

2023 Fall Update Letter:



Annual Dinners Are Back!

After a long hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, SSASF hosted an annual in-person fundraising event in May of 2023. Our Seattle students shared their enthusiasm for SSASF and presented to the attendees on the impact that SSASF has in the lives of the scholars we support. We're excited to expand on our in-person fundraising activities in 2024, so keep an eye out for more communication about opportunities to connect as we enter the new year!

Update from One of our Scholars, Juliet

Juliet Siyakonza joined the SSASF family in 2020. She started strong and has continued to earn great grades while studying Nursing at UWC. We are immensely proud of all the work she has done to get to this position, and we are cheering her on as she enters the final year of her degree. In her own words:



Juliet studying practical midwifery

“I would like to update you with regards to my Bachelor of Nursing degree so far. I am currently a third year student nurse at the University of the Western Cape. My course consists of the theory and the practicals. So far, I successfully passed my first Semester modules of low risk Midwifery and reproductive health. In this second Semester we are doing the high risk Midwifery, mental health and research modules. Being a third year student nurse is so exciting because our scope of practice at the clinical facilities is now broad as compared to the previous years. I now can assist those patients in need to a greater extent for their good health outcomes. I feel so grateful with the financial assistance I am receiving from the SSASF bursary because without their assistance, I would not have been this far with my studies. My overall dream is for me to graduate one day and become part of the multidisciplinary team of those that assist the patients who are in need.”

A Word from One of our Student Leader, Olivia

“My name is Olivia. This is my fourth year involved in SSASF and third year running it with Caroline. As a high school student, this organization has really opened my eyes to many different issues, including poverty, education and leadership. SSASF has given me the opportunity to learn leadership skills and learn how to balance all of my activities, but nothing has been more rewarding than being able to give back to others.

Throughout my time in this community I have had the privilege of working closely with many amazing individuals who truly make SSASF what it is. These individuals include all of the student volunteers who put their hours and hard work into the foundation, but this also includes the scholars we fund. We have been incredibly lucky as a group to be able to meet with some of our scholars and be able to have conversations with the people we are helping and supporting. The determination, resilience, and dreams of our scholars makes it a joy to be able to support them and their bright future.



Seattle students running a bake sale

The experience of running this amazing organization has taught me the value of leadership, dedication and teamwork. This role has included many challenges, but I will forever be grateful to SSASF for giving me the opportunity for personal and developmental growth, and for giving me the tools and platform to make a real difference in the world. I'm so excited to carry on with this year and see the foundation continue and thrive in the years to come."

Our Seattle student members are the driving force behind our fundraising, and their efforts are greatly appreciated. Please consider introducing your friends and family to SSASF's mission, particularly if you have a high schooler in your life who you know would love to be a part of a purpose-driven group of peers growing their skills and making a difference. We can be reached through our website <https://www.ssasf.org/> or via email at info@ssasf.org.

Giving Tuesday is right around the corner

Please consider making a donation to SSASF this holiday season! In November, scholars at the Hector Peterson school in Cape Town are completing their final exams and submitting their applications to become SSASF scholars. Every year, there are more deserving scholars than we have available funds to support. With your gift, we can hopefully increase our impact on the lives of bright South African students.

Donate and Make a Difference

- Interested in donating to SSASF? We have many donation methods available:
 - Gifts can be mailed to SSASF, PO Box 9633, Seattle, WA 98109
 - Donations can be made via debit or credit card through [GiveButter](https://givebutter.com/R90Wyk) (link: <https://givebutter.com/R90Wyk>).
 - We can also accept donations via [Paypal](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=RFTVNST2U97PU) (link: https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=RFTVNST2U97PU)
 - or [Venmo](https://venmo.com/u/SeattleSASF) (link: <https://venmo.com/u/SeattleSASF>).
 - If your employer matches gifts, please be sure to submit your donation!