2024

RAPPORT ANNUEL FINAL

FINAL ANNUAL REPORT

SPES BONA ASBL
BE0751907673
Avenue François Folie 26/4
1180 Uccle

SB Initiative for Medical Education
2020/701211/08
20 Grandiceps Road
7600 Stellenbosch

Merci ! Ngiyabonga ! Ndiyabulela!

Thank you! Dankie!

L'initiative Spes Bona a été créée en 2020 par de jeunes médecins belges et sud-africains, sensibles aux conditions de vie difficiles de certains de leurs collègues. Ils ont voulu établir un réseau d'entraide ainsi qu'un système de bourses pour soutenir l'éducation médicale. De ce fait, deux associations à but non lucratif ont vu le jour, l'une en Belgique et l'autre en Afrique du Sud. Nous avons dans la foulée créée la Bourse Vesalius, visant à améliorer les conditions de formation des jeunes étudiants en médecine.

Depuis sa création, **20 étudiants** ont bénéficié de cette aide dans six universités sud-africaines. **Près de 1.800.000 rands (85.000€) ont été alloués,** grâce à la générosité et à l'engagement de nombreux parrains et bénévoles en Belgique et en Afrique du Sud !

Ce document vous propose un aperçu de nos activités réalisées en 2024, où vous pourrez constater que notre projet est toujours dynamique et animé par une volonté constante d'améliorer notre soutien aux étudiants et d'élargir nos initiatives caritatives.

Convaincu, comme Nelson Mandela, que l'émergence d'un monde plus équitable repose sur l'éducation de tous dans des conditions dignes, je tiens à vous remercier, au nom des membres actifs et des administrateurs de Spes Bona, pour votre soutien indéfectible au cours des quatre dernières années.

The Spes Bona initiative was founded in 2020 by young Belgian and South African doctors who, aware of the difficult living conditions faced by some of their young colleagues, wished to create a support network and a scholarship system for medical education. As a result, two nonprofit organizations were established, one in Belgium and the other in South Africa. We then launched the Vesalius Scholarship aimed at improving the living conditions for young medical students.

Since its inception, **twenty students** have received support at six South African universities. **1.800.000 rands (85.000€) have been distributed**, thanks to the generosity and commitment of numerous sponsors and volunteers in Belgium and South Africa!

This document provides you with an overview of our activities for 2024. You will see that our project is very much alive and driven by an ever-renewed desire to improve our support for students and to expand our charitable activities.

Convinced, like Nelson Mandela, that the emergence of a fairer world depends on the education of all in decent conditions, I would like to express my deep gratitude, on behalf of the active members and administrators of Spes Bona, for your unwavering support over the past almost five years.

Dr Edouard Hosten
Spes Bona ASBL (Administrateur)
SB Initiative for Medical Education (Founding director)





NOS ACTIVITÉS EN AFRIQUE DU SUD
OUR ACTIVITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA

Le bilan de l'année 2024 pour la branche sud-africaine de l'initiative Spes Bona a été marqué par la **sélection de 7 nouveaux bénéficiaires**, portant à treize le total d'étudiants titulaires de la bourse Vesalius en 2024 (pages 7-9). Cette bourse, qui vise à soutenir les étudiants dans leur quotidien, s'élève en 2024 à 7 000 ZAR (350 €) versés mensuellement.

Cette année a également été ponctuée par la création d'un **partenariat stratégique officiel avec l'Université de Stellenbosch** (SUN), qui nous accompagne désormais dans la sélection et le suivi de nos étudiants bénéficiaires (page 6). Grâce à ce partenariat, nous avons pu élargir notre offre de bourses à d'autres professionnels de la santé (infirmiers, logopèdes, kinésithérapeutes) qui font souvent face à des conditions de vie encore plus précaires que celles des étudiants en médecine.

En 2024, nous avons à nouveau reçu **un don très généreux du trust Ex Corde,** d'un montant de plus de 2,000,000 ZAR (environ 105,000€). Ce soutien constitue un véritable levier pour pérenniser nos projets et assurer un financement durable pour nos étudiants bénificiaires de la bourse Vesalius.

Enfin, nous souhaitons exprimer notre profonde gratitude à **Mme Maria Luisa Arkcoll**, qui quittera définitivement la branche sud-africaine de Spes Bona à la fin de l'année. Nous sommes ravis d'accueillir **Mme Perrine Martin** en tant que nouvelle administratrice de la NPO, ainsi que **Mme Victorine de Meeûs**, représentante de Spes Bona Belgium au Cap.

2024 was marked by **the selection of 7 new beneficiaries**, bringing the total number of students currently supported by the Vesalius scholarship to thirteen in 2024 (pages 7-9). This scholarship, aimed at supporting students in their daily lives, amounts to 7,000 ZAR (350 €) paid monthly.

This year also saw the establishment of an **official strategic partnership with Stellenbosch University** (SUN, Cape Town), which now supports us in selecting and mentoring our scholarship beneficiaries (page 6). This partnership has allowed us to broaden our scholarship offerings to include other healthcare professionals, such as nurses, speech therapists and physiotherapists, who often face even more precarious conditions than medical students.

