

Interview with Vivienne Sirikwa

- Vivienne, what was your motivation for founding Forward Motion?

I founded Forward Motion because I saw firsthand how young mothers, especially in marginalized communities, were being left behind. Many of them had their lives turned upside down—forced out of school, abandoned by their families, and struggling to provide for their children. Society judged them instead of supporting them.

I couldn't just stand by and watch. I knew these girls didn't need pity; they needed opportunities. They needed education, skills, and a community that believed in them. That's why I started Forward Motion—to give them a second chance, to help them stand on their own feet, and to show them that their past doesn't define their future.

This work is deeply personal to me. Every time I see a young mother gain confidence, start her own small business, or go back to school, I know we are making a real difference. It's not easy, but it's worth every struggle. These young women deserve hope, and I won't stop fighting for them.

- What is the main objective of Forward Motion?

Forward Motion is all about empowering marginalized young mothers and girls by giving them the skills, knowledge, and support they need to build a better future. We focus on education, vocational training, and income-generating projects to break cycles of poverty and vulnerability. Through our work in Rukwa and Kinondoni, we've seen firsthand the struggles these young women face—malnutrition, lack of reproductive health education, and economic instability. That's why we're not just training them but also creating sustainable solutions like our flour milling project and expanding centers to reach more villages. Every proposal we send, every event we organize, is about one thing—ensuring these young mothers don't just survive but thrive.

- How can we support Forward Motion?

At Forward Motion (FOMO), we have spent years walking alongside marginalized teen mothers—providing them with education, vocational skills, and the hope of a better future. But the truth is, our journey has never been easy.

We do not have a stable donor. Every step we take, every life we touch, is made possible through the generosity of individuals, small contributions from the community, and the partnerships we fight to build. Yet, as we grow, so do the needs of the young mothers who rely on us. More girls come to us every day, desperate for a second chance at life.

Right now, we need financial support to sustain and expand our centers. These spaces are more than just buildings—they are safe havens where teen mothers learn skills, receive counseling, and regain their dignity. We are also looking for connections to potential donors and supporters who believe in long-term impact. With the right partnerships, we can reach more girls, open more centers, and create lasting change.

If you can support us financially, connect us with someone who can, or even just spread the word, you are helping to rewrite the future for these young mothers. Let's stand together and ensure that no girl is left behind simply because she had a child too soon.

We would love to hear from you. Let's build something truly transformative, together.