

**Dear UKZN Student**

**Participant information sheet**

**Vulnerability to Food Insecurity among students: A quantitative study at the University of KwaZulu-Natal.**

My name is Lindani Msimango, I am a student at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in Pietermaritzburg, studying towards a Masters in Research Psychology. I am conducting a research on Food Insecurity among students at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. The results of the study may assist in exploring the prevalence of food insecurity in Higher Education institutions and also finding ways in which more awareness may be created regarding the issue of food insecurity among students. As a student at the UKZN, you are therefore invited to participate in the study on this topic.

The University Student Food Insecurity Questionnaires (USFIQ) will be administered, and completing the questionnaire is voluntary and it is anonymous. Therefore, to ensure confidentiality please do not write your name on the questionnaire. If you have completed the questionnaire online or manually, I ask that you complete it again, however, indicate this when asked. In filling in the questionnaire, I kindly urge that you be as honest as possible in your responses. Filling in the questionnaire should not take you more than 15 minutes.

The only possible incentive or imbursement attached to completing the questionnaire is the option to be entered into a lucky draw to win a R200 Spur voucher through you providing your email address. Your entry into the lucky draw (i.e., through your email address) will be delinked from your responses to the questionnaire so that your responses remain anonymous. The winner will be notified privately via their email address.

You are allowed to withdraw from the study process should you feel uncomfortable completing the questionnaire. Moreover, there are no censures attached to you refusing to participate.

The questionnaires will be stored in a secure location for a period of five years, after which they will be destroyed. The data will be used for postgraduate student dissertations and journal publications. Should you have any queries about the study, you are more than welcome to contact me at a below mentioned information.

**NOTE: If you or any of your fellow students are struggling to access food regularly, please consult with (or refer your fellow students) to: A student counselor at your relevant College Office; go directly to the campus clinic or HIV Programme office or Student Support Services offices. These departments will assist you accordingly.**

Thank you.

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