

Hayes Crowley: Before/After Editing Samples

Atlanta, GA | 404-375-6597 | Hayescrowley@gmail.com | [Digital Portfolio: Hcrowley.com](http://DigitalPortfolio:Hcrowley.com)

Below are several before/after from the 25 human interest stories I edited for CARE. These stories were all between 500 words and 2,000 words long, however, these samples are only snapshots of five of these improved stories.

Many of the 25 stories lacked introductory summaries for the project or program and the country's situation. Instead, the stories came with long, detailed accounts of the CARE-sponsored program and the situation in the country. To write the summaries, I had to distill this dense information and to read the story carefully.

Nearly all the stories were written by people who spoke English as a second, third, or fourth language, and required heavy editing. Doing this while preserving the poetic beauty of the originals was a difficult task. My project manager was pleased with my work, however, and the site, World of Impact, went on to receive rave reviews from CARE colleagues all over the world.

The first story, "Nothing Comes in Your Way..." lacked an introductory summary and needed heavy editing for grammar and syntax.

The second story, "My Future, My Destiny..." came to me with a lengthy and confusing project description and many unnecessary details in the narrative, which was disjointed and full of grammar/usage errors.

The third story, "Then There Was Light," was full of mistakes in grammar and syntax.

The fourth story, "Kaltouma's Battle..." lacked a concise introduction and had many mistakes in grammar and syntax.

And the fifth and final story, "Little by Little, a Bird..." was perhaps the most difficult story to edit, as it was so full of unnecessary, tangential information and errors in grammar and syntax that it was difficult to understand.

First Story: “Nothing Comes in Your Way...”

Before:

Nothing Comes in Your way when your dream are big.....

I am Hazra -13-year-old girl- from Malam Jabba - a small village on the top of mountain. I belong to a very poor family as we hardly can afford two meals in a day...

After:

Nothing Gets in Your Way When Your Dreams Are Big

By Zartasha Niazi

CARE International in Pakistan is implementing a 36-month project called Institutional Support for Participatory, Inclusive and Responsive Education (INSPIRE-II) in Swat district. The project focuses on improving access to quality education services for children, particularly girls, and strengthens local governance in the education sector. One-thousand girls in 35 primary schools will benefit through second-shift evening classes, adopting CARE’s proven accelerated learning model to allow them to complete their education.. Hazra is one of those girls, and she shares her story in her own words.

SWAT DISTRICT, PAKISTAN – I am Hazra, a 13-year-old girl from Malam Jabba, a small village on the top of a mountain. I belong to a very poor family; we can hardly afford two meals a day. [...]

Second Story: “My Future, My Destiny...”

Before:

My Future, My Destiny Is on a Golden Plate: Walking With Confidence

Kandole Annet Balewa

As I got closer to her, she gets excited to receive me, smiling all through, excited to take me around her tree plantation and her home. Kajoina Paulina further affirms, “Annet are you a Christian? I want to tell you, with God all things are possible”. Kajoina Paulina is 54 years old, married to Mugisa Maliseri and has 8 children. The eldest son Turyatunga Hamidu is 38, and youngest Ayebazibwe Yudita being 22 years. Paulina lives in Kajuma Itwara Nyabikoni, a remote village neighboring Itwara Central Forest Reserve. In 2009, Paulina heeded to the call and joined a group called Kajuma Itwara Forest and Environment Conservation Association. This call was led by Joint Effort to Save the Environment with support from CARE International in Uganda. “I joined hesitantly, I have not regretted the time spent in the group since I have achieved all good things from the group” Paulina says proudly.

After:

My Future, My Destiny is on a Golden Plate: Walking with Confidence

By Kandole Annet Balewa

CARE's Forest Resources Sector Transparency (FOREST) program in Uganda is implemented by three national-level civil society organizations, funded by DANIDA. The main focus of FOREST is increasing civil society coordination, networking and multi-stakeholder collaboration leading to inclusive management of forest resources. This is the story of one woman, Paulina Kajoina, who has seen firsthand the long-term economic benefits of managing resources responsibly.

KAJUMA ITWARA, UGANDA – Paulina Kajoina, 54, is married to Maliseri Mugisa and has eight grown children, ranging in age from 38 to 22. The family lives in a remote village neighboring Itwara Central Forest Reserve. In 2009, Paulina joined the Kajuma Itwara Forest and Environment Conservation Association as part of CARE's involvement in the Joint Effort to Save the Environment. "I joined hesitantly," Paulina says, "but since then, I have achieved all good things from the group."

Third Story: "Then There Was Light"

Before:

Then there was light

Nan Sein Lu is a 27 year women from Manpyine, a remote village of 238 people in Shan state, in Northern Myanmar. Her village is one of many ethnic minority villages, tucked away in the mountains, that survives largely on farming maize and rice.

[...]

On Nan Sein Lu's travels she noticed something significant that other communities had – but that her village did not – electricity! Upon arrival back at her village, she spoke with her Village Leader to share with him what he had learnt and the great benefits she saw to the people's health when they had access to electricity. Nan Sein Lu advocated to her Village Leader to apply to the government to get resources so that they too could get access to electricity.

After:

Then There Was Light

By Dr. Zin Bo Bo Htet

SHAN STATE, MYANMAR – Nan Sein Lu is a 27-year-old woman from Manpyine, a remote village of 238 people in northern Myanmar. Her village is one of many ethnic minority villages tucked away in the mountains that survives largely on farming maize and rice.

[...]

On her travels, she noticed something significant that other communities had but that her village did not – electricity! Upon arrival back at her village, she spoke with her village leader to share with him what she had learned about the great benefits to people’s health when they had access to electricity. She encouraged her village leader to apply to the government to get resources so that they, too, could get access to electricity.