In 2024, we again received **a very generous new donation from the Ex Corde trust**, amounting to more than 2,000,000 ZAR (about 105,000 €). This support serves as a significant lever to sustain our projects and ensure long-term financial support for our beneficiaries.

Finally, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to **Ms. Maria Luisa Arkcoll**, who will be leaving the South African branch of Spes Bona at the end of this year. We are excited to welcome **Ms. Perrine Martin** as the new Director of the NPO as well as **Ms. Victorine de Meeûs**, the representative of Spes Bona Belgium in Cape Town.

FINANCIAL REPORT (2024)
SUMMARY OF THE BALANCE SHEET (2024)

Un aperçu du bilan comptable de la fondation sud-africaine du 1er janvier au 31 décembre 2024 est disponible ci-dessous. L

An overview of the financial statement for the South African foundation from January 1 to December 31, 2024, is available below.

	IN (ZAR)	OUT (ZAR)
Solde au 1.01.2024	152,479	
Dons en provenance de Belgique Donations from Belgium	/	
Don Ex Corde Trust Donation Ex Corde Trust	2,029,541	
Scolarships		821,852.41
Frais bancaires Banking management fees		3,421
Intérêts Compte MoneyMarket	103,254	
Frais de gestion comptable (Paperchase) Accounting management fees (Paperchase)		1.021
Solde 1.10.2024	1,458,979 ZAR	

"To avoid incurring high bank transaction fees and considering that the funds in the South African account were adequately supplied, it was decided not to transfer money from Belgium to South Africa from January to December 2024.
Any information regarding the accounts of the Belgian non-profit organization can be requested via email.

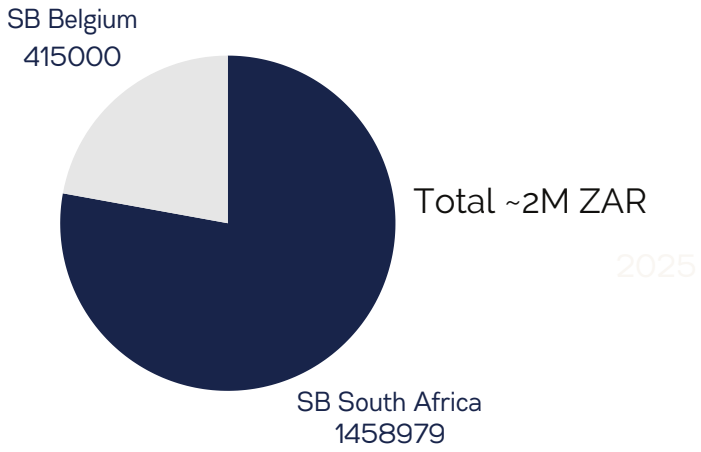
PROJECTIONS FINANCIÈRES
FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS

Our priority is to ensure sustainable financial support for our beneficiaries, accompanying them until the completion of their university studies to guarantee them a certain degree of economic security in the long term. After discussions with our institutional partners in Stellenbosch, we decided to reevaluate the Vesalius scholarship to 4,000 ZAR per month, an amount that is more in line with the actual needs of the students according to the academic authorities.

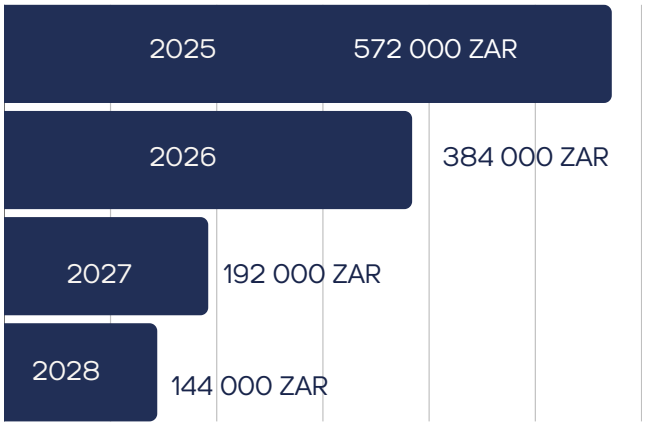
Spes Bona's financial reserves guarantee financial support for the students selected so far until the completion of their academic journey.

Given the anticipated budget surplus for the period 2025-2028 as well as the funds raised each year in Belgium, we have decided to provide support for two additional students who will be selected during the year 2025. Furthermore, we intend to develop the Monganga project, which aims to support specialized training for doctors from low-income African countries, primarily Zimbabwe and the Democratic Republic of Congo (page 16).

Fonds disponibles au 31.12.024 (ZAR)
Funds available as of December, 2024 (ZAR)



Planned expenses
Dépenses prévues



Notre priorité est d'assurer un soutien financier durable à nos bénéficiaires, en les accompagnant jusqu'à la fin de leurs études universitaires, afin de leur garantir une certaine sécurité économique à long terme. Après discussion avec nos partenaires institutionnels à Stellenbosch, nous avons décidé de réévaluer la bourse Vésalius à 4 000 ZAR par mois, un montant davantage en adéquation avec les besoins réels des étudiants selon les autorités académiques.

