



Journey to Success

2018-2019



Modesto Junior College
CaIWORkS Program

MJC CalWORKs Staff

THE LADIES OF CALWORKS

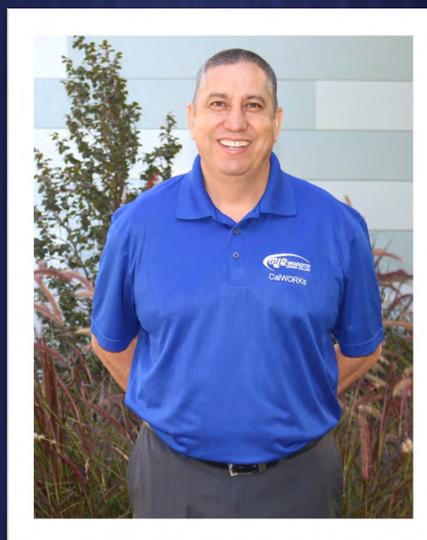
Crystal Gonzalez– Student Worker
Martha Estrada– Counselor
Christie Tinajero– Student Worker
Mary Everhart– Program Technician
Dana Perez- Student Worker
Judy Tuss– Program Technician
Jenna Deliddo– Student Worker
Emily Skinner– Student Worker
(not pictured)



We are excited to share our CalWORKs Journey to Success publication. This book was designed to inspire and build a sense of community among CalWORKs students as well as celebrate their successes. Included are stories shared by some of our CalWORKs students, their struggles, triumphs, and most importantly, their progression and transition to becoming not only self-sufficient, but successful! These students were honored at our 2018-2019 End-of-the-Year Celebration.



Florida Arias
Interim Vice President of Student Services



Hector Duarte
Interim Dean of Special Programs



Brenna Bonson-Jones
Administrative Specialist

We are MJC CalWORKs



Our Goal:

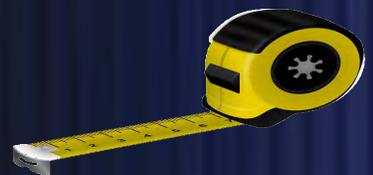
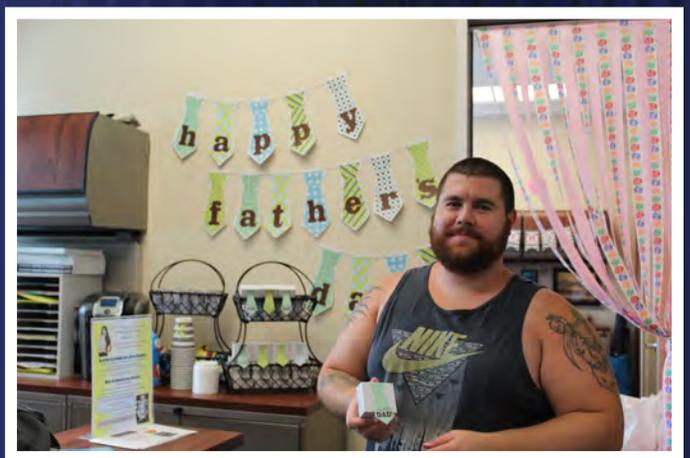
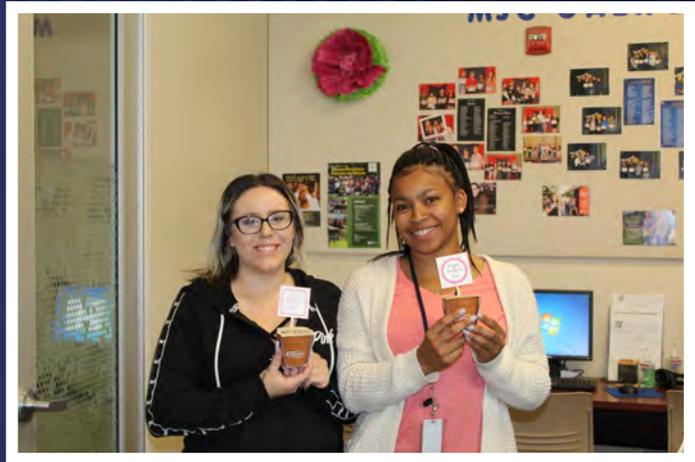
The CalWORKs program at Modesto Junior College is committed to providing students who are currently receiving TANF (cash aid) with coordinated student support programs and special services to assist them in reaching their educational and career goals. Our program is dedicated to guide students through a successful educational journey that will help them transition off aid and achieve long-term self-sufficiency.

