



MFOMZIE MOHAMMED ABASSE

Mfomzie Mohammed Abasse is a 17 year old form 5 student who was born with unilateral clubfoot. He grew up feeling ashamed and uncomfortable amongst his friends who used to mock him because of his deformity.

According to Abasse's father, when Abasse was born the pride and happiness that goes with the birth of a new baby eluded him because of the deformity. In his attempts to look for a solution for the child's foot, they attempted traditional treatment but experienced no change despite the time and resources spent. "We then took him to the hospital with still no positive outcome. Consequently, we gave up and concluded that what will be, will be". Seeing his son growing up with a deformity, kept him worried as a father because he knew that while alive he will be of help to his son but was preoccupied with what would become of him after he dies.

Abase was identified and referred for treatment by the CBCHS CBR Field worker in one of his usual home visits to the communities. Despite all the discouragement from other community members that it was going to be another "waste of time", he took his son for treatment. Being a notable of the village, Abasse's father played the role of leader by encouraging 5 parents of children with clubfoot in his community to also take their children for treatment as he decided to do. After commencing treatment at the Ponseti treatment clinic in Ngounso, not very far from their community, they were later referred for surgery in Mutengene by an Orthopaedic Surgeon who is the Clinical Supervisor of the CBM funded Cameroon Clubfoot Care Project. He came back very happy as he saw the foot of the child looking normal. "Now I am certain he is going to make life on his own and the whole family and the entire community are very happy with the outcome of his treatment"

The Confidence That Come with Being Able to Wear Shoes Like My Friends



Abasse before treatment

Abasse is now a happy boy with improved self-esteem and high hopes. He now feels relieved and free among his peers. The very mates who used to make mockery of him have now become his friends who interact and play freely with him. He explains “I am now able to wear shoes and walk upright, trek long distances, play football with my friends, and even run which are all things I could not do before”. Just like his parents Abasse is very grateful to all who contributed to give him such a life changing transformation. Today he says “thanks to my treatment I am now admired by the very friends who used to mock at before I was treatment”. Abbase says he hopes to be a businessman and a medical doctor to provide the same type of help that I received to other children with deformities.



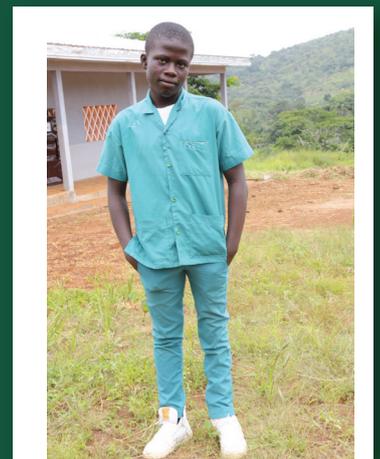
Abasse has developed improved self-esteem after treatment



Abasse after surgery on crutches in their family home



Abasse's seeing his foot for the first time after surgery



Abasse after treatment, with improved self esteem!