

James' Story

From the Streets to a Brighter Future

We first met James, a 17-year-old boy, during our Street Outreach program in November 2024. He comes from a family of six—five siblings (four boys and two girls) and both parents—living in a cramped one-room house in Makululu township, one of the largest shanty compounds in Southern Africa.

James' parents are not formally employed. To make ends meet, they take on piecework jobs in town, but the income is barely enough to feed the family. Due to this financial hardship, James found himself on the streets, trying to support his family by begging and assisting shoppers with their luggage.

When we introduced James to our Day Centre, we provided him with counseling and began to learn more about his life. Through this process, we discovered that James was born with a health condition that caused him significant pain, especially in cold weather, and that he had long needed surgery. His parents had tried for years to seek medical help for him, but without success.

Recognizing the urgency of his situation, we stepped in to assist. On the 22nd of July 2025, James underwent the much-needed surgery. We are deeply grateful to God that he is now recovering well.

James is a bright and intelligent young man with a dream of becoming a farmer. With his ambition and resilience in mind, we enrolled him at the DAPP Skills Training Centre to gain practical skills in agriculture. He is now on the path to self-reliance, with the goal of not only transforming his own life but also positively impacting his family.

We are truly excited to witness James' transformation and his determination to build a better future. His journey is a testament to what can happen when hope is restored, and support is given at the right time.