Services:

We work collaboratively with the Community Services Agency to provide assistance with the following services:

- MJC Application
- Priority Registration
- Student Advocacy
- Ongoing Career and Academic Counseling
- Work-Study Opportunities
- Tutoring Referrals
- Childcare
- Emergency Bus Passes/Transportation
- Referrals to On and Off Campus Programs
- Financial Aid Application
- Monthly Attendance Reports
- Coordination of Communication between CalWORKs Students and Stanislaus County
- Textbooks Vouchers, Reimbursements, Book Loans
- CalWORKs Student Support Service Center

Celebrating



Moms and Dads



Halloween Trick-or-Treat



& Safety Event on Campus

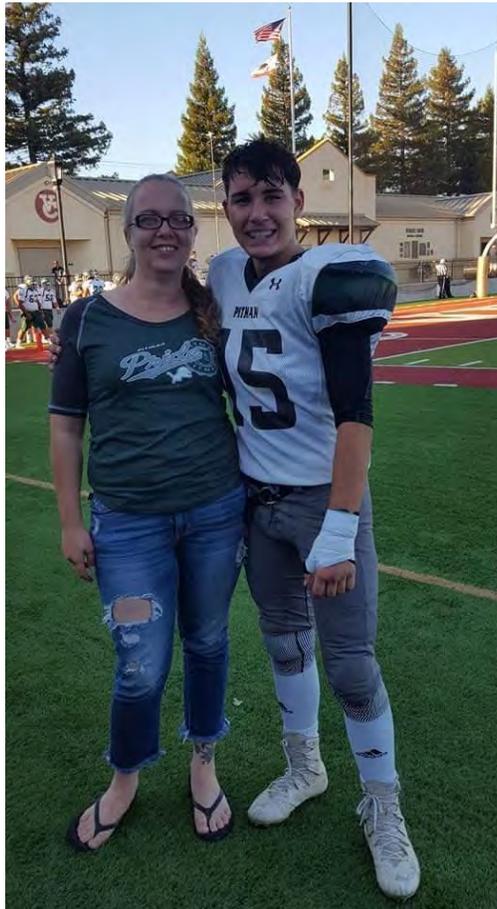


Anna Johnson

I have had many challenges to overcome in my pursuit of my degree and some successes to celebrate on this road; I couldn't have gotten this far without the CalWORKS program, my family, friends and teachers. My biggest challenge has been my belief in myself. This is a challenge because I have PTSD and depression, and with these comes low self-esteem and a belief that I'm a failure. This comes from two periods in my life; first as a child I was molested for many years and second I was in an emotionally abusive relationship as an adult. I was fortunate enough to be able to start working on myself about 4 years before coming back to school through counseling. Though I learned that I'm worthy of all that life has to offer; I still have my moments of falling back into my old belief system. Other challenges I have had to overcome are being a financially strapped single parent, dealing with my father being hospitalized three different times in the last three years, and having my self-doubts come back after not getting into my degree program on the first try.

Though I have had; and continue to have some of these

challenges; I have found that they have helped me be able to celebrate my successes. I have proven to myself that despite everything I have gone through I am still able and willing to push forward and attain my education for not only myself but my chil-



dren. I have been able to maintain a grade point average above 3.9 since I returned to. Not getting into the Respiratory Care program on the first try was a challenge I was able to turn it into a success by completing all of my Bachelor's degree general

education requirements while I waited to re-apply. Now once I graduate with my Associates Degree in Respiratory I will be able to apply for the Bachelor's program in Respiratory.

Though my successes are my own I could not have done it without help from the CalWORKS program, my family and friends. The CalWORKS program and work study have been a huge help financially, allowing me to get the books I need, help with transportation, and being able to work and provide for my family. The help CalWORKS provides is not only about the money aspect; it is about being able to walk into their office and see smiling faces and know they are here to help, guide and encourage me. Most of the people that work in the office have been in my shoes; it makes me feel like I'm not alone. This comradery is not found only in the office itself but in the other students I have met with in the program during work study. As I continue on this journey to becoming a Registered Respiratory Therapist I will continue to choose success over self-doubt and celebrate every class finished and everyone along the way.

That has helped keep me going.

Blanca Medellin



face in my life has help me understand why I want to be a Sociologist. In 2017 I became a Certified Nurse Assistant thanks to the opportunity I got from CalWORKs but despite the work I wasn't able to pursue such career. I attended counseling groups, sessions, and workshops from all the trauma of Domestic Violence. I found those angels from Haven Women Center.

was able to locate a place for the kids and myself to live in. As a domestic violence victim, it allowed me to see the pain and suffering a woman goes thru. For that I set myself a goal get my bachelors in Sociology to help those in need. I am beyond thankful for all these programs that allow all of us parents to educate ourselves despite the reasons why we quit, stopped or never came to college. I am working towards that by working two jobs, and looking for ways to get in the department of helping woman with similar situations. Second chances do exist. I am living proof of it.

