

DREAMERS' PULSE

empowering dreams, one story at a time

Quarterly Insights from Our Executive Director

As we close out the first quarter of 2025, I'm filled with immense pride and gratitude for all we've accomplished together. The past few months have been a powerful reminder of the impact we can make when we come together with purpose.

From kicking off the year with our disbursement review meeting to hosting a successful MentorMe drill in February and several hours of mentor-mentee engagement—we're already seeing this year take shape with promise and passion.

Looking ahead, December 2025 will mark Dream Rite's 10th anniversary, and with it, a bold new step: our expansion into East Africa! We're laying the foundation to extend our reach beyond Nigeria, bringing life-changing educational opportunities to even more students across the continent.

I invite you to vote and help us choose our next country in East Africa - your input will help shape the future for the next generation of dreamers. Thank you for being part of this journey, and for helping us turn vision into action—one student at a time.

None of this would be possible without you—our incredible donors, mentors, and partners. Your ongoing support fuels our mission. If you haven't already, please consider making a recurring donation to help us continue this vital work and create lasting impact.

Q1 Impact in Numbers

24+ hours Total hours spents during mentor-mentee engagement.

93+ messages Number of messages between mentors and mentees.

Current beneficiaries **₩**1,520,642.50

Covered expense amount disbursed to beneficiaries (in <u>Nigerian Naira</u>)

Number of requests for payments received from scholars



We're excited to recognize Balgees Abubakar as our Scholar of the Quarter! ""

This honor goes to the most engaged and active scholar—someone who takes full advantage of opportunities, participates meaningfully, and demonstrates outstanding commitment. 27 👏 KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!



Education is a force that transforms the default state of illiteracy, securing your future by making you a voice where you might have been an echo

*Got an inspiration quote? Share with us to feature in the next edition

Olu Efunwove

Dream Rite is Expanding – Vote for Our Next Country! We are taking Dream Rite beyond Nigeria and into East Africa! But we need your help to decide which country to expand to next. Click the button to cast your vote and be part of this exciting journey!

MentorMe Quarterly Drill

What does it take to succeed? Hard work? Talent? Connections? While all of these play a role, one of the greatest success boosters is mentorship. That's exactly what Dream Rite's MentorMe Program provides—real-world guidance, career insights, and personal development support to help young scholars thrive.

We kicked off the year with our first MentorMe Quarterly Drill on February 8, 2025 focusing on "Foundation for Success." This interactive session was packed with powerful lessons, thought-provoking discussions, and expert advice from our dedicated mentors. Some key topics covered:

- Developing Abilities
- Building Resilience: Learning from Failures and Setbacks
- Understanding Your Strengths and Weaknesses
- Creating a Personal Vision Board
- · Active Listening and Feedback
- Overcoming Career Obstacles

The session didn't just stop at discussions, mentees had the chance to ask questions, exchange ideas, and gain clarity on their academic and career paths. To keep the momentum going, the slide deck was shared with all participants, allowing them to revisit key takeaways.

The journey to success isn't meant to be walked alone and at Dream Rite, we're making sure no student has to.

DCF Disbursement Process

Imagine the excitement of receiving a scholarship—only to be met with confusion about how and when the funds will arrive. We get it, and that's why on January 11, 2025, we took a deep dive into making the Dreamers College Fund (DCF) scholarship disbursement process smoother, faster, and crystal clear.

So, how does it all work? Simply put, this step-by-step system ensures scholarship funds reach students seamlessly, covering key academic expenses like tuition, hostel fees, and other approved costs that keep their education on track. During the meeting, we tackled some of the most important aspects of the process, such as:



- Covered vs. Uncovered Expenses Clarifying what the scholarship funds can and cannot be used for.
- Direct vs. Indirect Payment Requests Understanding when payments are made directly to institutions versus when students receive funds (reimbursements) for eligible expenses.
- Request Email Structures Standardized email formats (with examples) to ensure clear and professional communication.
- Hostel Fee Payments & Indirect Payment Workflow The step-by-step process for handling accommodation-related disbursements.
- CGPA Requirement Reinforcing the importance of academic performance to maintain eligibility.

This review was designed to provide clarity, minimize delays, and make the process more efficient for all beneficiaries. By streamlining these steps, we aim to provide a stress-free experience, allowing students to focus on what truly matters—excelling in their studies!

Scholars Corner

When I applied for the Dream Rite Scholarship in 2021, I thought it was straightforward: apply, get the scholarship, and receive funding for my academic needs. That's all. But Dream Rite had other plans.

I remember going through the scholarship stages, trying my best at each one. The final interview stage stands out in my mind. As a fresh high school graduate with no experience in the professional world, this interview simulated a real job interview. I prepared rigorously, making videos to practice answering potential questions. My elder brother and sister, who were already professionals, guided me through the process and helped me conduct mock interviews.

In December 2021, I received the Dream Rite Scholarship award. My first reality check came when I realized that communication with Dream Rite would be via email. I had to write emails regularly to make requests when necessary and receive updates from Dream Rite. The scholarship funds were held by Dream Rite and disbursed at intervals to cover my academic needs.

But that was just the beginning. Dream Rite introduced the quarterly drill initiative, where scholars and management would meet virtually to discuss personal, academic, and career growth. I was amazed by the organization's genuine interest in our academic journeys. These quarterly drills provided valuable tips and skills, leaving me motivated to put in more effort and face my fears.