Les réserves financières de Spes Bona permettent un soutien financier pour les étudiants sélectionnés jusqu'à présent est donc assuré jusqu'à la fin de leur parcours académique.

Étant donné le surplus budgétaire prévu pour la période 2025-2028 ainsi que les fonds collectés chaque année en Belgique, nous avons décidé d'apporter un soutien à deux étudiants supplémentaires qui seront sélectionnés au cours de l'année 2025. Par ailleurs, nous avons l'intention de développer le projet Monganga, dont l'objectif est de soutenir la formation spécialisée de médecins originaires de pays africains à faibles revenus, principalement le Zimbabwe et la République Démocratique du Congo (page 16).

PARTENARIAT SUN
SUN PARTNERSHIP

Après six mois de discussions, nous avons décidé d'établir un partenariat stratégique avec l'Université de Stellenbosch. Ce partenariat a permis de faciliter le processus de sélection des étudiants bénéficiaires de la Vesalius Scolarship et a abouti à la sélection de six lauréats pour l'année 2024. L'Université de Stellenbosch nous soutient également dans le suivi des étudiants en nous transmettant leurs résultats académiques officiels, ce qui nous permet d'assurer un accompagnement adéquat pendant leur formation.

Ce partenariat se poursuivra en 2025 avec la sélection de deux bénéficiaires supplémentaires dans le cadre de la Vesalius Scolarship mais également à travers le projet Monganga, renforçant ainsi notre engagement à soutenir la formation de médecins africains issus de pays à faibles revenus.





Spes Bona uplifts medical students

While working in Cape Town hospitals for a year, Belgian medical doctors and SU international medical graduates **Edouard Hosten** and **Charlotte Maillard** were struck by the poor living conditions of some local medical students. They decided to do something about it.

>> Read more here

After several months of discussions, we decided to establish a strategic partnership with Stellenbosch University. This partnership has facilitated the selection process for students benefiting from the Vesalius Scholarship and resulted in the selection of six awardees for the year 2024. Stellenbosch University also supports us in monitoring the students by providing their official academic results, allowing us to ensure adequate support during their training.

This partnership will continue in 2025 with the selection of two additional beneficiaries under the Vesalius Scholarship, as well as through the Monganga project, further reinforcing our commitment to supporting the training of African doctors from low-income countries.

VESALIUS SCHOLARSHIP

CURRENT BENEFICIARIES
BÉNÉFICIAIRES ACTUELS



Andisiwe
SOVITI (SA)

BSc in Physiotherapy - 2nd year
Stellenbosch University
Supported by the SB Initiative since 2024



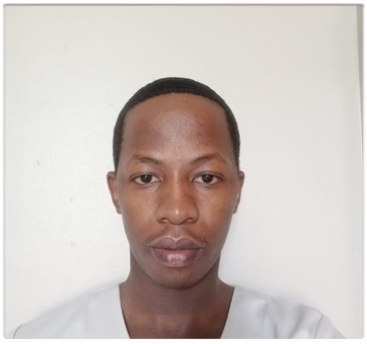
Marie Reine
INEZA (RW)

MBCHB - 3d year
Stellenbosch University
Supported by the SB Initiative since 2024



Nhlonipho
SITHOLE (SA)

MBCHB - 2nd year
Stellenbosch University
Supported by the SB Initiative since 2024



Thabang
RAKGATHE (SA)

MBCHB - 2nd year
Stellenbosch University
Supported by the SB Initiative since 2024



Yusrah
KASU (SA)

BSc in Speech-Language - 2nd year
Stellenbosch University
Supported by the SB Initiative since 2024



Sharlotte
SHIVURI (SA)

MBCHB - 2nd year
Stellenbosch University
Supported by the SB Initiative since 2024

VESALIUS SCHOLARSHIP

CURRENT BENEFICIARIES
BÉNÉFICIAIRES ACTUELS



Anne
MBUYI (DRC)

BSc of Nursing - 2nd year
University of Johannesburg
Supported by the SB Initiative since 2024



Moedi
RAMOHLAHE (SA)

MBCHB - 4th year
Stellenbosch University
Supported by the SB Initiative since 2023



Dlamini
MBUSO (SA)

MBCHB - 5th year
University of Pretoria
Supported by the SB Initiative since 2023



Nolindo
MASANGWANA (SA)

MBCHB - 5th year
University of Pretoria
Supported by the SB Initiative since 2022



Yonwaba
MNTONGA (SA)

MBCHB - 5th year
University of Pretoria
Supported by the SB Initiative since 2023



Lilyossa
MANDIZVIDZA (ZI)

MBCHB - 6th year
University of Witswatersrand
Supported by the SB Initiative since 2022



Bulelani
MBHELE (SA)