The scars I carry in regards to domestic violence, have made me into the survivor I am today. Most individuals feel ashamed to accept such horrible past. I on the other hand, make it my strength. Being able to overcome such horrible

Painful nights wondering if I was going to lose my kids because I couldn't find a place. However, thankfully I had a huge support system, my kids, life partner and her mother were there the whole way. Haven women's advocates

Jacqueline Barraza

This following year I had various transportation issues along with lack of extra care for my daughters' sick days and so forth. As well as I struggled with the stress of it all. I pulled together the strength to persevere, try again and work smarter. CalWORKs has provided mileage, book, and parking reimbursements to help me succeed with less worry. My plan to becoming more self sufficient is

well to finish! To put my best foot forward and complete what I started. I am joining student government this semester, volunteer at my daughters' school (which CalWORKs provides care for) and help students as well as professors in the lab I work in for work study. With all this support, I am able to continue my path to a better future for myself and my daughter.



Crystal Gonzalez

“Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time,” says Thomas Edison. In 2007 I gave up and dropped out of California State University, Fullerton due to not being able to pass my science class for the third time. I was in and out of community college when finally coming to a complete stop. As years went by, and my educational debt continued to grow, I didn’t know how to repay my loan to be able to go back and get Financial Aid.

As time passed, school had always been something I wanted to finish. I dedicated myself to work and made a living in Los Angeles. Years down the road, girl meets boy, we fall in love and I had my first born. Time went by and the relationship slowly started to deteriorate. I decided to leave the relationship and my daughter and me moved into an apartment. Through the help of my friends and family, I was able to persevere. Eventually, I disliked my job, continually got sick and I lost myself. The responsibility of having to take care of my daughter and to be able to provide us a roof, clothing and food became my motivation to continue and not give up.

Finally, in 2017, I came down

with the flu, which changed my life. I spent Christmas by myself, extremely sick. I thought to myself that I don’t have to struggle, I don’t have to continue to get sick and my daughter needs a better role model. I decided to move back to my parents’ home in Modesto and start a



new life. In just months, I was able to turn the keys in to my new apartment, I bid my friends and family farewell and left a job that I never wish to return to or look back on.

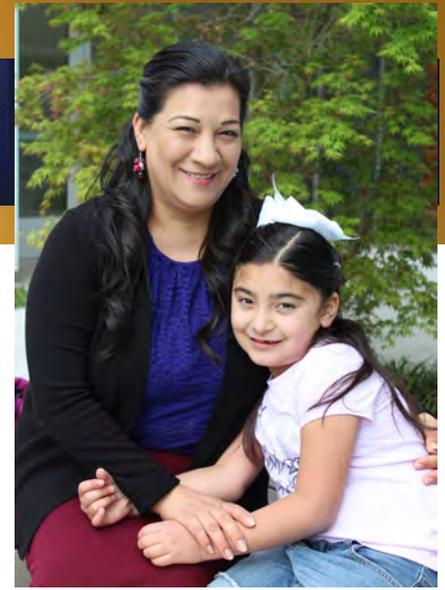
In August 2018 I moved and in January 2019, I started school here at Modesto Junior College. Those first four months before school started gave me the opportunity to get it together and work out an agreement with my school loan. Joining CalWORKs and

working at the office has truly changed my mindset on believing I can do it and graduate. CalWORKs has given me the opportunity to stay focused, do well, and relieve stress.

I plan to make the most out of Modesto Junior College. I have made it a goal to get all A’s in my classes. I am constantly in the library doing homework, studying or utilizing the tutoring services. I make sure to put in 110% in the work I turn in, ask questions and plan ahead for big assignments. With the help of my parents taking care of my little one I am able to stay focused. I am excited to take advantage of campus life such as getting to know my peers, obtaining my student worker position and I hope to attend volunteer workshops that are offered here on campus.

This has been a fulfilling life experience. Many things in my life have shaped me to be a better version of me and this is my time—my time to stay focused and accomplish an education that no one can take away from me. With the constant push of my family and friends I will see graduation day. I will be my daughter’s super hero, walking on stage for both of us, getting us a college degree.

Teresa Mejia



Growing up in a new country with a single parent of ten children was difficult for me; I can only imagine how much more difficult it was for my mom. She had to work so much that neither I, nor my nine brothers and sisters, got to spend much time with her. I feel that my mother deserves much praise and I would like to honor her by giving her recognition in all that I do.

