My name is Liya Hagos, I was born and raised in the capital city of Ethiopia, Addis Ababa. While my time back home I graduated from high school and got the chance to go to Mekelle University. I was fortunate enough to get the opportunity to come to the US and started going to school for some time. The interest that I had to finish my school was very high and I was determined to complete my degree in nursing. As time goes by and on my second year in college, I was not able to continue my education.

Even though education was a key to my future and help my family, but this time my family had to come before everything. I left all my family back home with the hope of changing their lives and providing them with everything they need. Unfortunately, that was not possible for me since I was not making enough money to even get by. That was when I decided to put a hold on my education and work three jobs so I can provide myself and my family.

After a couple years passed and I was looking into going back to school and study what I like. I have had interest for it for a long time, but I didn’t get the chance to explore and figure out which path to take. I looked into some bootcamps which can change my life in a short term, but they were expensive, and I was not able to afford it. I started asking around people how I can get myself into a professional world, I came across someone who went to year up and they shared their incredible experience. I started looking into the program and decided to apply. I thought to myself this could be an opportunity to further my education and fight poverty at the same time. With the hope of being able to change my life and carry my family, who look up to me for survive would be a great chance to follow up on.

Since childhood, I wanted to study something related to IT but as a person who grew up in a third world country studying information sounded like luxury. After moving to the US I tried teaching my self the basics of computer and enrolled in free classes. Even though it took me a while to realize that this could be a path I can take and become successful, I am glad I finally found a program that will help me achieve my goal.

Information technology is not common in my country and it is something I want to introduce widely to the people who did not get the chance.

In conclusion what I have heard about this program could really give me an opportunity to not only improve my professional skills but also to look after those who are not fortunate enough to be able to further their education and help as much as I can.