MBCHB - 5th year
University of Mtatha
Supported by the SB Initiative since 2022

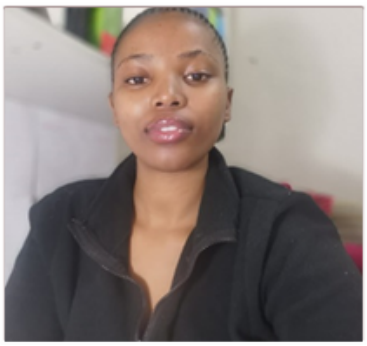
VESALIUS SCHOLARSHIP

PAST BENEFICIARIES
ANCIENS BÉNÉFICIAIRES



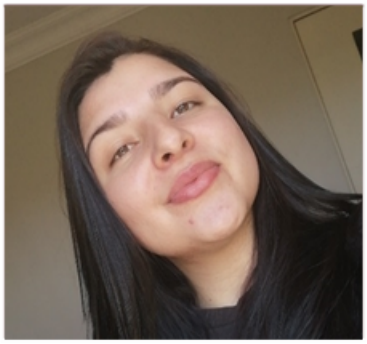
Queren
KAMUANYA (DRC)

Supported in 2023



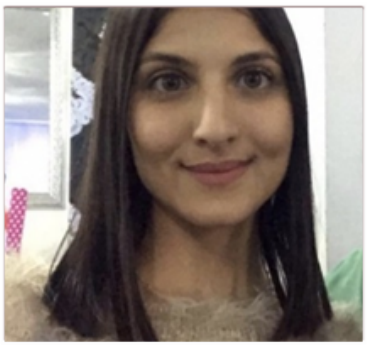
Sindeka
MANGI (SA)

Supported in 2021



Marcel
SIMPSON (SA)

Supported in 2021



Zayyaan
DALVIE (SA)

Supported in 2021



Asive
NTOYANTO (SA)

Supported in 2021 & 2022

RAPPORTS ANNUELS
ANNUAL REPORTS

Chaque année, nos étudiants bénéficiaires nous remettent un rapport reprenant leurs résultats académiques ainsi qu'une brève description de leur expérience personnelle durant l'année académique. Nous avons décidé de ne pas faire figurer l'ensemble des résultats académiques des bénéficiaires dans le présent rapport mais vous pourrez prendre connaissance de leur retours d'expérience ci-dessous.

Each year, our student beneficiaries submit a report summarising their academic results and providing a description of their personal experience during the academic year. We have decided not to include all the beneficiaries' academic results in this report but their feedback can be read below.



Andisiwe
SOVITI (SA)

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to express my heartfelt gratitude for the Vesalius Bursary that I received for the year. Your generosity and support is making a significant impact on my academic journey, and I am truly thankful for your investment in my education.

The bursary has alleviated some of the financial burdens I am challenged with, allowing me to focus more intently on my studies and extracurricular activities. Enabling me to stress less of how I will navigate my daily living and focus more on improving my academic participation and performances. It has enabled me to regain a sense of belief, trust, as well as a source continued motivation to strive and work hard. I am now able to access resources that aids my wellbeing and health for improved functionality and engagement. Being able to participate on one of my favourite hobbies – running – has been encouraging of my journey and centred me back to my whole being; fuelled with desire to achieve and succeed.

I am committed to making this opportunity valuable and ensuring that your trust in me is well-placed. I am dedicated to achieving academic excellence and making a positive impact in my field. Your support extends beyond financial assistance; it serves as a motivation and reminder that my hard work and dedication are recognized and valued.

Once again, thank you for your kindness and support. I am grateful for your contribution.

Warm regards,
Andisiwe Soviti

I am Nhlonipho Sithole a second-year medical student at Stellenbosch University.

My academic experience has been good so far, I like the new MBChB curriculum it works well. I like how they expose us to the clinical setting early and just seeing how everything works in the clinic and how the healthcare staff interact or work with each other to meet the patients need. I think you get this feeling that you in a team also and just coordination to help. It's always adding to the conformation that you are in the right place, and you are doing something that you like which is helping people.

The workload in general is increasing from what we were used to in first year, but I think it just takes one to adapt and put more effort to not get too overwhelmed and always try to keep up with the lectures and everything.

With my parents not working it is always hard to handle my expenses when it comes to travelling especially during the semester breaks, buying some medical equipment and other student essentials. My financial difficulties that have become increasingly challenging. I often experience a shortage of funds towards the end of the month, particularly for essentials like food. To make ends meet, I must carefully budget my expenses, ensuring that basic necessities such as food are covered before allocating funds for other areas. scope.



Nhlonipho
SITHOLE (SA)

RAPPORTS ANNUELS
ANNUAL REPORTS



Marie Reine
INEZA (RW)

My name Marie Reine Ineza, a 3 rd year Medical student at Stellenbosch University. I am from a humble family of five, born to a Rwandan couple that flied during the genocide. I currently reside with my parents and siblings. My father is the sole breadwinner at home, while I have a brother and sister who are both at university in their undergrade.

As it stands neither of my siblings have a bursary and stufy throught the finicial efforts of my father and support from family friends. The bursaries for non-citizens are few and far between.

This has been even more difficult to obtain as a degree holder myself. I hold the Bachelor Nursing Science and Midwifery, which I had used to finance myself in the first six months of my first year as a medical student. Unfortunately I was forced to resign due to the fact that in the Western Cape, a nurse's shift is a 12 hour shift and are not flexible by any means and for that reason I could not come from an academic day that ran from 8am to 5pm and heard to a night from 7pm to 7am.