I grew up in Long Beach, California, in a poor neighborhood, surrounded with gangsters and drug addicts. Having no real direction, I did not make great choices in my adolescent life and this created barriers for me to have a successful future. Due to many unresolved issues in my traumatic childhood, I ended up dropping out of high school my senior year (despite having worked hard to earn and maintain a high GPA) to get into, what ended up being, an abusive relationship that ended in divorce. Ultimately, however, I sought out mental health help and, most important, a relationship with God. I have since then made connections with kind and generous people that have developed into positive relationships which have motivated me to succeed; both in my educational and in my personal endeavors. Having positive direction, morals, values, and guidance in my life has made a big difference. Through my faith in God, I now have a new perspective; a brighter outlook on life in general.

After my first marriage, through all the hurt and betrayal, I was left feeling a sense of distrust for men. Growing up in a broken home, I used to think that there was little hope to ever be in a healthy relationship; I will admit, that at the time I didn't even

know what one looked like. Again, God stepped in and mended my brokenness. I am no longer afraid to try, looking at setbacks as mere learning opportunities.

After meeting my new husband and having our first child, I enrolled in Adult School and obtained my High School Diploma. I then came to Modesto Junior College where I was given a second chance at pursuing higher learning. When I started to pursue my higher education, I rediscovered my passion for reading and writing. When time permits, I can do very well in my classes. I have been on the Dean's list three times and I feel good about myself, where I am, and where I am headed.

I am a first-generation college student and I never had much support from family or friends to get a higher education. The community college CalWORKs Program helped me make education a priority for myself by allowing me to see the importance of having a degree. The CalWORKs program kept me accountable for my grades and helped me meet my educational goals by providing financial assistance in paying for my books and transportation.

The program also gave me the opportunity to meet with a counselor, who helped me create an educational plan to reach my: Associate of Science in Administration of Justice for Transfer Degree and my Certificate of Achievement Award in Associate Teacher. Through some of the CalWORKs program's special events I got to see people who accomplished their educational goals and hear how happy they are with them-

selves. Their testimonies have helped motivate me to make great efforts so that I can set a good example for my young children.

My dream career is to be lawyer. I plan to work in the child development field while I pursue my law degree. I am also planning on contacting Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) which is a national association in the United States that supports and promotes court-appointed advocates for abused or neglected children where I can possibly volunteer and gain experience in the advocacy field.

I am passionate about pursuing a career in advocacy because I feel that God gave me gift that I can use to help others. As I mentioned before, I am no longer afraid. I am not afraid to do the right thing, to stand up for myself and others, and to spread consciousness of what I think is right. I must give all the glory for this transformation to God; He has opened doors and windows of opportunity throughout my whole life which have led me where I am today. While I may not know what He has in store for me in my future; I find peace in His promise to guide me in the right direction.

Janet Abdshowpour Dizaj



This is Janet, and I am 36 years old. I am Assyrian, but I can speak four languages, such as: Assyrian, Persian (Farsi), Turkish, and English. When I was a teenager, I was living in my native country Iran. I always

wanted to come to America and continue my education, but I did not have that opportunity. I graduated from high school in Iran, and after that I left the school because the expenses was very high for my family. After a few years, I got married. I was happy with my husband, but staying at home all the time without any activity was making me crazy. I would like to study my major which is Business Management, but still we did not have enough money for that. My husband and I decided to travel to United State as a refuge, and it was a beginning of a good life

for us. After a while I got pregnant, and we have had a daughter. Then I decided to continue my education, so I enrolled at MJC. MJC had a lot of benefits for me, and I could apply to CalWORK's program. I got work-study and it supported me to be more comfortable with expenses. Also Calwork's program paid all my books and other expenses. This is my third year of studying at MJC and I want to work in a Bank in future. I really appreciate MJC and Calwork's program to supporting me to have a better life and catching my dream.

Jasmine Martinez

Being a single mother at the time, I was not expecting school to be more difficult than I originally thought. I had trouble getting care for my daughter. I was not getting the help or support I needed at home. Now I found a school my daughter could attend so I could finish school.

Because I am starting this semester with no FAFSA, the welfare program has helped me more than ever. To be more sufficient, I plan to work hard in my studies. I have not gotten myself involved in much but would like to get more involved in school.



Ashley Lengling

We all face our own challenges when we make the decision to come back to school and better our lives by furthering our education. Growing up, I went to fourteen schools, this made it very hard for me to get a proper education. I was starting to feel unmotivated. Things changed when I was fifteen and my dad got very sick and passed away a short time later. Before he passed, he made me promise him that was to stay in school no matter the circumstances. That statement meant more to me than anything at that point in time because just a few weeks later, I found out I was pregnant, at sixteen. At this point, I started losing hope, but I pushed through and graduated with straight A's. After High school, I was forced to get a job because it was nearly impossible to get by financially. I finally made up my mind to start school. A few days later, my mom got very sick with cancer and was given six weeks to live. My family and I made the decision to move back to California so that I could care for her. My husband left a good job and I had a six week old baby so unfortunately, school was put on hold once again. Finally,

August 2013, was my first semester at Modesto Junior College, and I never looked back. I have to push through all of the hard times with work, school, kids, losing my job, to my husband not being able to work due to his immigration status. He is currently working to become a citizen but until that day, I am the sole provider for my family.

