

MATINYANA BURSARY FUND

Newsletter 2017

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Dear Matinyana Fund donors

This newsletter comes to you from Nelson Mandela Township in the Eastern Cape of South Africa. We are confronted with poverty and its crippling impact on our youth daily and it was heartbreaking but also tremendously inspiring for us to read the reports we received from our Matinyana Fund students: they overcome enormous challenges to succeed against the odds. In this newsletter, please witness the positive impact that you, as donors, are having on the lives of amazing human beings, who refused to allow ‘being born at the wrong place’ to determine their future!

In the name of our students, we salute you for your support!!!

1. Power of Success

The Matinyana Fund offers bursaries for disadvantaged youth from Nelson Mandela Township, in short Nemato. It is the township where the late Vuyo Raymond Matinyana, who started our fund, was born. Nemato is a township of the small coastal town called Port Alfred, halfway in between Port Elizabeth and East London in the Eastern Cape province of South Africa.

Although it is blessed with beautiful beaches and large nature reserves, with no big cities close by, there are very few study and job opportunities. The majority of Nemato’s youth have no hope of ever being able study or get a job. With a lack of hope comes a lack of care, nothing matters: “Why would we try? Nothing ever works out here?”. This leads to high levels of alcohol and drugs abuse, school drop out, unsafe sex and crime.

Our sister organisation, Nemato Change a Life, offers a youth empowerment programme in the same community, with sport as one of the main programme elements. The results of the sports programme are exceptional. In 2017 a Nemato rower was selected in the South African team and competed in England; a handball player competed in the Under 17 Beach Handball World Championships in Mauritius and four gymnasts competed on the trampoline at the Junior World Championships in Bulgaria. Three of our gymnasts won gold at the Junior National Championships and one is even African Junior Champion!

Why does this matter in a community where many people go to bed hungry?

It broke the myth that success is impossible. People see the successes and start dreaming of their own success. The number of learners who passed in our township high schools at Bachelor’s Degree level has gone up sharply. The

number of bursary applications we received tripled. There is something great happening in our troubled community. More and more people are trying to pull themselves out of the poverty trap! Please keep supporting our students to help them succeed!

2. Matinyana Fund

Although we were thrilled by the high number of bursary applications, it was also a bit sad that we could only award a small number of students with a bursary, as the Matinyana Fund has a small number of loyal and generous donors.

We ran a campaign, inviting more people to start donating funds for the students. A warm welcome to all our new donors!!! Thanks a lot for your help! We are hopeful that, with your help, we can accept a few more students in 2018.

We call on all our donors to keep supporting our students. It's a highly cost effective way of helping people help themselves, their families and their community, for generations to come!

Many thanks to all our loyal and new donors!!!

3. Matinyana Fund Students

In 2017 we are supporting seven students. We are sharing some of their personal stories that show the hardships of our students and how the support of our donors is changing their lives for the better.

Babalo Gumenge is doing a Bachelor of Law degree at Fort Hare University: *"I was accepted into university around about the same time my father lost his job. The financial assistance/stipend I received from Matinyana Fund assisted me ... It not only gave my parents, who were financially incapable of supporting me, a sense of relief but it also motivated me to work harder so I could change my situation for the better."*

Mkhululi Hoyi is doing a diploma in Logistics Management at the Nelson Mandela University.

Nolubabalo Kondile is studying Office Administration at Eastcape Midlands College.

Noluvo Mbabela is studying a Bachelor of Pharmacy degree at Rhodes University.

NtombizakheNobebe is doing a Bcom degree in Accounting at the Nelson Mandela University.

Siyamthanda Mahabeni *"Growing up with a single parent was never easy for me. The situation at home is what kept me motivated to be focused even more. It made me want to change my life and family. My mother has always been an inspiration and my strength, she always motivated and still supports me. I started varsity in 2013, studying higher certificate in IT, without any bursary or funding. My mother had to take a loan to pay for tuition. Well, I passed all my modules, and got accepted to further my studies and study towards a*



diploma. Luckily the following year (2014) I was awarded a Midle McWilliams Trust bursary that covers my tuition fee. I was so happy, at least one major problem is being taken care of, now the money that is going to come from home is for groceries and transport. During school holidays I had to work and save money. Despite all the financial issues I had faced in that year I also did well in my first year. In 2015 when I was doing my second year I decided to look for a part time job that would allow me to work on weekends, to try help out my mother because she was in debt. I worked at the Boardwalk Magic Company game centre. Working on weekends affected my studies. I then heard from a friend about Matinyana Fund. I told my mother about it and she went to query and took forms for me to apply. I applied and fortunately was accepted. That was the best thing that has ever happened to me, not having to stress about my fees and money for groceries is the best feeling ever as a student. I am grateful and truly appreciate the support from the Matinyana Fund. I am now able focus on my studies only and have financial freedom. My family also does not have to suffer sending money to me. I graduated my diploma and am now studying towards a BTech. Next year I am planning to study Masters and take all the opportunities coming my way to better and brighten my future."

