September 9, 2026

Dear Donor,

Today, I write to you as one of the New Cancer for College Family members. As a 2026 Scholarship Winner, I cannot begin to express my gratitude for what your donation has contributed to, in regard to my life, my education, and most importantly, the impact it will ultimately have on the community of those around me.

I am a Breast Cancer Survivor, attending the University of South Florida, in the Sunny Tampa area. I am an ASL Interpreting Major, with a passionate mission to Advocate and Represent the Deaf Community. ASL, or American Sign Language, is the third most common Language in The United States. Yet the Need for ASL Interpreters is Rising at an alarming rate and there is simply not enough resources or interpreters to match that Need. But I will dive into that a bit more later.

The first thing I would like to hilight for our donors, is that, I have learned a lot about finances in this

Crazy Rollercoaster, we call "life." I have learned how easy it is to say, "Treat Yourself, You've worked very hard this past year. You deserve that Coach Wallet. But, you know what, just get the matching Purse too." Or, "It's my 30th Birthday, Why not just take a cruise!"

In juxtaposition, I also understand the importance of what it means to <u>not</u> be approved for a life altering surgery because you cannot afford the co-pay for the anesthesiologist of your surgery. I also understand the fear of "Will I be able to pay my apartment's light bill?" When I worked two days, instead of five because it was a "chemo" week.

I had a discussion with a dear friend, amidst my treatment, that became very blunt. I will never forget the exact words I used. Mostly Because I was shocked that I voiced it out loud. I said:

> "I truly understand why some people choose to die rather than fight the fight. Without the financial assistance of Breast Cancer Foundation of Central Florida and my parents, I would be homeless."

I was 28 when I was diagnosed and 29 when I finished my first phase of treatment. (Surgery, Port Placement, Chemo, and Radiation). I am now 33 and in

my maintenance phase of a monthly shot and daily chemo pill. I celebrated Four Years Cancer Free this Past August.

But, What I want to say to you is, your donation is Life Altering for people like me. You very easily could have booked a vacation, or Bought a new pair of shoes, or invested your donation into Stocks or other money making investments that contribute to your financial gain. But you chose to invest in the "educational gain" of Cancer Survivors like myself.

To sum it up; the choice you made to invest in the education of each Scholar that has the financial Support of the Cancer For College Scholarship, Should make you proud. Because you Could have used that money in so many other avenues. This one... this avenue will impact the world like the ripples of water from the coin tossed into the Wishing Well.

I'd like to take a moment to Share Some Statistics, as mentioned earlier, of the line of work I am planning to enter into.

① There is an extreme Shortage of ASL Interpreters. The Ratio of Deaf

Americans to ASL Interpreters is 50:1. Yes, you read that right. For every 50 Deaf Americans, there is only one Interpreter.

(2) The Projected growth of ASL Interpreters entering into the field from 2023 to 2033 is 3%... Meaning in One decade there is only a 3% projected Growth!

(3) 90% of Deaf children are Born to hearing Parents. Of those hearing Parents... 75% of them never learn ASL. 75% of these parents don't learn how to communicate with their children in their child's first language.

(4) Signed Language will Never be taken over By AI or technology of any kind. ASL is unique in so many ways. (I could do a whole essay simply on this topic, but a quick breakdown):

[A] There are more than one way to Correctly Sign one Sentence. ASL Grammatical Structure is Unique, as You are focusing on the Context and Meaning. Not Word for Word.

[B] Just like their are accents in different parts of the Country, there are multiple Signs for one Word, or, Vice versa, one Sign may be the

same But mean two different things. (Example: there are over 15 different signs for the word "Strawberry." Contrarily, the sign for "tea" is the same sign as "Vote!") *Context is everything!

C Depending on your facial expressions, head movement, Signing direction or mouth shape; the meaning of your Signs can differ. (Example, If you sign, "over there." If your lips are in the pulled back to show your teeth in a "cs" shape you are saying its Really close. But, if you use an "Ahh" facial expression/mouth shape you are saying it is far away.)

American Sign Language, or <u>any</u> Singed Language, is a <u>HUMAN</u> and <u>visual</u> language that technology will <u>never</u> be able to grasp.

I would like to conclude my letter by saying that your Contribution to the Cancer For College Organization will play a much larger Role than you likely realize.

With your donation, you allow Cancer Survivors and Scholars to go out into the world and make a difference. From future doctor's, to teachers of our Next generations, to a voice in a silent world

where many cannot even communicate with their own family.

So, thank you. Your gift is so much more than "a good cause." It is a catalyst to a new, better world.

> "[If you come to her aid,] what did Aelin promise you in return?"
>
> Hasar smiled to herself. "A better world."
>
> Sarah J Maas
> Tower of Dawn
> Book six of the Viral Throne of Glass Book Series

Blessings + Gratitude,

Kelly Krowalski

Proverbs 3:15 | Esther 4:14