



Newsletter  
September 2013

Bursary Feature

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## Bursary Project (est. 2008)

Education is critical to the development and success of individuals and this Nation. Thanks to your support 22 bursars are receiving assistance with their education until the completion of their tertiary studies. This edition of the Newsletter is dedicated to our tertiary bursary students, three of whom are likely to be awarded degrees and diplomas in their respective fields of study towards the end of this year. In particular, the following excerpts from encouraging messages from the bursars are included as they provide a glimpse into their individual journeys...

### SIBONELO [Final year National Diploma in Civil Engineering, DUT]

Sibonelo successfully completed in-service training in June this year at TGC Engineers, where he has been offered employment once he receives his diploma at the end of this year.

e-mail from  
Sibonelo

*"June is my last month doing in-service training with T.G.C Engineers...my employer talked about offering me a job after I complete my S4, and that brought back all the excitement I had after hearing that I was offered a bursary to pursue my career at varsity ☺. Now I know my life will not be the same again, thanks to Vukukhanye for believing in me."*



### TSEPO [Final year Diploma in Marketing Management, Rosebank College]

*"Hi. Yet another semester has passed, I've been personally challenged, physically, emotionally and most of all mentally for the past six months being a student and I must say that I felt that this year was the most challenging year for me, but in the midst of everything I still haven't forgotten where I come from, because that defines who I really am...I have not let my challenges define my destiny but I have been driven by the loud voices of my fellow community cheering sweet sounds of success, motivating me and most of all daring me to be different because I can make a difference...Today I received my results and I'm glad to say I PASSED all modules including ECONOMICS. Now I only have 4 more months left till I finish my qualification...boy I can't wait for that day!! I was also awarded the most punctual Student at Rosebank College. I sometimes had my doubts but your faith drew me closer to achieving my dream...now I know the saying that goes 'there's always a light at the end of the tunnel' and would gladly say Vukukhanye is that light that shines brighter every day. I'm ready for the remaining 4 months and after that it's a lifetime of happiness. No matter where my dreams take me I know that I'm going to be ready. Your love, kindness and generosity have put a smile on a child's face and that child today is a grown man. Thank you Vukukhanye, Thank you Suncoast, Thank you All."*

Letter from  
Tsepo



### PHILILE [Final year Bachelor's Degree in Biological Sciences, UKZN]

Philile is the first person in her family to complete Grade 12, the first to attend university and will be the first to achieve a degree.



### THOBEKA [2<sup>nd</sup> year Nursing, Netcare Nursing school]

*I just received my result this morning and I passed both my theory and practical. Thanks to the Lord and you guys it been a long and tough year for me last year but am glad I managed to pull through..."*

sms from  
Thobeka



**BURSARS SUPPORTED (22)**

**School (15)**

**Tertiary (7)**

## THABILE [1<sup>st</sup> year Nursing, Nursing & Primary Health Care Institute]

Through funds for education from a corporate sponsor we have been able to fund year 1 of nursing for Thabile. Thabile is the mother of 2 brothers being cared for at the Children's Foster Home run by Vukukhanye and we hope to help Thabile to qualify as a nurse so that she will be able to provide for her boys.

sms from Thabile *"Thank you so much for changing my life to a better future I really do appreciate it. God bless you xxx"*

### QUOTE

*"without substantial numbers of university-trained professionals a country cannot advance. No educational factor correlates as strongly with gross national income as does university enrolment."*  
(Mayer, 2007)



Some of the bursars, along with their parents at a bursary feedback meeting.

## A few other highlights...

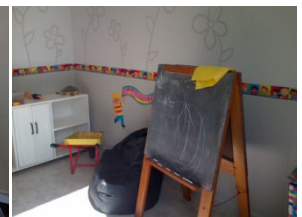
- The children at the Children's Foster Home were treated to a weekend at Castleburn in the Drakensburg.
- 'Thompsons Travel' and the 'Helping Hands' youth group have been providing very valuable assistance with repairs and maintenance at the home.



- Vukukhanye was able to assist 3 families in Chesterville who lost everything in a shack fire with food, blankets and 2<sup>nd</sup>-hand clothing. (Thanks to Rotary, St. Martins Church and Suncoast for the donated items)



- Improvements at the Jes Foord Community Care Centre included electricity repair and connection to the 2<sup>nd</sup> office, alarm installation and painting (thanks to our bursary students for helping out too).
- We are very pleased that 'Hope 2 Educate' is now sharing the facility, making use of it for their youth mentorship programme a few afternoons each week.



- City Hope facilitated the on-going donation of 'JAM' porridge to the children at the Vukukhanye Educare Centre. This porridge is a blend of ground corn or sorghum with soybeans, sugar, vitamins and minerals, is cooked with water and provides approximately 75% of a child's recommended daily allowance.



- Mandela Day 2013 - Vukukhanye was able to work with Standard Bank, NPC Cimpor, Gibb, Suncoast and Sport For All Chesterville on various projects - thank you.

- Some of the monthly community support visits with Suncoast staff have included taking children to Suncoast for a Youth Day celebration (including beach soccer and lunch), Gogo's Women's day breakfast at the Suncoast Towers, beading with the children at Insimbini Primary School and supporting the Mhlinge Society for the Aged.

