

Cuthbert Francis

Background

Cuthbert is from Nkhotoakota in the central region. He is the 3rd born in a family of 7 children. His 2 older siblings are married. He has 2 younger siblings in primary school and 2 younger siblings in secondary school. His parents are small scale farmers. They did not complete their secondary education. He has been relying on government loans to be able to support his tuition fees at college.

School

In Malawi, primary education is free and lasts 8 years. Secondary education lasts 4 years and is not free. Cuthbert received a government bursary to attend secondary school. He achieved **10 points** in his Malawi School Certificate (MSCE). In Malawi, student points are calculated by adding the 6 highest subject points together. The better you do, the lower the score; 1-2 points = distinction; 3-4 points = credit; 5-6 points = pass. Cuthbert did extremely well to achieve **10 points!**

Why Dental Surgery?

"I was born in a community where health centres are quite distant from our homes. Many people struggle to access medical treatment when they fall ill. At one point I experienced a serious dental issue and upon visiting the District hospital, I was informed that there was no dentist available who can treat me. It was due to this issue I started to think of becoming a health worker so that I can reach a lot of patients and particularly help with dental problems experienced by our community."

Medic to Medic scholarships:

- Guarantee tuition fee support until graduation
- Provide twice-yearly stationery and living allowances
- Provide textbooks and medical equipment
- Provide a laptop
- Graduated students provide mentorship support



Dental Surgery (BDS)

Prior to the start of the dental surgery course in 2019, there were just 36 registered dentists throughout Malawi, a country of 19 million people. There are now more trainee dentists in Malawi than qualified dentists, representing great hope for rectifying this situation and building capacity for oral health services.

THANK YOU

for supporting Cuthbert with his education to become a dentist!



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