As I continued my journey as a Dream Rite scholar, I developed essential skills for the professional world. I learned to contribute meaningfully to conversations. work with teams, lead teams, and communicate professionally.



Balgees Abubakar

Dream Rite also introduced self-help books, which reignited my reading habit and taught me the importance of reading.

Furthermore, I was assigned a mentor, and we had regular virtual calls to discuss academic and career goals. I found myself checking my email regularly, just like I would check my WhatsApp chats. Dream Rite's initiatives went beyond just providing financial support; they invested in our personal and professional growth.

My experience with Dream Rite has exceeded my expectations. I'm grateful for their holistic approach, which includes seeking our feedback on every initiative. It feels like we're valued partners, not just recipients of their support. I'm super grateful to be a Dream Rite scholar and look forward to seeing how their initiatives will continue to shape my academic and professional journey.

Mentor Moments

Mrs. Jumoke Adisa is an accomplished technology professional dedicated mentor whose passion for innovation, transformation, and mentorship continues to make a lasting impact. She obtained her bachelor's degree in Computer Science and a master's in Business Decision Management. She currently works as an Associate Director at S&P Global, leading CMDB Process and Governance. With over 18 years of experience in IT Service Management, Data Analytics, Project Management, Consulting, and Management Reporting, Mrs. Adisa has built a career of excellence, results-driven leadership, and a commitment to meaningful change.

She has been empowering young talents with knowledge, guidance, and inspiration to help them achieve their goals through the MentorMe program since 2022. She is the assigned mentor to Ojoma Anyebe and Aisha Olatinwo, equipping them with the skills and confidence they need to thrive and reach their full potential.

We are very proud of the great contribution that Mrs. Adisa brings to the MentorMe program and look forward to impactful testimonials from her mentees.



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Join us in wishing a very happy birthday to:

Scholars:

January Celebrants: Chukwunedum Ani – Jan 6, Sifonobong Archibong – Jan 11, Aisha Olatinwo – Jan 14

- February Celebrants: Muhammadkabir Yusuf Feb 17, David Oyeniran Feb 23, Blessing Bankole Feb 27
- March Celebrants: Peace Onwusa Mar 8, Mercy Durosaro Mar 31

- January Celebrant: Mr. Victor Ishola Jan 5
- March: Mrs. Tomi Ogundimu Mar 12, Mr. Olu Efunwoye Mar 12, Mrs. Adeola Efunwoye March 24

Wishing you all a fantastic year ahead—may it be filled with success, joy, and new opportunities!





Gratitude Notes



The most rewarding moments come from knowing our efforts make a real difference. At Dream Rite, every scholarship we provide is more than just financial support—it's a lifeline of hope, a bridge to opportunity, and a spark that fuels dreams.

This quarter, we proudly disbursed scholarship payments to 22 scholars, helping to ease their financial burdens and empower their academic journeys. The heartfelt messages of appreciation we've received is encouraging!

Here's a glimpse of their gratitude:

Hello DCF Admin, Acknowledged with thanks the receipt of N68,000. I really appreciate. God bless you. Sifonobong Archibong.

Dear DCF Admin, Thank you very much. I sincerely appreciate this. God bless Dream rite. With deep gratitude, Glory James

Dear DCF Admin.

I have received the reimbursement of N18,000 that was directed towards the payment for my textbooks. Thank you for your kindness and investment in my education. I'm grateful for this opportunity. Sincerely yours, John Chris Ugwunna.

Donors & Partners

We are immensely grateful for the generosity of our donors and partners. Your support provides scholarships, mentorship, and educational opportunities that empower students to pursue their dreams. Your contributions are not just financial gifts —they are investments in the future of bright, determined young minds.

Because of you, students who once faced financial barriers now have the chance to complete their education, gain valuable skills, and build a better future for themselves and their communities. But there is still more to do!

Join us in transforming more lives. Your donation—big or small—helps us reach more students, expand our programs, and create lasting change.

Please visit <u>dreamrite.org/donate</u> to set up your <u>monthly</u> donation.

Your donation is helping us shape the future of Africa's youth through knowledge and opportunity.

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As we move forward, here are some important dates to keep in mind:

May 10, 2025 - 2nd MentorMe Quarterly Drill

The journey of growth continues! The 2nd MentorMe Quarterly Drill is set for Saturday, May 10, 2025. Scholars can look forward to more impactful learning, mentorship, and development sessions.

June 2025 - 2025 DCF Scholarship Application Opens

A new opportunity is on the horizon! The DCF Scholarship application will open on June 1, 2025, and close on July 15, 2025. This is the perfect chance for aspiring and qualified applicants to secure financial support for their education.

August 16, 2025- Annual DCF Scholars' Parents Forum

Parents play a crucial role in every scholar's success. The Annual DCF Scholars' Parents Forum will take place on Saturday, August 16, 2025 (3rd Saturday in August), providing a platform to engage, reflect, and celebrate progress. This is a very important meeting for all Parents of our scholars!

There's always more to look forward to!

Each quarter brings new stories, achievements, and opportunities. Stay tuned for the next edition—we can't wait to share what's next!



We love staying in touch with our community! For updates, inquiries, or to support our mission, reach out to us:

Email: hello@dreamrite.org

Website: www.dreamrite.org

Socials: @dreamrite (Facebook, LinkedIn),

@dreamriteorg (Instagram, YouTube, X)

Thank you for being part of our journey. See you in the next edition!

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