

SIR ROBERT JONES

REFUGEE DAUGHTERS' SCHOLARSHIP 2024



I am delighted to welcome a new group of young women to our refugee daughters' tertiary education funding scheme.

Most have harrowing background stories. While finding a haven in New Zealand provides relief from danger, it is still an alien land with an alien culture and language which confronts these girls at a young age. In many cases they are obliged to effectively become the head of the family dealing with the new order.

I wish them all success in their studies and future lives.

Sir Robert Jones



RJH

SCHOLARSHIP 2024

2024 marks a significant milestone as we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Sir Robert Jones' Refugee Daughters' Scholarship. Since its inception in 2015, we have awarded the scholarship to 180 young women, 100 of whom have graduated, and 68 are currently studying. Our vision remains steadfast: to support young women from refugee backgrounds pursuing a degree at a New Zealand university or polytechnic.

Year after year, the Sir Robert Jones Scholarship inspires and empowers young women from refugee backgrounds, propelling them towards achieving their academic goals. We are immensely grateful to Sir Robert for his visionary outlook, envisioning a New Zealand where every member of society can fulfil their educational dreams.

Behind the scenes, a dedicated team of individuals generously give their time to ensure the smooth operation of the scholarship process. We sincerely thank Greg Loveridge and Caitlin Venus from Robert Jones Holdings for their unwavering support and guidance. We also acknowledge Dr Jo Oranje and Iain McGilchrist, University of Otago, Eman Ghandour, AUT, Erica Farrelly, University of Auckland, Dr Chelsea Blickem, Waikato University, and Jenni Broom, Zinab Al Khaleefa and Pasawhete Kuku for their invaluable contributions.

The partnerships with the scholarship offices at Victoria University of Wellington, University of Waikato, AUT, University of Otago, and University of Auckland continue to be instrumental in successfully matching the funding for scholarships by 50%. It has enabled Robert Jones Holdings to expand scholarship offers year-on-year. This collaboration also strengthens the bond between RASNZ and our partner universities as we work together to provide the best possible support for our students.

As always, a special mention goes to Susan Hirst to acknowledge her remarkable ability to manage all aspects of the day-to-day administration of the scholarship with a thoughtful and meticulous approach, ensuring our scholars' wellbeing is front and centre of her work.

Within the pages of the 2024 yearbook, you will find inspiring stories that shed light on the individual challenges refugee families face when they are forced to flee their homeland, leaving behind everything familiar and meaningful. Many young women from refugee backgrounds arrive in New Zealand with limited formal education, yet in a short time, they become trailblazers in their families as they venture into higher education for the first time. It is astounding to witness their determination to seize every opportunity to succeed in New Zealand, which drives them to make the most of their resettlement. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all our deserving scholars for their outstanding achievements this anniversary year, and I wish them the best for the year ahead. May their journey be filled with success, growth and fulfilment.

Sharron Ward, CEO of RASNZ

My name is Amal. I'm currently in my second year of the Bachelor of Nursing degree at the University of Waikato. My journey to New Zealand began in 2018 with 5 of my family.

I'm originally from Somalia, and because of the ongoing civil war, my family and I moved to Malaysia, where we lived for 9 years. Finally, after a long wait, we arrived in New Zealand, which was one of the happiest days of my life. This was the first time I felt truly safe and knew I could get a great education here.

Even though I was already 18 when we arrived, I was lucky to be able to attend high school for two and a half years. This gave me a chance to learn and catch up. I completed year 11 to year 13, focusing on science classes. However, pursuing my dream career in nursing wasn't easy after high school. I faced challenges like language barriers and the lack of my education before coming to New Zealand. To overcome these hurdles, I completed the New Zealand Certificate in Study and Career Preparation (Level 4) and English at Wintec from 2021 to 2022. This helped me to meet the requirements for entry to my nursing degree.

I'm truly grateful and humbled to be awarded this scholarship. It's a meaningful acknowledgment of the effort I've put into pursuing my dream of becoming a nurse. This scholarship not only provides financial assistance for my education but also serves as validation of my potential to make a positive impact in healthcare. I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to the scholarship committee and everyone involved in selecting me. Your belief in my abilities means the world to me. Thank you for this incredible opportunity, which I am confident will help me achieve my aspirations.



AMAL

I am Hakeema and I am currently studying 3rd year in Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MB ChB) at the Otago Medical School. I am originally Sri Lankan, but I was born in Malaysia as my parents fled their homeland in need of a better future for us.