I have made great success in making progress toward my educational goals. I have passed all of my classes needed thus far. Any class that I did not pass, I retook in efforts to better my GPA and chances of getting in to the Registered Nursing program.

MJC CalWORKs has been a blessing to me and my family. I love my on campus job and coworkers. The flexible hours provide me with the freedom I need to spend more time on school work and with my children. Without this program, I would be forced to work full time at job with the possibility of not finishing school. My plan for becoming economically self sufficient is to finish school, find a full time job in my field of



study.

Before working on campus, I never had time for extracurricular activities such as leadership but now that I have a little more time, I would love to join this semester. In the past, I have been involved in the community in a few different ways. When I was younger I use to volunteer at a homeless shelter where my family and I use to stay. There is so much stigma behind the homeless, and I felt like I understood what they were going through.



Kristina Modena

If someone had asked me 3 years ago where'd I'd be now, I never would have imagined my answer would be, about to get my AA in Elementary Teacher Education and transfer to Stanislaus State for my bachelor's degree and teaching credentials. I am 32 years old, I am a single mother, and first-generation college student. Going to college has been a long and rewarding journey. After I finished high school in 2005, I had a job and I didn't feel like I had the support, time, or money to be able to go to college. I tried a few times but a miscarriage in 2008, an incredibly rough pregnancy in 2010, and then the passing of my dad in 2014 made my depression come back in full force. It felt like the universe kept trying to stop me from having a normal life and finally returning to school to get a degree. When I lost my job of 12 years, I was angry and worried and scared. What was I going to do? I have to support my six-year-old and I was worried about our future. I had to swallow all my pride and ask for help. I'd worked so hard over the years that now being faced with unemployment and needing to seek outside help was really frightening. While attending classes at the county welfare office, worker Pamela Kinser asked me what I wanted to do. I told her I'd always wanted to go back to school and become

a teacher. She told me that now was the time and I needed to apply and stop putting it off. She pushed and motivated me to do it. Since that day, I haven't looked back. Returning to school after almost thirteen years was exciting but scary all at the same time. I didn't know what to expect or how well I would do in classes. I am now a semester away from receiving my AA for transfer with a 4.0 GPA. I've been on the Dean's List for the past three semesters. I plan on going to Stanislaus State in Fall 2019 to continue my education and get my bachelor's degree and teaching credentials. I've dedicated myself to furthering my education, pursuing my dream of becoming a teacher, and to prove to myself, and my son, that anything is possible if you believe in yourself and never give up.

The MJC CalWORKs program has been amazing during my journey these past two years. Honestly, returning to school and pursuing my dream would not have been at all possible if it wasn't for this program. I know I am not alone when I say I was one of those people who did not know enough about the program and had made pre-judgements based on the people I had known or seen on welfare. Most people really don't understand what being a welfare recipient would entail. I am so thankful for everything the program has allowed me to do. I never dreamed I'd be graduating with an AA degree but because of the support I got from this program I am so happy and excited to be able to show my son that it is possible to go to college and be successful.

Since I am studying to become an elementary school teacher, a lot of my free time is spent volunteering at my son's school as well as at the after-school program there. Watching children grow and learn is amazing. I did not have the educational support from my parents that I wanted and that made the decision to go to college right after high school impossible. I want my son to know that I support him in every endeavor he embarks on. I want him to know that his education is very important. And finally, I want him to know that if his mommy can go to college in her thirties and pursue her dream, that he can accomplish anything he sets his mind too.

I am thankful to everyone who has come into my life in the last two years; who have supported and motivated me to be the best version of myself and to do the best I can for my future and for my son's future. All the staff at the MJC CalWORKs office, for always being helpful with anything I needed or was unsure about; as well as Pamela Kinser, without your pushing and motivating me, I would not have started this journey, thank you all so much! I am dedicated to furthering my education and hope that once I get job placement as a teacher that I am able to continue my education and receive my master's degree. I am dedicated and passionate about my future and can't wait to finally be able to make a difference in the lives of our future generations.