The academic commitments that comes with medical degree includes going to campus for mandatory tutorials practical sessions testing assignments as well as going for clinical training in rural and primary healthcare settings which ran from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM for this reason my manager said that I needed to resign as I also could not stay on night duty as it's not allowed to be on night duty for the entire year unfortunately and for the same reason I've not been able to secure a job since resigning due to being transparent in my interviews about being a full time medical student.

I have managed to get through university this far using my merit bursary which I had been awarded for as being part of the top 15% at the Institution in the faculty of Medcine and health science. This bursary will not only help me fincancially but mentally as well, as this has been a major stress to academics. It also serves as load reduced to fincancial burden we have as family.

I am beyond grateful for this opportunity and will use to motivate myself to do even better and myself, my family and the Spes Bona initiative proud. I can not thank you enough forthis blessings and will only to prove that it was not a wasted risk taken on this younger set to mark her place in this world and take her family on the journey too.

The scholarship has undoubtedly made a huge difference in my life because it has made studying simpler and less frustrating. With the stipend, I was able to purchase an iPad for myself, which has greatly simplified my life.

Making notes during class is lot faster than making notes on paper. I can always search up a certain topic and it's easier to tote around, even in the hospital. I began full-time clinical exposure on July 1st, therefore I required extra scrubs. Thanks to the scholarship, I was able to purchase more pairs.

My study space is the healthiest around; it's peaceful and quiet with no interruptions. In addition, I have access to the computer lab and other basic amenities. Additionally, there is always-available Wi-Fi, which improves studying.

Next year I will be in final year (MBCHB 6) and the plan is to complete my academics exceptionally well.

Yours sincerely

NE Masangwana



Nolindo
MASANGWANA (SA)

RAPPORTS ANNUELS
ANNUAL REPORTS



Yonwaba
MNTONGA (SA)

I am a proud and a privilege Versalius Schorlaship Ricipient, who is currently 5 th year of study (student intern).

The sponsorship has assisted me in my journey, and I would be here if it wasn't for the financial backing. This journey is very long, demanding, lots of coffee being consumed, sleepless nights and lots of studying, but in the end, it has been made possible to travel through this medical journey because of the generosity of the sponsors.

The funds assist me in getting the necessary resources for studying, such as books and other stationery. The funds also assist in partially to pay some amount for my fees, rent for accommodation, food and well as travelling expenses.

I would like to that the sponsors a thousand times for what they have done for me.

Kind regards

Yonwaba Mntonga

My name is Shivuri Sharlotte, a second-year medical student at Stellenbosch University. I am 19 years of age, born and bred in Limpopo in a rural town called Tzaneen.

Medicine for me has always been a self-driven passion and one of those childhood dreams that has been way too close to my heart. The environment that we are groomed in also plays a big role in fueling up passions like these because I for one grew up in deep rural areas whereby adequate health now had become a privilege and no longer a necessity due to lack of medical doctors and only having one clinical facility catering for about six villages with a greater population. A medical practitioner only visits the site once in a week which implied that any patient in need of the practitioner's services beforehand was to lose their lives with my family included in this tragedy. I really saw the need to fill in this gap for the benefit of my village people and also to advocate for rural medical needs and this is why I chose to study medicine because it's more than just a profession for me.

My experience from the first year till now has been everything that I imagined my fantasy world of being a medical student would be. The diverse modules, clinical experience and new skills are an amazing experience that makes me realize that I made a good choice with medicine.

In terms of my living conditions, I am currently funded by NSFAS and does not receive any external or top up money it becomes so difficult to meet a lot of daily basic needs. My mother is unemployed and the only breadwinner in the family is my grandmother who is a domestic worker, and she only makes enough to support the household and cover the basic needs and it does not go beyond that including supporting me. The money that I receive is only enough to cover basic things like food and toiletries but beyond that it is a struggle and sometimes it is also not enough. As a medical student there are medical equipment like stethoscopes, textbooks for both semesters and uniform which are very expensive for me to afford with the little money I am receiving .It becomes a struggle for me to keep up with the essential resources needed for each year whilst trying to balance all my schoolwork. It is so straining for me at times although I do not let it stand on my way of studying but it deeply affects me either way as I always have to face the reality of my struggles.

This scholarship for me will help to remove the already financial burden that is weighing me down day in day out. I will be able to afford more of my basic needs ,essential equipment and textbooks for each semester without having to save up first from the little money that I receive and it will really make this journey easy until the end.

As much as the scholarship also goes beyond just offering financial assistance but also moral support and mentorship ,this will help to really groom me to be a better doctor that I have dreamt of being .I am forever grateful for the opportunity as this will change my life and impact my medical school journey in a more positive way

Thank you .