During our temporary stay in Malaysia, as a family we faced difficulties due to not being the country's citizens. Education was expensive for us which meant our parents had to work long hours to provide the necessities for us. We are fortunate that after 12+ years in Malaysia, we were offered to be interviewed and were given the opportunity of moving to New Zealand. We are so blessed to be provided with this wonderful opportunity of being a part of the refugee intake to New Zealand.

It would have been close to impossible for me to go to a medical school if I were to still be in Malaysia. My dream of going to a university and pursuing a career of my interest has always been a big part of me. And now that not only am I able to attend the Medical School of my dreams, I am also being gifted with this opportunity of completing my studies with a scholarship, I really have lost my words.

Not everyone is blessed with a gift like this, thank you RASNZ, RJH and Otago University and everyone involved in making this blessing available for me and many others! Now that my financial burden has been removed, the road to my dreams of becoming a pediatrician has been paved smoothly. The last thing left for me to do, is to not let any of my supporters down!

HAKEEMA

HAMIDEH



My name is Hamideh. I am deeply honored to have been granted Sir Robert Jones' Refugee Daughters' Scholarship. I am currently studying Bachelor of Nursing at UNITEC. I see nursing as far more than a profession, it's a calling. My goal is to become a skilled and compassionate nurse who inspires hope, advocates for patient well-being and contributes to building healthier, more resilient communities.

As an individual born in Iran to Afghan parents, my journey has been shaped by the resilience and determination instilled in me by my family's experiences. Growing up, I witnessed the plight of Afghan refugees in Iran, who grappled with discrimination, economic hardship, and limited opportunities for social integration. Iran, though forming a fundamental aspect of our identity, imposed numerous restrictions on Afghan refugees, limiting our access to education and other essential opportunities which remains heart-wrenching for me.

Our dreams could not be fully realized in a place with such barriers. Eventually, my parents made the courageous decision to leave Iran in pursuit of a brighter future for their children. Leaving behind our home was not easy. My parents knew that the journey ahead would have many challenges, but they were determined to provide us with the opportunities they never had. Coming to a new country meant starting afresh, adapting to unfamiliar surroundings, and overcoming language and cultural barriers. I tried to embrace each challenge as an opportunity to carve out a path towards my goals, despite the hurdles along the way.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the scholarship team for giving me this incredible opportunity and I am eager to make the most of it.

HANNAH

"If you believe you can't, you've already lost. You never gave yourself the chance." This was a saying my aunt always shared during the toughest times, giving us hope. I'm Hannah. I'm studying Nursing at the University of Waikato; driven by the resilience I've gained through hardship. I left my beautiful country due to the ongoing civil war and arrived in New Zealand from Malaysia in 2018 as a refugee.

In Malaysia, where me and my family sought refuge for ten years, the experience of rejection always remained. Despite being safer than Somalia, life as refugees came with its own challenges. We struggled to afford healthcare and often fell ill due to the environment around us. I vividly remember my aunt's determination, even after being rejected from job opportunities because of her refugee status. Her strong belief in taking every opportunity no matter how small, inspired me and taught me the importance of staying strong in tough times.

Her strength became my motivation. Now, as I pursue my nursing degree, my goal is to provide healthcare to those in remote areas who face barriers due to their circumstances. Through internships in local communities, I aim to improve my skills and help take quality care to those in need.

Every challenge brings an opportunity for growth. My experience has taught me the value of resilience and hope. I'm grateful to RASNZ, RJH and Waikato University for this scholarship, which not only eases my financial burden but also validates my journey. With determination and compassion, I'm ready to face whatever lies ahead, knowing that every obstacle is a chance to grow stronger.



HANNAH

HODAN

HODAN

My name is Hodan, I am originally from Somalia, but I was born in Kenya. Currently, I am pursuing a Bachelor of Business at the University of Waikato, majoring in Marketing, and minoring in Digital Business and Strategic Management.

As the oldest daughter in my family, I've always felt a strong sense of responsibility in setting a positive example for my younger siblings. Regardless of their circumstances and struggles, my parents have always supported my dreams and encouraged me to pursue higher education. Entrepreneurship is my passion, and I aspire to establish my own business one day. With the knowledge and skills gained from my studies, along with the support of this scholarship, I'm confident in my ability to navigate the challenges of the business world and achieve success.

I recognize this opportunity not only as a personal achievement but also as a means to positively impact both my family and the community. Education holds transformative power, and I am committed to utilizing it to its fullest potential. Through my studies and future endeavours, I aim to contribute positively to society, leveraging the knowledge and skills gained to foster growth and prosperity within my community, particularly in empowering young women to pursue their dreams.

