

Sonia Ihezue

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Personal Statement

At the age of seven, my family and I left Nigeria, the country we call home and relocated to the United States. My father primarily lives in Nigeria and is our primary provider and my mom lives in the United States with my brothers and me so that we may have better opportunities. My mom is currently in Pharmacy School and she hardly works as she is in a rigorous program. As a result, this year I have taken up new responsibilities such as transporting my mother and brothers to and from school and their various activities to ease the stress my mother undergoes.

When I was approximately five years old, I witnessed a terrible car accident; I saw numerous people helping people get to the hospital, in order for them to receive the proper care. That was the day I realized that I wanted to become a healthcare professional, a doctor. I learned through babysitting and volunteered to better understand and relate to children; increasing my desire to become a pediatrician.

I am always willing to give back to my community. I participated in a church event where I packaged and distributed Thanksgiving baskets to provide families with Thanksgiving Dinner, I went on a mission trip in Laredo where we repaired a family's home, and volunteer to teach children at Vacation Bible School every summer. Outside of church, I participated in a Project Still I Rise event where I packaged socks, gloves, and hats for children in the Greater Dallas Area.

As I aspire to attend university, I intend on using the degree efficiently to become a pediatrician and start a private practice, where I will not charge a fortune for my services in an effort to provide affordable health care. I aim to start a mission trip to aid families to rebuild their homes, restart their lives, and provide them with medical care such as vaccinations and annual check-ups. I am grateful to be considered for this scholarship and if I am accepted I will use to further my college education which will be beneficial for me to achieve my goals.