

Dear all,

This is the first real speech I am giving as far as I remember. I tried to summarize my journey so far in a few minutes, highlighting important aspects from my childhood, school, college and my perception towards life.

I start by saying that life is not about chasing but living. Most of our lives, we are chasing things oblivious to the fact that it's the journey which makes life interesting rather than the destination.

My speech would be vague without the story of this great and blessed family of Mothers Mercy Home that has taken the big part in my life to date. Glory be to God for the wonderful chance for me to be here. This great family [MMH] are the reason, I am standing before you today. Since I became part of this family, my life took a different path of success.

I had so many dreams and fantasies: to be a musician, a dancer and much more. Mothers Mercy Home has participated so much from when I was 5 years old. Starting from my education, my school days flew very playfully. The studies went on like a breeze without any sort of major pressures. I was never sent home for school fees or any indiscipline cases since I was taught good morals, ethics and values. Both primary and high school were awesome and I don't think there is anything I can stand to regret.

I made some good friends for life that made me to embrace my course of being the best social worker. Through this journey I am grateful to John Kaheni Youth Centre for the opportunity for me to offer community service at the Rehabilitation Centre through which I realized my passion and choose my career path (Social work). For all that I have achieved through the warmth of JKR I am humbled and I really do feel good.

From where I stand now, I believe that life shouldn't be lived in pursuit of happiness, but as a celebration of happiness. Thanks to the great sponsors, the CHC, you are so amazing and you are one special people who I will live to remember for the great support in my education and love thank you very and may God always walk and lead you to the desires of your heart. It is an awesome feeling to have people who care for humanity even across the oceans. I am grateful for everything.

Looking forward into the future, I have many dreams like every one of us can have, some with crystal clear paths, some with dimly lit paths and others that only look as a mirage but it all starts with a small step like the one we are about to take and the small ones we have walked to where we are today.

Thanks to the Almighty GOD for this wonderful and chosen family of Mothers Mercy Home, JKR and CHC.

Thank you.

Beatrice Waithera