I look forward to participating in networking events, internships, volunteering, and community initiatives to further develop my skills and broaden my perspective.

I want to express my gratitude to Sir Robert Jones, RASNZ, and the University of Waikato for awarding me this scholarship. Their generosity and belief in my potential have opened doors of opportunity that I never imagined possible. I'm honoured to be a recipient of this scholarship and am determined to make the most of this opportunity.

HUSNIA

My name is Husnia. I am studying Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery at University of Auckland. I moved to New Zealand 5 years ago under the refugee support category. However, our journey was not easy, as we didn't have a reliable house to stay in when we arrived, causing us to move from one emergency house to another for 4 years. Adapting to a new language and custom was also a big challenge. But in a couple of years, by participating in school & community activities, I connected with people from different walks of life, which helped me widen my social network and immerse myself in the rich and diverse culture of New Zealand.

As an eldest daughter, I take on various responsibilities in the house, including looking after my siblings. Given language barriers, I often attend meetings representing my parents, which equipped me with invaluable interpersonal and communication skills that will help me thrive in my career. As the first female in my family to enter university in a field of high demand, I work hard not only to better myself but also to be a good role model for my siblings and young people in my community. I hope to set a good example for younger Ethiopians to remind them that there is a place for them here.

My ambition is to become a gynaecologist to improve women's health; empower them to take responsibility for their own health; and to create a safe space for females to get treated by other females so they can feel secure. I am super grateful to be one of the recipients of this scholarship as it alleviates my financial struggles and enables me to pursue my dream career so I can give back to the community.



IDIL

My name is Idil, and I am from Somalia, raised in Malaysia. My family and I had to flee Somalia due to war conflict. As a child, I remember hearing the sound of bombs and gunshots. I spent most of my childhood in Malaysia as a refugee. Living there with that status made life difficult for us as we were not entitled to attend public schools, work or access proper healthcare due to financial issues.

Despite these challenges, I loved studying as a child. I would often watch other children going to school, yearning for the same opportunity. My mother did her best to provide for us and taught us at home. She sought every support and opportunity for us and eventually, we were able to attend a refugee school provided by the UNHCR, where I learned English.

My mother told me to never give up when things get difficult because whenever one door closes another one opens; and that patience and hard work are the keys to huge opportunities and success.

We moved to New Zealand in 2018 where I saw a lot of opportunities and freedom, including the chance to attend public school. This experience inspired me to pursue my dream of becoming a primary school teacher, to make a positive impact on the education system and made me grateful for my mother's support and determination to help us get to where we are now.

I am now a second-year student of Bachelor of Teaching (Primary) at the University of Waikato. I am grateful to be amongst the girls who have been given this great opportunity by Sir Robert Jones' Refugee Daughter's Scholarship. This opportunity has lessened my financial hardship and motivates me to work harder towards my career goals. I am committed to providing children with the education they deserve to become lifelong learners.



JAMIL



My name is Jamil. While I was born and raised in Iran, I'm originally from Afghanistan. My paternal grandparents fled Afghanistan for their safety, during the Soviet war. My Dad was only two-years old when they migrated to Iran.

After spending the first 18 years of my life in Iran, I still couldn't call it home. As refugees, we had many challenges living there. My parents left everything in Iran behind and migrated to New Zealand to provide us, their children, with a better life and future.

I started high school in New Zealand in 2020 and endeavoured to learn English and pursue university admission. As the eldest child in my family, I felt the pressure of being a role model for my siblings and not disappointing my parents. So I worked hard, striving to achieve my goal. I encountered numerous challenges on this journey due to the language barrier. However, it didn't matter what I was going through because I knew that success was waiting for me at the end.

After overcoming challenges in first-year health science, I now see the results of my efforts. I have been offered a place in the Bachelor of Oral Health program at the University of Otago. I eagerly anticipate embarking on my journey as an Oral Health student, keen to immerse myself in the world of dental care and contribute to improving oral health outcomes.

Gratitude fills my heart as I express my sincere appreciation for the generous scholarship support extended to me. Your investment in my education not only relieves financial burdens but is also a beacon of hope, inspiring me to reach for excellence and make a positive impact in my field and beyond. Thank you, Sir Robert Jones, RASNZ and University of Otago, for believing in my potential and for empowering me to pursue my dreams.

