

Sponsored Child to Senator

A formerly sponsored child of Christian child development charity, Compassion, has gone on to be elected to the Ugandan Parliament. Margaret Makhoha will be representing her home district of Namayingo.

Margaret wants to be a voice for her community which she believes has been forgotten by successive governments. She is also passionate about the plight of women in Ugandan society and about changing prevailing attitudes towards women's education and domestic violence.

Margaret was born into extreme poverty. But once registered with Compassion, she passed through its Child Sponsorship Programme and received education, free healthcare, good nutrition and social and spiritual development.

Having been recognised for her academic excellence and her leadership potential, Margaret joined the Leadership Development Programme which provides higher education and Christian leadership training.

She graduated from Makerere University in 2003 with a BA in Education, becoming the first woman from her village to receive a university degree.

Margaret is an example of the effectiveness of Compassion's programmes, particularly the 'child-focussed' nature of its work whereby individual children are selected and nurtured.

Compassion hopes that it will see increasing numbers of formally sponsored children becoming agents of positive change for their communities, and that one day we will see one of these individuals lead their entire nation.

To watch a short film about Margaret, visit www.compassionuk.org/news-margaret-makhoha.

For a full story and images please contact Jemima Lewis: Jemimal@compassionuk.org / 07841523100

Compassion is a leading child development charity serving more than a million children in 26 of the world's poorest countries.