Sharlotte
SHIVURI (SA)

RAPPORTS ANNUELS
ANNUAL REPORTS



Anne
MBUYI (DRC)

My name is Anne Mbuyi. I am a refugee who is originally from Democratic Republic of Congo and ran to South Africa to seek safety and peace due to war that happens in Goma. I am a student from University of Johannesburg in South Africa. This year i am doing my second year in Bachelor of Nursing Science,

As a refugee , residing in South Africa , i really do not have many opportunities that my fellow south Africans do have as finding jobs for surviving, paying rent or getting bursaries to study. Sometimes buying food is not easy for me. After loosing both my parents in war, i had come to South Africa by crossing borders with other refuges to find safety and peace. As soon as i arrived in South Africa, i had to look for small job as a cleaner to survive and be able to go to high school so one day i can study Bachelor of Nursing in one of the local universities in South Africa to become a nurse.

Nursing is my passion since i was a kid. I do love helping people who are in need. Studying will not just help me accomplish my dream but also save me from being taken advantages of in life just for survival. I do have a son who is two year old and he is the only family i have. I want to give him a better life and safety but i always fail as a mother because of lack of finance. I can not take him to creche because i am unable to afford both of our school fees.

Last year it made my studies very difficult but as a strong , motivated and intelligent student i was able to finish my first year and pass my second.

Yours sincerely.

Anne

My journey in the 4th year has been interesting and filled with invaluable learning experiences. I have had some fascinating rotations, particularly in Internal Medicine, but the one I have enjoyed the most so far is Emergency Medicine.

This bursary has been instrumental in allowing me to focus more on my academics and clinical rotations instead of working extra jobs to make ends meet. My last exam is in the last week of October, and from October 28 to November 22, I will be in Mozambique for my elective in Emergency Medicine. During this time, I will also be conducting research on the effects of burnout in healthcare workers and how it impacts the level of care they can provide.

All of this would not be possible without the continued support I receive from Spes Bona.

Thank you once again for your unwavering support.

Kind regards,
Moedi Violet Ramohlale





Dlamini
MBUSO (SA)

I am Mbuso Innocent Dlamini who is currently doing 5 th year in Medicine (MBChB) at the University of Pretoria in the School of Medicine. My study environment is conducive to learning at all times. I am so determined to my academic aspects even though Medicine is one of the degrees whereby the academic work is always insane or overwhelming.

I am proud of myself because I have entered another level in this degree which is towards the finish line of the entire course.

I would like to thank the Spes Bona initiative for enabling me to continue with this medical degree. I have passed all the modules for the first Semester and how I have started my 18-month journey which is the final part of this medical training which called Student Internship Complex (SIC).

As a prospective medical practioner I will try all my level best to start working in 2026 and be able to save peoples lives in those people that are in need. My plan for next year is to do my final year of this degree against all odds.

The scholarship has helped me a lot this year because I am able to buy food, clothes, medical equipment that I use in the hospital on the daily basis. I am able to now to ensure that my basic needs as a student are met. This course is very expensive because each year the fees around R170 000 per year and that affect me because I end up missing some tasks because of delayed registration and the Vesalius scholarship is my only funder, so I sometimes take loans to top up any outstanding balances.

I am so proud of my scholarship for changing my life, I will forever be grateful and may God bless all my donators for doing this good work to me. Thank you so much to my scholarship.

RAPPORTS ANNUELS
ANNUAL REPORTS



Yusrah
KASU (SA)

First and foremost, I would like to convey my heartfelt gratitude for awarding me with this scholarship, which will provide enormous relief to me and my family.

As a second year Speech-Language & Hearing Therapy student, I face significant financial challenges, because my mother, the sole breadwinner of our household is unemployed and relies on her informal business that generates an income of R5000 per month, which covers our basic needs, leaving little for my educational expenses. Despite her efforts the financial strain is evident. I often struggle to pay for textbooks, cover tuition fees, my weekly clinical tools and printouts (R200 per week) and my travelling fees. The lack of financial stability took a toll on my mental health, due to the stress that it has caused. The financial difficulties has also limited my access to resources and opportunities that could enhance my learning.

Despite these challenges, I remain determined to succeed, hoping and praying for a brighter financial future that will enable me to reach my full potential. My academic journey thus far has been challenging, but rewarding, it has shaped my intellectual curiosity, enhanced my critical thinking and feeds my passion for learning. I have been fortunate enough to meet wonderful lecturers who has moulded and guided me in becoming the best possible version of myself and being the Speech-language and Hearing Therapist that I have always dreamed of becoming. Where I am able to assist individuals with impairment and improve their overall quality of life, which in my number 1 goal.

My academic experience has proven to me that I am capable of overcoming obstacles and has instilled a growth mind set within me as well as the determination to persevere.

Kind regards,
Yusrah Kasu

My name is Lilyossa Mandizvidza and I'm a final year medical student at The University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Words cannot describe how grateful I am to the Spes Bona Versalius scholarship for all that they've done for me. Final year of medical school is very hectic. We spend every day of our lives, almost 8 hours everyday, including some weekends, in the hospital. When we return home, we are expected to attend tutorials and study. There is barely time for anything else, let alone time to work to try to come up with money to provide for myself.

As someone who comes from a household headed b a single mother who works as a domestic worker, I have had to work part-time in the past, as a tutor, transcriber, whatever I could, to try to come up with funds to take care of myself. I also had to stay far from the university because we couldn't afford accommodation fees.