LALITA



My name is Lalita. I am currently studying a Master's of Audiology at the University of Canterbury. I did an undergraduate degree in English. I was born in Nepal and moved to New Zealand at the age of eight; I have been here for almost 15 years. I am the youngest of five and I am lucky to have such a supportive family that encourages me to strive for success. My family is originally from Bhutan but was forced to leave after the government there issued laws that restricted the rights of the Nepalese population. New Zealand opened its arms to my family and I am grateful for the opportunities I got as a result.

Having started the first week of my Masters I can already tell that I am going to enjoy the two years to come and my career, once I graduate. I have always enjoyed learning and working with people from different backgrounds. I look forward to working as an audiologist and hope to work in the public sector and help those in my community.

In my free time I enjoy exercising, doing yoga, and reading. I have recently gotten into embroidery and audiobooks which is a great combination to unwind after a stressful day. I really enjoy the outdoors and am known to wander around for a few hours doing random things. On my last excursion I fell out of a tree.

Due to being on my Masters, my student loan has piled up, so it is a relief to have gained the Sir Robert Jones Scholarship which has enabled me to undertake my Masters and not worry about the debt. I am grateful to have received such an opportunity.

My name is Lun Lian Zaw, I am from Myanmar. I was born in a small village called Phuntong in Chin State. In 2007, my family and I moved to New Zealand in pursuit of a better and more secure future. My family's journey to New Zealand was not a pleasant memory; even though I was such a small kid back then, I could still remember the fearful and frightening moments during the journey. Nonetheless, I am incredibly appreciative to have come to a secure nation where one may pursue their dreams and take advantage of opportunities that are available.

Growing up as a refugee immigrant, I have encountered many hardships; however, these have become part of my identity, and I have learned to embrace them, reminding myself that this was once my dream, to live in a country free to dream big and strive for a better future. I am now studying a Bachelor of Health Science in Perioperative Practice at Auckland University of Technology (AUT). I am currently in my second year.

I want to express my gratitude to Sir Robert Jones and the entire team for empowering young women like myself to embark on the paths we desire, as well as offering an opportunity to progress forward to achieving our goal. I am inspired to give back to the community and improve people's lives, regardless of how small it may be, given the generosity and support I have encountered since settling in New Zealand.

LUN

REMEMBER THAT YOU ONCE DREAMED OF WHERE YOU ARE NOW.



MARIAM

MARIAM

My name is Mariam and I came to New Zealand as an Afghan refugee when I was three years old.

I was very fortunate to have an amazing single mother that supported me and emphasised the importance of education.

I also was fortunate enough to have had an amazing support advisor by the name of Erica Farrelly who supported me to apply for this scholarship and subsequently become a successful recipient of it.

As a result of this generous scholarship I am able to study Nursing at AUT. With this degree I hope to contribute back to all members of New Zealand.

I would like to express my gratitude to Sir Robert Jones, RASNZ, Erica Farrelly and AUT as they have all woven a blanket to enable me to prosper in my academic career debt free.

Thank you, Mariam.



“Persist in pursuing your dreams, even in the bleakest of times”.

I am Maryam, born in Iraq in 2004 amidst the turmoil of war. My family embarked on a journey spanning multiple countries in search of safety. Throughout our travels, my mother ensured my brother and I attended school daily, despite the uncertainty that clouded our lives. From Syria to Iraq, we sought refuge until both became inhospitable, leading us to Malaysia in pursuit of sanctuary. For nearly two years, I resumed my education until worsening circumstances forced us back to Iraq, where danger lurked at every turn.

Yet, amidst the chaos, my resolve to pursue education and strive for excellence remained unyielding. After enduring three tumultuous years in Iraq, we sought refuge in Thailand, only to encounter further hardship as refugees unwelcome by the government. Despite the challenges, we persevered until finding refuge in New Zealand in 2019.

Upon our arrival, I enrolled at Green Bay High School in Auckland, where I encountered the unfamiliarity of a new educational system. Undeterred, I dedicated myself to achieving the goals I had harbored for years. Graduating with Excellent endorsements in 2022, I now pursue a Bachelor of Dental Surgery at the University of Otago.

I extend my deepest gratitude to Sir Robert Jones, RASNZ and the University of Otago for their unwavering belief in me and for providing the invaluable support that has guided me through my educational journey."

MARYAM

MARYAM



I'm Maryam, aged 20, and in the third year of my computer science degree. I moved to New Zealand when I was 4-months old as a refugee from Afghanistan. My parents' decision to move to New Zealand was driven by their desire for a peaceful life and more opportunities for their children. This scholarship is exactly what my parents wanted for me; the opportunity to be able to study and receive a higher education without any financial concerns. My parents have always instilled the importance of education and the doors that it can open - especially as a young woman from Afghanistan, a place where women have had to struggle and fight just for the right to education.