Fourth Story: “Kaltouma’s Battle...”

Before:

[...] "Before the project came, my situation was very precarious. I had no goats and I lived only through subsistence farming and the sale of bundles.

"I wanted to take my household out of this vulnerability situation. Before the project, I and my children lived in extreme poverty. My husband died years ago, and I was the only one carrying the household load. Being without activity, I started selling the bundles and practicing food crops on a small parcel to support my family. Before, it was very difficult to get milk on the market for the consumption of children. Fortunately, I was able to benefit from two goats given by CARE to improve our situation.

After:

Kaltouma’s Battle in the Face of Drought

By Amale Hassane et Hawa Aroun

Food insecurity in Chad is linked to the loss of livestock caused by diseases and periods of high drought. Without an outbreak alert system or knowledge of veterinary care, poor women managing their household alone are the most affected by these losses. CARE, with funding from the company Alaïa, was able to train 10 of these women in the profession of veterinarian auxiliary and provide them with pharmaceutical kits and medicine, and also to organize small ruminant fairs for 500 women. Kaltouma Mahamat Ali is among the 500 women who can testify to the impact that two goats can have on a family’s survival.

[...]

"Before the project came, my situation was very precarious," Kaltouma says. "I had no goats, and I lived only through subsistence farming and the sale of firewood bundles.

“I wanted to take my household out of this situation,” she says. “Before the project, my children and I lived in extreme poverty. My husband died years ago, and I was the only one carrying the household load. Being without activity, I started selling the bundles and planting food crops on a small parcel to support my family. Before, it was very difficult to buy milk for my children. Fortunately, I was able to benefit from two goats given by CARE to improve our situation.

Fifth Story: “Little by Little, a Bird...”

Before:

[...] At the moment, I had one chicken and every week I sold one egg which costed two hundred to pay my weekly contribution. After six months of contribution, I asked for a credit of thirty thousands (30000F) to buy 4 chickens of ameliorated species of Mutoyi. Each was bought at the price of five thousands (5000F) and the remaining ten thousands was reserved to buy their food. After eight months I got four chickens weighting eight kilograms each. I sold three chickens at fourth thousands each and I got one hundred twenty thousands. With what sum I paid back the debt I contracted in the VSLA (ie thirty thousands) and I bought twelve other little chickens of the same kind with my own money left after paying back the debt. Luckily, I succeeded in the 4th Form National Test and I was oriented in the scientific section. When I was in the third scientific form, I contracted anther credit of sixty thousands (60000Fbu) in the VSLA to buy other twelve chicle chickens and I took care of them. After three months, each laid 2 eggs per day and I began to pay back the second credit. At the moment each egg costed two hundred fifty francs (250Fbu) and after one year I sold twelve old chickens (12) at thirty two thousands (32000Fbu) each to renew again my chicken coop. At the same time I continued my studies happing and easily without any more financial problems. I finished my studies in July 2017 and a have succeeded and I got my diploma called “General Humanities”. Now, I am waiting for the results in the National Test called “Examen d’Etat” allowing to go to the university and I hope I am going to succeeded. With my availability in July 2017 I improved my chicken breeding and I asked the coaching from my chicken provider Mr. BANKUNDA Olivier from RUGOMBO commune so that I could because also a future provider. He accepted my and he has connected me to MUTOYI enterprise which produces chickens, food and their medicaments. At this moment, I am a direct provider of chickens and medicaments in my locality and now I am able to make diagnostic of chicken’s illness give medicine and I am paid for that with of course a little money. Now, I have my physical address, indicating services I offer. I have built a modern chicken coop adapted to the chickens breeding whic8h costed me one hundred fifty thousand. I have contracted another credit of one hundred and twenty thousands in the VSLA to increase my capital. At the first round, I bought one hundred little chickens and I sold them after three weeks. Each chicken costed two thousands (20000Fbu) for the medicaments. As it was the first round of supplying little chickens I made the advertisement in my locality on a bicycle with chickens on it going in my village and some strategic centers in my commune. With that strategy everybody was informed that I was the provider of littler chickens in my locality. I sold minty seven (97) chickens at four thousands (4000Fbu) each and the three others died in the transport. I got three hundred eighty eight thousands (388 000Fbu). I was able to pay back my credit in the VSLA.

After:

[...] Every week, I sold one egg for 200 francs, which covered my weekly contribution. After six months of contributing, I asked for a credit of 30,000 francs to buy four Mutoyi chickens. Each one cost 5,000 francs, and the remaining 10,000 francs were reserved to buy their food. After eight months, I sold three of the chickens for 40,000 francs each, for a total of 120,000 francs. With what sum I paid back the loan of 30,000 francs and bought 12 other little chickens of the same kind.

I continued to do well in school, passing the national test and beginning my studies on the science track. Studying became much easier as I became more secure in my income-generating activities. I took out another credit of 60,000 francs through the VSLA to buy 12 more chickens. After three months, each laid two eggs per day, and I began to pay back the loan. When that second loan was paid off, I took out another credit of 120,000 francs from the VSLA to increase my capital. I bought 100 chicks and sold them after three weeks.

With coaching, I built a modern chicken coop and expanded my business, selling chicks and medications to keep them healthy. I have become known as an expert in my community, and I am paid to examine and diagnose illnesses in chickens. At first, I advertised my services on a bicycle. But now people are aware of my services and seek me out.

I have earned enough to pay back every debt I owed to the VSLA, and I finished my studies in July 2017 receiving a diploma in General Humanities. Now, I am waiting for the results on the national test that will allow me to go on to the university. For the time being, I feel at ease in my family and I am considered an important part of the community. When I pass by, everybody cries, "Great Breeder!" It is a great honor to me, because I come from the poorest family in the village.