THE STORY OF CAROLINE ATIENO OTIENO – AN ORPHAN YOUNG MOTHER

Caroline Atieno Otieno, aged 24 years old joined G-BIACK in April 2019 to learn and gain skills at the Girls Empowerment Programme GEP. Caroline’s parents passed away years back and she was left in the hands of her grandmother who passed on 2 years ago. The only option for Caroline was to get married so that she could get a place to stay. Fortunately enough, she was married by a very good young man who has allowed her to seek for education as she desired when her parents were alive. Despite all the challenges, she had managed to score a C plain which is a good grade that could have allowed her to join a good college here in Kenya but this is beyond her reach financially.

Caroline shared her challenges with one of the G-BIACK farmers’ alum who is a church minister. He recommended her to G-BIACK and she joined the Girls Empowerment Programme (GEP). This young energetic mother of one has emerged the best student in the 2019 – 2020 class and has shown a lot of will to continue learning and to gain skills which will help her and her young family to gain sustainable security. Her husband, Mr. Davis Otieno, who is 26 years old depends on casual work and he says that he fully supports Caroline 100% in her endeavor as she strives to pursue her career. In the GEP programme she is learning many life skills, such as Biointensive agriculture, sewing and tailoring, nutrition, cooking and baking, family health care, computer skills, basic carpentry, and many more.

Caroline’s desire is to initiate a community programme where she can share these skills and help her community to reduce extreme poverty and help young women like herself to grow out of poverty. The GEP programme offers an intensive all rounded skills to young women. Some of the skills offered are Agriculture, cooking, baking and nutrition, textiles and computer literacy classes.