This meant I had to commute almost 2 hours every day, to and from campus, using public transport, and this was time-consuming. I would never have been able to manage in final year of medical school if I had to continue this way. Thanks to the Spes Bona, I now stay close to campus, I am able to take care of my basic necessities and school stationery, without having to worry about funds.

The next step for me is internship starting next year. As a non-South African citizen, it will be hard to get internship in South Africa. I might therefore have to return to my home country of Zimbabwe for it.



Lilyossa
MANDIZVIDZA (ZI)

RAPPORTS ANNUELS
ANNUAL REPORTS



Bulelani
MBHELE (SA)

My name is Bulelani Mbhele, I'm a 5 th year medical student at Walter Sisulu University in Mthatha campus (Eastern Cape). I'm a recipient of Vesalius scholarship since 2022.

The scholarship made a big difference in my life, because now I do not stress about food, accommodation, books, and other school materials. With the monthly allowance I receive from your organisation I'm able to pay for rent, buy food, books, and other school materials.

The scholarship lowered my burden and made me to focus more on my studies. The support from your organisation, does not only lower my burden but it also serves as my everyday motivation to work harder. The help I get from the organisation make me look like other students on campus who have funding, I don't know where I would be if I did not get your support since I'm from a disadvantaged family with no parents.

Here at Walter Sisulu University we are doing year modules as medical students, hence I do not have a mid-year results, but I promise to put them as soon as possible in the end of our academic year as I've been doing in the previous years. It is hard to get a bursary here after passing first year and being not from eastern cape, that is why even at this point I'm depending on the support I receive from the scholarship.

I really appreciate the support you have given me since 2022, I'm so grateful to be given the scholarship.

Thank you.

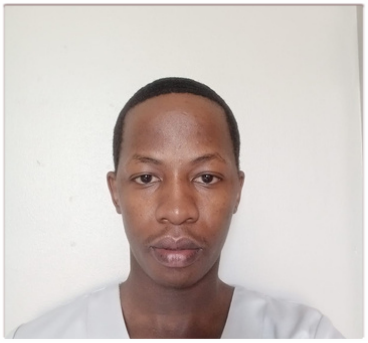
Bulelani Mbhele (WSU MBChB-5)

Good day,
I'm a second year medical student at Stellenbosch University these past months and the previous year I have been experiencing financial difficulties and I was raised by a single mother who is currently unemployed due to being disabled. I have been relying on help from extended family members to keep me afloat this past months for groceries and personal expenses also given that my two siblings are also at university does not make the situation easier and that has negatively impacted my academic performance and as I was unable to get some of their learning material and also equipment required for my learning, textbooks and also stationary I've also had times where I could not go back home during recess because I didn't have the funds to go back and having to spend recess on campus.

In spite of these challenges I have remained committed to my education and also consistently demonstrated academic excellence as I truly enjoy pursuing a career in medicine, despite being considered challenging, this validates my love for this field. We get to go to the clinic and interact with patients, that is my favourite part, and I would say is one thing that keeps me going. I have all round enjoyed the content we do in lectures and the skills we have been taught in the Skills Laboratory.

Receiving the Spes Bona bursary not only provides me with much needed financial support but also validates my efforts and also inspires me to continue striving for excellence in my academic and personal endeavours so with this assistance I will be able to wholeheartedly focus on my studies and also actively and fully engage in learning and practical experiences that will further enhance my skills and knowledge better than before I am grateful for the opportunity to be considered for this you selected I'll make the most of this opportunity and strive to become a compassionate and competent healthcare professional.

Thank you.



Thabang
RAKGATHE (SA)

MONGANGA PROJECT
PROJET MONGANGA

Project Overview

- The Monganga project aims to provide scholarships for African doctors from low-income countries, primarily Zimbabwe and Democratic Republic of Congo to benefit from specialized training at recognized international universities.
- Partnerships have been discussed with Stellenbosch University and UCLouvain, both of which have shown great interest in the project.

Aperçu du projet

- Le projet Monganga a pour objectif de fournir des bourses à des médecins africains issus de pays à faibles revenus, principalement du Zimbabwe et de la République Démocratique du Congo, pour se spécialiser dans des universités internationales reconnues.
- Des partenariats ont été discutés avec l'Université de Stellenbosch et l'UCLouvain, qui ont toutes deux manifesté un grand intérêt pour le projet.

Scope & conditions

- The project will fund scholarships for qualified candidates to pursue one-year training specialist programs in selected institutions: Saint Luc University Hospital (Brussels) and/or Tygerberg Hospital (Stellenbosch).
- Scholarship recipients must return to their home countries after completion of their training to contribute to the development of their medical specialties.

Portée & conditions

- Le projet financera des bourses pour des candidats médecins en vue de poursuivre un programme de formation spécialisée d'un an dans des établissements sélectionnés : l'Hôpital Universitaire Saint Luc (Bruxelles) et/ou l'Hôpital de Tygerberg (Stellenbosch).
- Les bénéficiaires s'engageront à retourner dans leur pays d'origine à la fin de leur formation afin d'y contribuer au développement de leurs spécialités médicales.

