

Introductory Paragraph

Betty Bassie:

From a young age, I have always been drawn to helping others, a passion that ignited my dream of becoming a nurse. Growing up, my family faced financial constraints that prevented me from enrolling in nursing school. Instead, I pursued a different educational path. Despite this diversion, my desire to care for others never wavered. I found myself working as a bank secretary at Sierra Leone Commercial Bank, but the longing to serve in the nursing field remained a constant in my life.

When I moved to the United States, I saw a new opportunity on the horizon. It was a chance to turn my lifelong dream into reality. With renewed determination, I decided to enroll in a Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA) program. This step brought me closer to my aspiration of becoming a nurse and allowed me to gain valuable experience in the healthcare field. Working as a CNA helped solidify my commitment to nursing, as I witnessed firsthand the profound impact that compassionate care can have on patients and their families.

Although I enjoyed my role as a CNA, I realized that I had not yet achieved my ultimate goal of becoming a registered nurse. I began researching nursing programs and discovered that obtaining a high school diploma was a prerequisite for admission. This realization prompted me to enroll in a High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED) program. Completing this program has been an essential step toward fulfilling my dream, and I am now on the brink of achieving this important milestone.

As I prepare to finish my HSED, I am contemplating my next steps in the journey toward nursing school. I have narrowed my options down to two colleges: Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC) and Alverno College. Both institutions have strong nursing programs, but they offer different experiences and opportunities. I am carefully considering which college aligns best with my educational and career goals, as well as my personal values.

Ultimately, my journey has been one of perseverance and passion. I am excited about the prospect of furthering my education and becoming a nurse. The experience I have gained as a CNA, combined with my commitment to helping others, will serve as a solid foundation for my future in nursing. I look forward to the challenges and rewards that lie ahead as I take the next step in my professional journey.