



**HABandBF**

**HILLCREST ADVICE BUREAU AND BURSARY FUND**

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*A Better South Africa, One Degree At A Time...*

**July 2017 Newsletter**

**HABandBF Students Passes Far Exceed the National Average!**

Over **98%** of Tertiary students supported by HABandBF in 2016 passed their annual exams and modules. We had **20** who completed their qualifications. 5 are continuing their studies, 2 are still job seeking and 13 are employed or in in service training. In South Africa only 12% of students who start their tertiary qualification actually complete it..... a sad waste of talent, hope, money and effort and a loss of educated and productive resource for our country.

Lucky **Sibongile Masuku** (UNISA Diploma in Human Resource Management) received a fabulous gift from an Anonymous Donor to help her with her Graduation Attire.

HABandBF policy is to not pay for anything not directly related to the student achieving their qualification. We do however distribute donated clothes, especially for interviews.



important occasions such as Sbongile organised Community Sponsorship of her Graduation Gown and Mortarboard but didn't have anything suitable to



wear so asked us to put out a request.... The result was a Truworthis shopping spree the

like of which she had never dreamt of before! With her older sister (who had acted as her mother since their grandmother had died when Sibongile was 13) Sibongile tried on over 10 outfits. The final decision was a huge struggle for her between a fancy or a sophisticated dress which could be dressed up for the occasion or used for interviews....

With the donor offering her free choice and Tanya gently guiding she chose the option which would give her more opportunities to wear the outfit



## Sibongile Masuku Enjoys Her Shopping Spree and Her Graduation Event



Option 1



Option 2



Full Graduation attire!

## What our Graduates are up to....

We have just heard that *Mbali Mchunu*, (B.Ed. Unisa) who suffered a brain tumour as a result of a car accident last September and whose sister was killed in the crash, has obtained a distinction in her final subject. Mbali was in hospital for over 2 months and then wrote her exams. Amazingly she passed all except one, which HABandBF agreed to pay for her to re-take this year. Mbali can now apply for Teaching jobs



**Nelisiwe Mabaso (B.Ed. UNISA 2016) is working as a Teacher at Ntuzuma High School.**

Sibongile Masuku (see above pictures) is doing 18 months in service training at Mshiyeni Hospital in Umlazi.

**Gugu Msomi (Dip. Marketing DUT 2016), being in the top 5 of her year has been chosen to be a part time tutor at DUT. She works 3 days a week and is hoping to raise funds so that she can complete her B.Tech. in 2018.**

Here is a picture of Gugu and her very proud mum on her graduation day.



Thabile Zulu (Dip. HR, UNISA 2016) is completing in service training in Pinetown Municipality. (see Graduation Photo)



**Sidu Simelane (B.Ed. UNISA 2016) is teaching in Newcastle at Enkulekweni Primary, specialising in Maths. Sidu foolishly opted to specialise in Maths having only just scraped a pass in the subject at Matric because she didn't want to ask HABandBF for the extra money required to specialise in Life Science (there are 2 fortnight long tutorials in Pretoria for Life Science through UNISA). With extra tuition and an incredible amount of extra work she pulled her maths marks up to the 70's by the time she graduated. We're so proud of her!**

When Sidu was made homeless midway through her studies she came to us asking for a sewing machine (not for food, or rent). We put out a request and a donor came forward. Sidu paid her own rent, food and transport from the proceeds of her sewing for the following 2 years.

"We rise  
by lifting  
others."

-Robert Ingersoll