Breaking barriers for women, especially women of colour and refugees in male-dominated fields like computer science, has long been my dream. Despite being one of the few women in my classes, I hope to inspire young girls, particularly Afghan refugee women, showing them that success is attainable and encouraging them to believe in their potential. I aim to be the representation that I lacked growing up.

After university I would love to go into web development or information security, two parts of computer science that I love. Knowing that the technology business is constantly changing is something I appreciate about it. I hope to graduate from university this year and I know that no matter what career I pursue, I will never stop learning.

I am so incredibly thankful to Sir Robert Jones, RASNZ and all of the lovely women who I met during my scholarship interview for granting me this scholarship. This scholarship has time and time again instilled confidence and has motivated me to do better and be the best I can be in my studies.

NAZIFA

NAZIFA



My name is Nazifa. I was born in Quetta, Pakistan, but I am an Afghan. My family escaped from Afghanistan due to the war and migrated to Pakistan in the hope of a better environment and future for their children. They did not expect Pakistan to also become an unsafe country for them.

My dad was diagnosed with cancer and my parents decided to try to migrate to another country where it would be safe for the children, and my dad could get the right treatment. However, he did not make it.

Life got harder each day until we heard the news that we were accepted by the New Zealand government in 2017.

Beginning a new life in New Zealand was challenging at first, as we barely knew any language or the culture, but we met people on the way who held our hands and guided us through the challenges.

Growing up I wanted to be a doctor because I could see the importance of health literacy. It felt like education could be the movement from darkness to light. But it seemed impossible before coming to New Zealand. Once I arrived here I was able to set off on the journey to reach my goal. I decided to be the first female doctor in my family so that I could look after the health of my loved ones.

I am a second-year medical student at Otago University. I am excited about the rest of my educational journey to see what turns it takes.

I am very grateful to be a recipient of this scholarship; genuinely thankful to everyone involved in the Sir Robert Jones Scholarship for giving me the opportunity and the chance to follow my education.

SAMHAR

"STRENGTH IS NOT DEFINED BY THE ABSENCE OF CHALLENGES, BUT RATHER BY THE RESILIENCE AND DETERMINATION SHOWN IN OVERCOMING THEM."

My name is Samhar, and I am deeply grateful to be a recipient of the Sir Robert Jones' Refugee Daughters' Scholarship. This scholarship has been a beacon of hope and opportunity in my life, motivating me to strive for excellence in my field of study which is occupational therapy.

I came to New Zealand from Sudan, but my family is from Eritrea. My life has been shaped by resilience and determination in the face of adversity. From a young age, I witnessed the profound impact of loss when my father passed away, leaving my mother to shoulder the responsibility of providing for our family's basic needs. Despite the challenges we faced as refugees in a village with limited resources, my mother's unwavering strength and love guided us through difficult times.

These experiences instilled in me a deep appreciation for the simple necessities of life and taught me the importance of perseverance and compassion. They have fueled my determination to overcome obstacles and create a better future for myself and my family.

Currently, I am in my second year of study for a Bachelor of Health Science in Occupational Therapy at Auckland University of Technology. This field resonates deeply with me as it allows me to combine my passion for helping others with my desire to make a meaningful difference in the world. My goal is to advance my career in occupational therapy, dedicated to providing care and support to those in need, particularly those facing financial hardships.

I am immensely grateful for the support of the Sir Robert Jones Scholarship, which has eased the financial burden of pursuing my dreams. With this scholarship, I can focus wholeheartedly on my studies and future aspirations without worrying about affordability.



My name is Sofia, I am 19 years old, and I am originally from Colombia. My path to New Zealand was shaped by the pursuit of safety and refuge. It all began years ago when my mother and her family fled the threat of the paramilitary forces in Colombia and sought refuge in Ecuador. Years later, our family still faced danger in Ecuador, so my mother reached out for help from the UNHCR. This decision marked the beginning of our journey towards resettlement in New Zealand, and in July 2017, we were granted refuge in this beautiful country, leaving behind everything we knew in search of safety and stability.

New Zealand welcomed us with open arms, providing the safety and security we desperately needed. The kindness and support of the local community have been invaluable in helping us to rebuild our lives here.

Even though adapting to a new language and academic system was tough, education has always been important to my mum and me. I worked hard to learn English, and it paid off. In Year 12, I achieved an Excellence Endorsement, and in Year 13 I got a Merit Endorsement.

