

QUARTERLY REPORT (JUNE – AUGUST 2025)

Project: Inzonzi Kolaki Ta (Keep Girls in School) Program

Success Story: Aisha's future can be bright (name changed for protection)

Aisha is 16 and grew up in a small riverside settlement in Moyo District. Her father left when she was a child and her mother struggled to provide for four children. By 15, Aisha had dropped out of school because the family could not pay the fees. Relatives began to pressure her mother to accept a marriage arrangement that would 'solve' the family's financial strain. Aisha felt terrified and alone.

When she joined the Inzonzi Kolaki Ta Program in June 2025, Aisha could barely speak about her feelings. She rarely attended community events and would sit at the edge of group sessions. Gradually, through the healing circles and consistent counseling, she began to trust the facilitators and other girls. She learned coping techniques, and in peer-mentorship sessions she discovered a sense of purpose. Aisha now speaks about becoming a tailor, dreams of starting a small sewing business, and expresses a determination to support her younger siblings.

Her change is not only about skills — it is the recovery of her sense of worth. Aisha's mother, who attended a parental engagement meeting, said she no longer believes that marriage is the only option for her daughter. Aisha's story exemplifies why early psychosocial support, community engagement, and training opportunities are vital.

