I want to make my existence meaningful to those around me so that my impact can be felt for years to come.

Growing up, I came from a low-income family. We lived in a small but cosy two-bedroom flat, house number 32 in Kangemi, Nairobi.

Curiosity always got the best of me, especially when it came to our family radio. A rusty old box of metal with a prolonged antenna coming out from the side.  I remember taking apart the radio when I was six years old to free the little man who delivered the morning news.

I sat in the corner of the sitting room, with a knife as my tool, slowly loosened the screws only to find chips and more circuits underneath.

I was disappointed since I wanted to learn how the little man knew the news without leaving the box. Later I found out that the chips, circuit, and prolonged antenna were how we received the news and there was never a little man, to begin with.

Hence began a fascination with the great wonder that is technology.

As I grew older my victims became more complex. The iron box was my greatest challenge especially when it came to reassembling it. The euphoria I felt as I raced against time to put it back together to avoid an interrogation by mom on why the iron was not working…. even though I had understood every single connection.

It was clear that technology was my calling.

Computers were a work of art. My first interaction with them was magical. 10-year-old me staring at them in awe when my big brother took me to my first cyber. From the first time I saw the windows sign to my fingers rub over the keyboard to type my name in Word I felt the spark. I wanted to know everything about this mysterious glowing box. I found my passion in IT.

After completing high school, Mom saw potential in me and supported me by gifting me a used laptop that I could practice coding on for the first time.

A bit old, but it gets the job done and I appreciate it a lot. It is my first machine and mum struggled to get it to support me in my dream considering the tight financial situation we face as a family. I promise to resist the urge to take it apart.

My greatest ambition is to be in the history books. No day passes without me learning something new; be it something personal about myself, trying a new skill such as writing code or an experience such as taking care of my family’s poultry farm. Sometimes I really find it hard to believe that this chicken farm paid my school fees.

Working towards a better me and community is my purpose.

In my community, you will often see a raggedy-clothed child by the roadside, or a child taking care of a child. These situations break my heart; knowing they lack access to quality education.

Deep down I want to be their lifeline by building a digital center; accessible to the youth, for recreation, career counseling, financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and computer literacy in the hopes that it will equip them with skills that can help them escape poverty, drugs, and crime.

I plan to progress from making an array to creating an application that will change the world as we know it.

My goal is to improve the world. One line of code at a time.