Now I find myself in my second year pursuing a Bachelor of Laws at the University of Canterbury. While the journey has been challenging, I am immensely grateful for the opportunities that have come my way, including being one of the young women that were granted this scholarship.

With a degree in law, I seek to give back to the community... just as much as they have given to me. I want to be there for my Hispanic community, for those who have been here for long and for those who have just arrived, for them to feel comfortable to seek help and speak to someone who can understand them.

I am so grateful for the Sir Robert Jones' Refugee Daughters' Scholarship. Back in my home country, I would never have imagined receiving such a blessing. Thank you so much.



SO FIA

TA MAWI

My name is Ta Mawi. I was born in Chin State, Myanmar. Firstly, I would like to thank God, and the scholarship organisers who gave me this opportunity to pursue my ambitions. I am very honoured to be one of the recipients of Sir Robert Jones' Refugee Daughters' Scholarship.

We had to leave Myanmar in 2009 due to the ongoing conflicts within the country. As a family, we settled down in Malaysia as refugees for 9 years. When I was in Malaysia, I struggled to gain a proper education like most other people. Since we are refugees, we have no right to attend the government school.

My family and I arrived in New Zealand in July 2018. Being in a new environment was very challenging, mainly because of the language barrier. Even though we faced a variety of difficulties when we first settled down in NZ, it was worth struggling because it is a safe place and it gives me a lot of different opportunities to pursue my goals and dreams.

Currently, I am in my second year studying a Bachelor of Nursing at Massey University.

I never thought I would be able to come this far and be who I am today, because of the hardship that I went through, as well as my lack of education growing up. Through my journey, I have struggled with a lot of difficulties and I faced a lot of judgments. However, life has taught me to not give up, no matter where life throws me. I look forward to finishing my studies and helping my family, friends, the community and the country.





My name is Unaiza. I am originally from Sargodha, Pakistan. I came to New Zealand in 2019. The reason I had to leave was because of the discriminatory legislation targeting Ahmadi Muslims, as well as the inability to be recognised or pose as a Muslim. Discrimination and persecution impede your ability to achieve your goals. This is the reason why my family decided to move to New Zealand.

Leaving the place of my birth and upbringing was challenging, and Pakistan will forever have a special place in my heart, irrespective of my experiences. Embracing our community's motto, "love for all, hatred for none," has been enlightening, fostering compassion and empathy towards my fellow beings.

I am studying Medicine at the University of Otago. My choice to pursue a career in medicine is deeply rooted in the desire to give back to the society that has afforded me the opportunity to embark on this journey. Recognising that relieving pain may not always cure it entirely, I am driven by the idea that I can be a compassionate companion to others, sharing their burdens and alleviating their suffering to the best of my human ability. This belief in the power of empathy and the impact it may have on someone's well-being drives my dedication to a career in which I strive not just to treat diseases but also to give holistic treatment that addresses the emotional and physical components of each individual's experience.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude for receiving the Sir Robert Jones' Refugee Daughters' Scholarship. I believe that a variety of factors contribute to a person's identity, development and goal achievement. This scholarship will undoubtedly play a significant part in my journey.

UNAIZA

YALDA

My name is Yalda. I'm from Nangarhar, Afghanistan. My family was forced to flee Afghanistan in 2005 as Kabul had become a hazardous combat zone. My family fled to Pakistan to begin a new life. We were eventually able to come to New Zealand in 2016.

I am enthusiastic to learn more about social work and develop the information and skills required to help individuals and communities in need. I am also excited to obtain practical experience through placements and internships, where I will be able to apply what I have learned in real-world circumstances.

I understand that pursuing a career in social work will not be simple, since it may be emotionally draining and difficult at times. However, I am determined to overcome all barriers and have a beneficial impact on the lives of others. I feel that my desire to serve people and my excellent work ethic will help me succeed in this field.

I am grateful for the opportunity to study for a Bachelor of Bicultural Social Work, and I am eager to see where this journey takes me. I am convinced that with dedication and hard effort, I will be able to achieve my goal of being a professional social worker and positively impacting the lives of others.



This scholarship will help me continue my studies and achieve my academic and professional goals. I am determined to diligently commit myself to my academic career and take advantage of this amazing opportunity. Thank you, Sir Robert Jones, for your generosity and trust in my ability. I am thankful for your assistance and will make the most of this fantastic opportunity.

“Work hard for your dreams”.



Congratulations to our graduates...

