

What is really happening in Durban CBD?

Many MUT students live in Durban CBD but might not have much opportunity to understand some of the social issues facing our city. MUT Student Development and Community Engagement have teamed up with the Denis Hurley Centre to create a unique opportunity for any MUT student to grow through the following:

- Volunteering in a practical way to help homeless people
- Learning about one of the pressing and visible social problems in Durban
- Reflecting on what they have learned about themselves and about the city

This is a way not only of helping others but also to learning from his experiences and growing through reflection. The initiative run for two periods during the year. The Denis Hurley Centre is the striking modern building located in Warwick – opposite the Fish Market and next to the Umlazi taxi rank and Emmanuel Cathedral.

Initially, there will be a compulsory induction session at the DHC where students can learn more about social issues in the city and interact with homeless people. An induction session is planned for **Sat 14 March 9am-11am** (if enough students sign up). If you are interested in this, email before end of next Thurs 12 March to raymond@denishurleycentre.org

Having completed the induction, you can then sign up for 10 hours of volunteering. There are lots of time slots available so each student can choose ones that suit them. Volunteering opportunities will be between defined dates as follows:

- Every Saturday 8am-10am and 11am-1pm
- Every Sunday 8am-10am and 11am-1pm
- Every Tuesday 8am-10am and 11am-1pm
- Every Wednesday 8am-10am and 11am-1pm
- Every Thursday 8am-10am and 11am-1pm

Students will go on line to sign up in advance for their slots (places are limited to 6 for each time slot – students cannot just turn up if they have not registered). When they arrive at the DHC they will be guided in what they have to do: serve meals, clean dishes, prepare vegetable etc.

While at the DHC, students will also have an opportunity to interact with homeless people to understand a bit more about what drives homelessness in our cities and what help homeless people are seeking. They can also find out about the ways in which, inspired by the late Archbishop Denis Hurley, the DHC brings together people of all faiths to serve those in need.

Having completed 10 hours of volunteering, students will then be asked to post a Tik-Tok video that expresses something about how their experience of volunteering has shaped their understanding of Durban, of the homeless or of themselves.

A certificate of participation will be awarded to all students who complete 10 registered hours and post a Tik-Tok video.

For more information, and to sign up for the programme email raymond@denishurleycentre.org giving your full name, phone number, course of study and year of study. This is open to all MUT students so feel free to share this invitation.