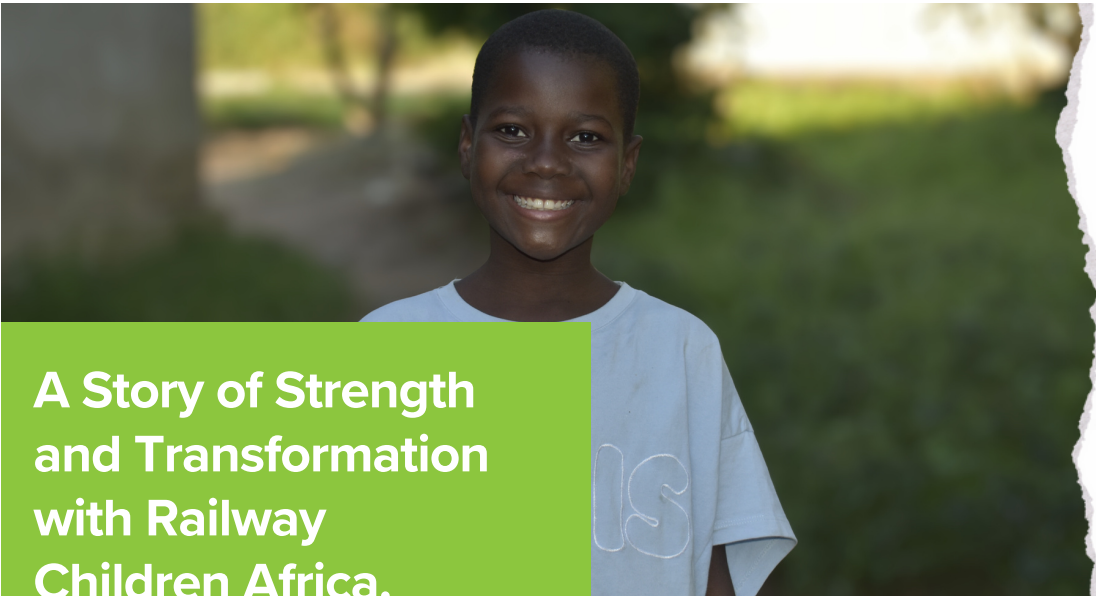


Angel

New Beginning:



A Story of Strength and Transformation with Railway Children Africa.

Meet Angel' whose childhood was not always filled with stability or schoolbooks. One day, after a difficult altercation at home turned violent, she made a choice no child should ever have to make: she ran.

My name is Angel. I'm 11 years old, the third of five siblings, and I'm proud to say I'm now in Standard Four."

Why did you run away from home?

"I clearly remember that day; my mother asked me to bring her a stick. I refused. When she got angry and started beating me, I realized I had to run. I didn't even know where I was going; I just wanted to escape." Says Angel

Alone and scared, Angel found herself near a group of women selling sugarcane and fruits. Concerned, they asked her where she lived. Realizing she was a child in need, they brought her to the Social Welfare Office, who placed her with a fit person. That night, she slept there safely but unsure of what the future held. The next day, she met a team from Railway Children Africa (RCA).

This was the beginning of a new chapter for Angel.

Before meeting RCA, Angel often had no place to sleep. She and her siblings would sometimes sleep outdoors, exposed to the rain and fear. But with RCA's support, she found something she hadn't felt in a long time: safety.

Angel explained, "Now we sleep in beds. We are no longer cold or rained on. My mother no longer beats us as she used to, and our home has become a safe haven for me to return to. After a month living with a fit person, I was later reunited with my family, and we now have a place to call home. My mother teaches us rather than punishes us when we make mistakes. She has become an even better mother to us.



More than just a safe home, Angel found the chance to go back to school.

I had stopped school after we left Tabora. Because of RCA, I had an opportunity to go back to school. Now I am studying hard. I don't want to disappoint my mother again." Angel says. With maturity far beyond her age, Angel shares what she's learned:

She continues by saying, "I've learned to listen, to respect my mother, and to follow her guidance. I'm focused on school now. I'll try my best in everything I do."



And what does she want to say to Railway Children Africa?

Angel continues by saying, Meeting with RCA was the best thing that has happened in my life. Thank you for taking me back to school. I will work hard and make you proud.

Angel's story is one of thousands and proof that with the right support, no child is lost on the streets.



The photo captures Angel's joy as she reunites with her family.

TRANSFORMING LIVES. STRENGTHENING FAMILIES.