

My name is Senamile Mdlalose, who is currently studying Audiology, doing my 4th year my final year at the university of KwaZulu-Natal.

1st and foremost I would to really express my gratitude for being your bursar because probably without it I would have been required to drop out during my second year. I've lost a number of friends due to financial exclusion. Students who were fully performing but did not have enough funds as they did not qualify for the national student financial aid scheme (NSFAS) .Their parents were state-employed individuals but the finances did not permit them to pay for tuition, which would have been a similar case as me without your financial assistance.

My university experience has been quite an exciting, yet a difficult journey. From second year, we have been doing practical work, together with theory modules .This has provided us an opportunity to experience what we could possibly be doing after we graduate .Thus, when we get out of school we will practically have three years of experience as we began doing practical work from the second year which was 2014 for me. We work with various age groups from children to older adults, which is the most exciting part about my profession. We get to think in various ways considering that the procedure and manner in which you think has to be different as these people behave and operate differently. Thus developing us and our skills for a wide range of age groups which also comes to be great difficulty for us as our country is diversified with various cultural and language backgrounds. Each culture and language has various politeness markers and appropriate acceptable behaviours; furthermore, we as their health care providers have our own cultural beliefs which are not to be imposed and should not affect our service delivery to them.

Without your financial assistance, my dream would not have been possible and radically reduced my possibility of not achieving my dream, as during the year 2013 my father acquired blindness which left my family with a permanent scar and resulted in me kind of losing hope in everything. It left my number one source of strength "Mother" unable to cope and support me during that period and should she have required me to drop out as our father was terminally ill. This had severe implications on her financial life, so the only thing that kept me going was that I did not want to disappoint my other supporter Ms Keesenberg who without knowing kept calling to check up on me to know how I was coping.

I'm forever grateful for the opportunity to be one of your bursaries representative and holders. Words alone cannot express how grateful I am and there is no word in my vocabulary that could explain the way I'm thankful.

May the Lord richly bless all of you and everyone who actually contributes towards the funds for this bursary or study aid.

Attached are few photos of the current clinics we are doing.



This is us doing aural rehab clinic (2016) at the old age home where we educate and provide adults with hearing difficulties ways to cope better and communicate optimally with their hearing difficulties in the environment with their communication partners.



This is us conducting health promotion(2016)in one of the clinics in the Durban location clinic, where we conduct hearing screening to identify and provide awareness about hearing and ear care.



This is me after we had done career guidance one of the rural schools in the Durban area as part of our community service module (2014) and we had done hearing protection and basic ear care with the 9-11learners in the school.

I do not have pictures of me testing on campus as we are not allowed to take pictures as that would be a breach of patient confidentiality.

Many thanks....

Senamile Mdlalose: A dreamer who has established or is in a process of achieving her vision through SET.