Christie Tinajero

I experienced many challenges in my life that has made success seem unattainable. In 2012, I gave birth to my first child, my son Anthony. At the time, I did not have a job nor the opportunity to further my education. Luckily I was able to obtain a job that helped covered our everyday living. In 2014, my older sister Jessica passed away. I never dealt with a death so close to me. She left behind four kids the youngest 8 months old and the oldest 8. My heart never felt so broken. Until this day I do the best I can to keep my sisters spirit alive and let her look through my eyes to see how amazing my niece and nephews are. Months after my sister became our guardian angel I became pregnant with my baby girl. Six months into my pregnancy I started to experience severe complications. My heart dropped when the doctors told me that she was trying to make her entrance early into this world. On May 2, 2016, I gave birth to my daughter Aleenah, 1 lb. 5 oz, 12" long. It would be a long journey for my princess

but I knew that my sister was right by her side. All of my dreams were put on hold to give all of my attention to my daughter's medical complications. Four months later, my daughter was able to come home. A few months after my daughter came home we were victims of a drive by shooting with the bullet missing me by a couple inches. I went through so much heartache and felt like I was never going to further my education. One day I woke up and said to myself, despite my obstacles I need to go back to school. Not only are my kids depending on me, my sisters kids were looking up to me. In 2017, I returned to Modesto Junior College. I felt so lost and confused. I wanted to get in my car and drive as far away from the college campus. As I was walking back towards my car, I heard my sister's favorite song come on out of nowhere. I knew she was telling me to turn right back around and get to class. It gave me inspiration that I



can do this with my sister's spirit by my side. I opened up to my peers and that is when I learned of the CalWORKs program. The CalWORKs program assisted me in buying my books, school materials, and even reimbursed my gas mileage. It was the best feeling to know that I have the support from my guardian angel, and MJC CalWORKs. I am currently working at the MJC CalWORKs office and love to talk to other students about the amazing benefits that the CalWORKs program provides. My dream to further my education is now attainable. I was so inspired and loved helping others in hard obstacles that I am currently studying to receive my AA in Human Services.

Jessica Mendonca



Growing up was not normal for me. An addict raised me. My mom and dad separated when I was one year old. My dad would have to fight for time spent with my sister and myself. I was raised in so much chaos that by the time I was ten years old, my dad had enough, and was finally able to fight for his parental rights to raise us. The custody battle took over a year. I was in the fourth grade when I got the news. It was the happiest moment in my life. As time went by, my dad was hardly at home. He was now a single father of two girls, supporting us and still having to pay back child support. I had so much freedom. I was an A student; however, I had my past following me: my mother's way instilled

in me. The damages were starting to come to the surface. At the age of sixteen, I experimented with drugs, and in that moment, I became an addict. I was so disheartened because I never wanted to be like my mom. Since I was a little girl, I dreamed of having a husband, children, and a house with a white picket fence. How was this going to work, I would ask myself, now that I am an addict? I gave up on my dreams of becoming a mother and having a college degree. I barely graduated high school. Fast-forward: at the age of twenty-eight years old, I was pregnant with my first son, and I was a full-blown addict. I did not know how to stop. I became my own worst nightmare; I was my mother. As a result of my drug use, during my pregnancy, I gave birth to my son at only twenty-five weeks. He weighed one pound and was born with a hole in his heart. Seeing him hooked up to all those machines and getting a CPS case was a major wake-up call for me. I know I needed help to

overcome my addiction to Methamphetamine. Over the first year of my son's life, I was finally clean and sober. However, I had to deal with my son's medical diagnoses for the next three years. At the age of three, he was diagnosed with Autism, Sensory Processing Disorder, and is considered non-verbal. This took a toll on me, I decided to reach out to CalWORKs, and they suggested a program at MJC. Now, I am majoring in social work, and I have a GPA of 3.56. My goal is to help families in situations like my own. MJC CalWORKs Program has been key to my success, I now work on Campus and I'm a straight A student. Not only has the program benefited me, but my husband and children have benefited from it as well. I now am able to give them a better future. My goal in life is to help others and spread the word about the MJC CalWORKs program.

Dana Perez

My name is Dana Perez. I'm enrolled at Modesto Junior College to complete my transfer classes to attend Stanislaus State in the Fall of 2020. I originally found myself wanting to become a Registered Nurse, therefore I started my college journey to finish my nursing prerequisites. I would have applied for the nursing program in Spring of 2020. If I got in the first time, I would have finished with an Associate's in Nursing in 2022. The Fall of 2018 I found myself with no drive to get a degree in Nursing. With my daughter looking up to me, I wanted a strong career choice to support my family, but I left myself with the question of money or happiness. I followed my heart and changed majors. I knew I always wanted to be around children, so I chose to become an Elementary Teacher. Immediately, I felt happier with my future. I am excited to get a bachelor's degree in Liberal Arts. In the past, I never wanted to get a bachelor's degree in nursing because of the pressure I put on myself to be perfect in

