dream is to be a heart surgeon. I know it is difficult, but I will work hard and make it.”



