



Amina WILSON, 13 years old

Amina has been a resident of the Green Door Home in the Boona-Baana Centre since January 2004. She used to live in Kurasini Orphanage and has no identifiable family members. She has just completed her Grade 7 exams at the Hekima Waldorf School.

She is quiet and introverted in nature, but when it comes to babies and young children, she is a *natural mother hen*; she enjoys playing with younger kids, talking to them, making them laugh and often takes on the responsibility to care for them and even discipline them. This includes her younger friends at the Green Door Home! Amina says that *when she grows up*, she wants to be a nursery school teacher.

Amina used to struggle a lot with her school work, displaying little interest in academics. However, in the recent year, she has matured and her attitude towards her studies has changed tremendously. Her grades have improved as she began to realise that education is so important, that she may be *independent and self-sufficient* in the future.

A challenge for Amina is her fear of abandonment and hence her reluctance to venture anywhere outside the Green Door Home on her own. We want to help her overcome that fear by *encouraging confidence and independence* in her. Now that she has finished her primary education and has begun to show an interest in her studies, the Boona Baana Centre would like to enrol her in boarding school in Moshi or Bagamoyo for her secondary education, in order to foster independence and help her learn to *step outside her comfort zone*.

The Boona Baana Centre currently pays for Amina's primary education out of its general funds comprising donations from a few regular donors, but it will be unable to continue to do so for her secondary education without additional financial support. The school fees of a good private secondary school, coupled with uniforms, books and boarding are in the region of Tsh 2 million (US\$1,300-US\$1400) a year, more than three times the price of the cost of primary school. If you would like to be a *sponsor* or *make a contribution* towards Amina's secondary education, contact boonabaana_center@yahoo.com.