every class. I am now a single mother to a beautiful baby girl named Destiny. She was born in September of 2016. I knew I had to make us a better life and when she was just two months old, I started applying for everything and anything to help me. At four months old, I came back to Modesto Junior College half time and with online classes. Prior to having my daughter, I dropped out of college because I had found myself single and pregnant at seventeen. In the Fall of 2017 I was referred to the CalWORKs program at Modesto Junior College and I started to receive supportive services. I only knew that CalWORKs would help me with school fees and book costs. I was surprised to find out about all the help they offered us. I was able to take my child to day care while I attended classes. I know school is the way to better my daughter's future. I enjoy being a part of the CalWORKs program because of how all the students can relate to hard times and open their hearts to each



other. CalWORKs could have not given me a better path. They have given me a bond with students that I never knew I would have. They give me confidence to better my future and keep pushing forward even when I feel like giving up. I don't feel bad anymore for receiving help because I know we all are working to better our futures. The CalWORKs program has impacted my life tremendously in a positive manner and I believe it will for many other people in the future. The CalWORKs program not only helps you, but there is a community of people surrounding you who are willing to listen to you and help you hold yourself up and push forward for a better life.



Marisela Rodriguez

Hi, my name is Marisela Rodriguez. I am currently attending Modesto Junior College for my Associates Degree for a Chemical Dependency Counselor. I am involved in CalWORKs, CARE, EOP&S due to the fact I am a low-income single mother of four beautiful children. The challenges I have had to overcome was being a recovering addict back and forth in my addiction and finally making a wise decision that I want better for my life! I have been coming to Modesto Junior

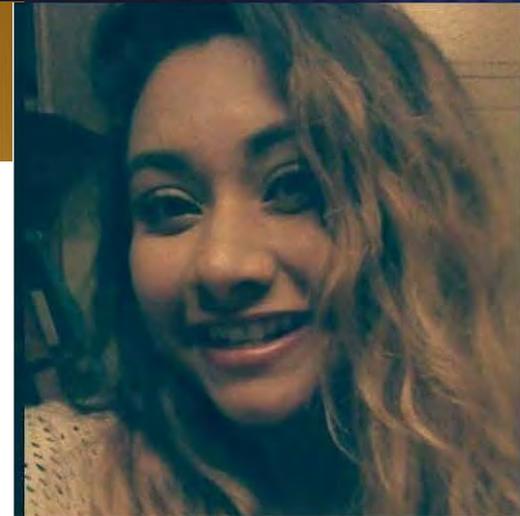
College since 2012/2013 and first started in BRIDGE program and successfully graduated that with Bryan Justin Marks. I found confidence in myself as a young mother of two at the time. I tried to keep up the confidence in myself and continue my education at college but was still in an abusive relationship with the father of my children. That is when my confidence was brought down, and I struggled to keep up the good work. I had some horrible semesters that brought down my GPA. Until now I almost have 2 years clean off drugs and alcohol and I am furthering my education in the field that is going to help me continue my sobriety and give back to others

what was so freely given to me. I found my passion in life to serve people and understand that I need help to and now I am not afraid to ask for it. I will be graduating after Spring 2020 and I am holding that goal high! I can do this! I appreciate CalWORKs and how they help us single parents in any way that they can help us grow and succeed in life! I want to be that example that their help was successful and give encouragement to others to participate and get all the benefits you can as a single parent trying to better their and their children's lives. Thank you CALWORKS for all your help! YOU'RE AMAZING!

Soleda Baltazar

Throughout my journey at Modesto Junior College I have overcome many challenges. Sacrificing time away from my daughter was one. Another challenge is having low income, going to school and working a minimum wage job hasn't been enough to own my own house. Aside from that, I have succeeded in getting an associate degree in Medical Assisting. The CalWORKs program is what got me

this far. This program has been a big advantage for me. They have helped me financially and have kept me on track with school, which has been a big help. I plan to be a Register Nurse. I have been involved with community service. Also working at the EOP&S office at MJC has had me involved with school and other activities. There has been struggles throughout this journey, but CalWORKs has



made education my priority with encouragement, grade checks, and meetings with a counselor each semester.

Steven Drummond

When I began my journey into college, I never imagined I would be returning to pursue a different degree and yet, here I am. I started this journey immediately after graduating from High School, but was derailed by negative events in my life. My brother ended up committing a crime in my vehicle and lead suspicion to me ultimately ending in my false arrest. I ended up dropping out of school for a few years free up time for work in order to afford a living space away from my brother. I got comfortable in this lifestyle for some time until I noticed all my friends were getting into high-paying careers that I would never achieve without a degree. At this point, I decided to go to vocational school to fast-track my career. I graduated at the top of my class from Institute of Technology's Network Support Technician Program and quickly found work in a related field. While spending my time in the workforce, I eventually realized that this is not the way I had imagined the work being. I began to lose interest in my ca-