Budget

Total Budget Requirement:

- €50,000 to €75,000 (to support 2 to 3 candidates)

Breakdown of Costs per Candidate:

- Transport Costs (1,000€):
  - Approximate amount allocated for round-trip airfare and travel expenses to and from the training location (Saint Luc University Hospital or Tygerberg Hospital).
- Living Allowance (2,000€/month):
  - An allocation for daily living expenses to cover accommodation, meals and other necessary costs during the training period.

Budget

Budget total

- €50,000 à €75,000 (pour soutenir 2 à 3 candidats)

Répartition des coûts par candidat :

- Coûts de transport : 1 000 €
  - Montant approximatif alloué pour le billet d'avion aller-retour et les frais de transport vers et depuis le lieu de formation (Hôpital Universitaire Saint Luc ou Hôpital de Tygerberg).
- Allocation de subsistance : 2000 €/mois
  - Allocation destinée à couvrir les dépenses quotidiennes, y compris le logement, les repas et d'autres coûts nécessaires pendant la période de formation.

Agenda

- Q4 2024: Launch fundraising campaign to secure the necessary funds.
- Q1 2025: Finalize partnerships with Stellenbosch University and UCLouvain.
- Q3 2025: Begin the selection process for scholarship recipients.
- Q4 2025: Start the training program for selected scholars.

Agenda

- T4 2024 : Lancer la campagne de collecte de fonds pour sécuriser les financements nécessaires.
- T1 2025 : Finaliser les partenariats avec l'Université de Stellenbosch et l'UCLouvain.
- T3 2025 : Commencer le processus de sélection des bénéficiaires de bourses.
- T4 2025 : Débuter le programme de formation pour les boursiers sélectionnés.





NOS ACTIVITÉS EN BELGIQUE
OUR ACTIVITIES IN BELGIUM

Le bilan de l'année 2024 pour la branche belge de l'initiative Spes Bona a été marquée par de nombreuses initiatives destinées à récolter des fonds en faveur de nos étudiants bénéficiaires.

Tout d'abord, **notre système de parrainage** - grâce auquel un mécène en Belgique peut directement soutenir un étudiant en Afrique du Sud - nous aura permis de récolter plus de **5.600€** de janvier à octobre 2024 gràce à la générosité d'une vingtaine de parrains.

L'organisation de deux évènements sportifs caritatifs d'ampleur nous ont également permis de récolter davantage de fonds à destination de nos bénéficiaires:

- Une équipe de 32 coureurs ont participé aux **20km de Bruxelles -** permettant la récolte de **5,379€ !**
- La première édition du **Spes Bona Padel Tournament** a été organisée au Eleven Padel de Nivelles - nous permettant de réunir plus de **2,500€** de bénéfices !

Il est possible d'obtenir les **comptes détaillés** de l'ASBL sur simple demande par email à **spesbonainitiative@gmail.com.**

2024 was marked by numerous initiatives aimed at raising funds for our beneficiary students.

First of all, our **sponsorship system**—through which a patron in Belgium can directly support a student in South Africa—allowed us to raise **over €5,600** from January to October 2024, thanks to the generosity of around twenty sponsors.

The organization of two significant charitable sporting events also enabled us to raise additional funds for our beneficiaries:

- a team of 32 runners participated in the **20km of Brussels**, allowing us to collect **€5,379**!
- The first edition of the **Spes Bona Padel Tournament** was held at Eleven Padel in Nivelles, enabling us to raise **over €2,500** in profits!

It is possible to obtain the **detailed accounts** of the ASBL upon simple request via email at **spesbonainitiative@gmail.com.**

20 KM DE BRUXELLES

On Sunday, May 26, 2024, 32 brave runners wearing the colors of Spes Bona set off from the Cinquantenaire to take part in the 20km of Brussels! Many sponsors supported our athletes, allowing us to raise **€5,379**!

Save the date for the next edition on May 25, 2025!



Le dimanche 26 mai 2024, 32 courageux coureurs aux couleurs de Spes Bona se sont élancés du Cinquantenaire pour participer aux 20km de Bruxelles ! De nombreux parrains ont soutenu nos athlètes, nous permettant de récolter **5,379 €** !

Rendez-vous le 25 mai 2025 pour la prochaine édition !

TOURNOI DE PADEL



On Saturday, September 7, 2024, 68 padel players, both beginners and seasoned pros, gathered at Eleven Padel in Nivelles for the inaugural Spes Bona Padel Tournament! The day was packed with epic matches, an electric atmosphere, homemade pizzas... and over €2,000 in donations raised!

Le samedi 7 septembre 2024, 68 joueurs de padel débutants ou expérimentés se sont réunis au Eleven Padel à Nivelles pour la première édition du Spes Bona Padel Tournament ! Au programme: matchs homériques, ambiance de feu, pizzas maisons ... et plus de de 2.000€ de dons récoltés !

MERCI POUR VOTRE SOUTIEN !

SPES BONA ASBL
BE0751907673
Avenue François Folie 26/4
1180 Uccle

SBI for Medical Education
2020/701211/08
20 Grandiceps Road
7600 Stellenbosch