



"I was influenced by my peers to get married at a young age. I learned the hard way that you can't enter marriage unprepared. Now I want to get educated and become a nurse. Thank you Pamoza for encouraging me."

Tasiyana

**PAMOZA
INTERNATIONAL**

P.O. Box 23804

Philadelphia, PA 19143

(215) 796-3223

*Together transforming the
lives of children and families*

Meet Tasiyana

A Model Mom

It's ironic that Tasiyana's name means separation because separation led to the most challenging situation in her life, but separation also gave her a new opportunity.

Tasiyana is 24 and like many women in her community, she dropped out of school at a young age and got married. She was 19. **"I was influenced by my peers to get married. I learned the hard way that you can't enter marriage unprepared."**

Before long, Tasiyana had two children. Her husband, seeing the lack of opportunity to make money in the village, went to South Africa to look for work. That was in 2015. He never returned. He never sent money for Tasiyana and the children. She was left to fend for herself. Many women find themselves in Tasiyana's situation, waiting on empty promises from husbands who leave for South Africa and never return. Tasiyana decided to move on.

Tasiyana dropped out at 6th grade but education remained important to her. When Pamoza began recruiting students for adult literacy classes, Tasiyana volunteered. Soon after, she decided to return to school full time. She is now in the 6th grade, attending the same school as her daughter Naomi, who is in the 2nd grade. Tasiyana might be the oldest student in the 6th grade, but she's also one of the most determined. She wants to be a nurse.

The separation that was so painful for Tasiyana forced her to address her education needs. Tasiyana has not only become a student, she is also a model mom for her daughter and other women in the community.



Tasiyana and her daughter Naomi now attend the same school