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# The Sasamani Foundation

## What is the Sasamani Education Initiative?

The Sasamani Education Initiative is Sasamani's holistic approach to child sponsorship. For 56 students in Bagamoyo, Tanzania, Sasamani supports all school fees, boarding costs (when available), school supplies, hygiene supplies, transportation fees, and one on one counseling. The Sasamani Foundation is the only nonprofit in Bagamoyo that works collaboratively with teachers to help each student reach their full potential, and the only nonprofit to support boys, and offer scholarships beyond Form 4, without cost sharing. This approach ensures that each Sasamani student is given all necessary tools to thrive. To encourage self-reliance, Sasamani students are taught to pay it forward; by giving back to their community through volunteer initiatives, such as community clean ups.

## CASE STUDIES

To better describe this process and its effects, we offer three examples of how students and their families have been impacted by the support from the Sasamani Foundation. These are real examples offered with students' permission.

**Ramadhan** | When Ramadhan was in Form 2, both of his parents passed away, leaving him and his young brother without the financial means to continue his education. Rama was able to complete secondary school, passing his exams with high marks, but could not afford to continue onto form 5. It was at this time, in 2011, that Ramadhan was connected to the Sasamani Foundation. With help from Sasamani, in the form of school fees, accommodation fees, and counseling from Gladness, Rama was able to attend Mwinyi High school for Form 5 and Form 6. He passed his exams with high marks, and went on to receive his Bachelor's of Science in Biotechnology from Sokoine University of Agriculture, in Morogoro, TZ. Now that he has graduated, Rama is giving back to his community. He is currently volunteering at Ifakara Health Institute, researching malaria, whilst simultaneously teach-



ing biology and chemistry to Form 1 through Form 4 students at a secondary school in Bagamoyo. With a degree and employment, Rama not only supports himself, but gives back to his community and supports his younger brother's school fees, as well.



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**Shufaa** | Shufaa is 18 years old, the oldest of 3 children. Her father suffers from mental illness, and has not been present throughout her life. Shufaa grew up in a single parent household, raised and supported by her mother, a business woman who sells cassava. When Shufaa was in Form 2 at Kingoni Secondary School, she was not going to be able to continue her education. She could not afford school fees, and



lived too far away from Kingoni to travel safely to and from school each day. After reaching out to Kingoni's headmaster and second headmaster, Shufaa was connected with Gladness, and became a Sasamani sponsor student. With the help of Sasamani, Shufaa received financial support for school fees, uniforms, supplies, and room and board. This was a game changer for Shufaa and allowed her to stay focused in school instead of making the long daily trek to and from home. Shufaa successfully completed Form 4, and is currently applying for college, where she hopes to study teaching.



**Siaba** | Siaba is 20 years old and joined Sasamani in 2014 when she was in Form 3 at Kingoni Secondary School. Siaba lives in a single parent household and has two younger brothers, ages 11 and 6. It has always been her responsibility to help care for them. Siaba's mother is an entrepreneur selling fruit juices in Dar es Salaam, three hours from Bagamoyo by bus. Her mother was forced to drop out of school at age 13. When Siaba was in Form 3 her mother fell ill and struggled to pay Siaba's school fees and transportation to and from school. The second headmaster at Kingoni, Mr. Stevens, connected Siaba with the Sasamani Foundation. With help from Sasamani in the 4 years since, Siaba successfully completed Form 6 and is preparing to go to university to study chemistry. Without Sasamani, Siaba would not have completed school.