

# Naté Dearden Scholarship

**03/18/2022**

Naté Dearden was a Utah State University (USU) alumnus and a strong advocate for students with disabilities, particularly regarding transition from high school to post high school programs. In honor of her memory, Naté's family and friends seek to support students with disabilities in higher education.

On September 9th, 2021, Naté passed away after a brief battle with cancer. She was educated in Ogden City Public Schools and was a proud graduate of Ben Lomond High School where she excelled academically. Following her graduation, she enrolled at USU where she was a member of the President's Leadership Council. After completing her mission service, she returned to USU, where she greatly enjoyed being an Aggie, and graduated in 2006.

She began her working career in Salt Lake City, Utah, at Utah Youth Village as a family advocate. This experience along with encouragement from her mother and other friends steered her towards applying to law schools. She entered Brigham Young University Law School in 2009 and graduated in 2011. Her career then took her to Arlington, Virginia, where she obtained a post-secondary transition position in the District of Columbia Office of Education. In 2015, she moved to Utah and began working for the Utah State Board of Education in various capacities, including the Student and Family Rights Coordinator.

Naté also, from a young age, showed a great concern for those who were underserved and in need and actively sought to serve those around her in many ways. This scholarship is a way to continue to honor that legacy and her fierce advocacy and passion for students with disabilities as they transition into adult life.

In honor of Naté, family and friends are establishing the Naté Dearden Memorial Scholarship in the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education & Human Services. The scholarship will support students with disabilities in higher education who have a financial need.

Donations to the scholarship can be made using the secure giving form on this page or one of the following ways:

**Mail:**

Utah State University  
Naté Dearden Memorial Scholarship  
1590 Old Main Hill  
Logan UT 84322-1590

*Make checks payable to: Utah State University*

**Phone:**

1-888-653-6246

**Stock or Wire Transfer:**

Contact Lance Beckert at [lance.beckert@usu.edu](mailto:lance.beckert@usu.edu) or 435-797-1611 for instructions

