**Blossom Dharmaraj Applicant Biography**

As a non-traditional mature student, I bring a unique blend of academic achievement, professional experience, and a passion for service to my journey in medicine. With a background in psychology, including undergraduate and master's degrees, my career initially led me to SickKids Hospital, where I worked in clinical research for 4 years particularly focusing on children with medical complexities. This experience ignited a newfound passion for medicine, prompting my decision to pursue a medical degree at McMaster University.

Driven by a commitment to leadership and advocacy, I am actively involved in various initiatives within my community. I enjoy volunteering at the local food bank, tutoring children from disadvantaged backgrounds, or spending time at the seniors' home. These experiences have helped shaped my perspective on equitable access to healthcare.

In my spare time, I find fun in creative pursuits such as making stained glass and painting. As I continue my journey in medicine, I am excited to merge my diverse background and experiences to become a compassionate and effective advocate for patients and communities alike through leadership. As the current National Officer of Communications for CFMS, I am looking to take what I learned in this position to work in the organization as the Ontario Regional Director and leverage my prior experience, past work and passion to the organization.