Zikhona Nesi is studying Stores Management at the Nelson Mandela University.

Antonia Nobebe graduated in 2015 and sent us this moving and inspiring letter:

"I am currently based in Port Elizabeth where I work as a Software Developer. I got my qualification at Nelson Mandela University in 2015. I studied ICT: Software Development, both National Diploma and my Bachelor Degree. I started in 2011 and finished in 2015.

"I connected with the Matinyana Fund in 2011 through my mom, when she was struggling to get funds for my varsity fees. Through your assistance, I was the first person in my family to get tertiary education of any kind and the first university graduate. My dream has always been getting my family out of poverty and I didn't know how, but knew a varsity qualification was a start. And I went on to get seven distinctions. I didn't even get distinctions at high school. That was the moment I realised I was doing what I love. Not that it was easy, but it kept me intrigued for the whole year. In fact, it still does.

"Then, in 2012 you made it possible for me to own my first laptop, even the first computer in the entire family. As an Software Developer it was very essential for me because I lived far from university since I couldn't afford the accommodation and my time on campus was very limited after lectures because I had to catch the last bus home to Motherwell.

"In 2013 again you came to my rescue, this time with another need. Since the first year, it was difficult to eat during the day, which caused me to be drowsy and sleepy in lectures. Thanks to my laptop in the second year, I could catch up at home with my notes to make up for sleeping in lectures. In 2013 you gave me food allowance. What a great feeling it is to focus on what you are learning and not have to hold your head up cause it feels like its going to go through the desk. In the same year you blessed me with means to buy new clothes. I didn't know before how an appearance can influence confidence, I mean they were not flashy clothes at all but they were not worn out like the ones I had before; no more cracked shoes which made me walk with caution and pants that ripped in embarrassing areas when I sit down. Shame is really the thief of joy.



"In 2014, you blessed me again. This time I was living alone. I had to be responsible for myself, food, electricity and transport. I also bought my first phone, which I used as a developer phone for the apps I did for my NDip project. It was a year of new experiences for me. I started attending church, self-empowering and financial conferences, and volunteering work because I can afford to travel around now and then for extra mural activities, which are still with me today and I would like to thank you all for helping me get the first diploma and degree in the family. I couldn't have done it without your support. Even some of my family members decided to improve their education because they saw it is possible for disadvantaged youth to get the opportunity to get something amazing and to go places no other family member has been.

"Today I am a member of the prestigious global Golden Key Honours Society, another first for my family. I work for a global company based in Port Elizabeth with possible career growth into its different branches across the world. I have also been nominated to be part of the 2018 International Scholar Laureate Program (ISLP) Delegation on Engineering & Technology, being held in China and New Zealand.

"My life is just beginning and you can be proud to say you were part of it. I truly thank you for all you did, I hope one day I can add my part to your Fund so I can get the opportunity to properly thank you and help someone too.

May God bless you in all you do.

With grateful regards,

Antonia Nobebe"

4. Our donors

We want to thank all our donors! You change the lives of our young people. You change youth with no hope into youth with the future in their hands. We are proud of our students who are making a success of their lives against all odds, and we are thankful to all donors who gave them this opportunity.

Except for unavoidable banking costs, all donations benefit the students directly.

**Thank you very much for all the donations!!!
We hope to receive your much needed support again!**

5. Contact details

Contact details of the Matinyana Bursary Fund

Office Netherlands	Scharfstraat 17, 7415 BW Deventer
Office South Africa	53 Tyali Street, Nemato, Port Alfred, 6170
Website	www.matinyanafund.org.za
Email address	matinyanafund@gmail.com
Telephone	0027 73 505 9168
Bank	ING Bank, Deventer, Netherlands
Account	Matinyana Fonds, NL08 INGB 0008 2032 63
Chamber of Commerce	34175276, Amsterdam, Netherlands

The board members

Chairperson	Bunie M Matlanyane Sexwale
Treasurer	Jan Blom

The Matinyana Fund has ANBI-status. Your donations are tax deductible.

6. Financial report 2016

Report

	2016	2015
Income		
donations	€ 3,555.08	€ 3,636.20
interest	€ 0.00	€ 23.69
exchange rate profit	€ -206.70	€ 156.03
total	€ 3,348.38	€ 3,815.92
Expenses		
bank costs	€ 169.45	€ 158.33
fees	€ 0.00	€ 571.50
stipends	€ 4,129.70	€ 6,642.72
books	€ 0.00	€ 0.00
total	€ 4,299.15	€ 7,372.54
Income - expenses	€ -950.78	€ -3,556.62
Balance		
	end 2016	end 2015
Assets		
bank account NL	€ 1,427.02	€ 2,338.05
bank account SA	€ 1,216.42	€ 1,256.17
debtors	€ 0.00	€ 0.00
total	€ 2,643.44	€ 3,594.22
Liabilities		
creditors	€ 0.00	€ 0.00
capital	€ 2,643.44	€ 3,594.22
total	€ 2,643.44	€ 3,594.22