reer and fell into a slump where I wasn't sure what to do with my life. During this time, I pursued job opportunities that required no education or work experience because I didn't have any relative to any jobs I would pursue. While working dead end jobs, I discovered that I would love a career in human resources. After a few years of hard physical labor jobs and the birth of my daughter I decided to go back to school and earn a degree in something to help me obtain a career in human resources. I have had tremendous success toward my educational goals so far by aligning my ed plan up with classes that closely relate to the field I wish to work in. Along with learning an abundance of new things, I have been keeping up with my GPA to earn honors when I graduate. These goals would never have been achievable if it weren't for the CalWORKs program. They have fought to get me a position on campus where I can work for grants while also allowing me to succeed in schooling with priority

registration, gas reimbursement, along with many other things. My plan is to start investing money into a roth IRA that will build into a nice college fund for my daughter. In the meantime, I will obtain experience in human resources by volunteering to shadow a member of human resources to advance my skills in the field, allowing me to be optimal for hiring immediately following my degree. With the assistance of the CalWORKs program, I am not only achieving success for myself, but I am also setting a very solid foundation for my daughter to pursue her dreams.





Aysha Valdivia

My name is Aysha Valdivia, I am 29 years old, and a single mother. I graduated from Ceres High School, in 2007. I have worked while attending Modesto Junior College (MJC), so that I can one day obtain a college degree.

However, at the age of 21 I got pregnant and gave birth to my son, Julius. It was difficult not only emotionally, having to go through my pregnancy alone, but also financially. In order to provide for my son, as a single mother, it required for me have to work and raise him full time, alone. Those two major responsibilities forced me to place my goals on pause. Obtaining my college degree has always been a goal of mine. My parents never emphasized the importance of education, nor spoke to me about college. Graduating high school was all that was expected. However, after having my son and working a job that I knew I didn't want for the rest of my life perusing to further my education became that much more important.

In the fall of 2012, a year after Julius was born, I eased my way back into MJC and enrolled in a couple of classes; not wanting to overwhelm myself. I had a successful semester therefore decided to take a couple more classes during the summer, of 2013. By the fall of 2013, I felt as if I had my time management under control and decided to attempt to become a full-time student, once again. After a lot of hard work, at the end of the fall semester I had made the Dean's List. I felt as if my academic career was finally progressing and I was unstoppable. I continued to excel but during the fall of 2015 I began a new job. I was excited about this new opportunity because that meant more income

for my son and I. However, I was concerned that the very limited flexibility of my new schedule would affect my ability to attend school and my responsibilities as a mother. As I anticipated, that is exactly what occurred. Due to the commute, of this new job, I spent most of my days working with very little time to spend with my Julius. Especially, because during this time he was starting school and was growing an interest in wanting to get involved in extracurricular activities. My focus was merely on financially providing for Julius, his education, and his activities.

During my 2016 school year I had only been able to complete one class, during the fall, due to my new job. I wasn't anywhere near where I had once been, in my eyes. During this time, I began to feel unhappy and unsuccessful in all aspects of life- school, work, socially, and in motherhood. My goals and dreams never felt so unattainable and unrealistic, like they did during this season of life. However, it was just that a season and I was not going to allow it to last any longer. I was determined to make a change as I had done once before. I took a leap of faith and resigned from my position at work and focused on becoming the best version of myself, for everyone I encounter, especially my son. While looking for a part time job, I began to attend school full time, and volunteering in my son's classroom. Being able to have the time to volunteer in my son's classroom not only helped build our relationship but also connected me with other parents, who got me more involved at my child's school, beyond his classroom.

Although, I had taken a huge hit financially, I felt much happier with my life with Julius and I noticed he did also; he had his mom back. However, the fear of how I would pay for all my college necessities, such as fees, books, parking, gas, ect., while struggling just to provide for my son still haunted me. That was until I was informed about the CalWORKs program, at MJC. MJC's

CalWORKs program is the reason I was able to compete all requirements to achieve my Associate of Science for Transfer Degree, in Administration of Justice, and my Associate of Arts Degree, in General Studies with an Emphasis in Social and Behavioral Science. They are the reason I have also completed all the requirements for my Certificate of Achievement Award in CSU General Education and have been accepted to attend California State University Stanislaus. In the Fall of 2018, I also managed to make the President's list. Choosing to put my son and education first was the best decision I ever made, but it would not have been possible without the knowledge, hard work and extreme kindness that all of the CalWORKs' staff provides; to help individuals like me to have an opportunity to succeed.

I have been chasing this dream for over a decade now and for once I feel as if I can actually see the light at the end of the tunnel. This journey has definitely been a long one and the saying "nothing good ever comes quickly or easy" couldn't ring any truer- to me. Achieving a degree was a goal I had not only set for myself, but for my family, being that I would be the first person in my family to attend and graduate college, but also for the community, in which I live in. When one person goes to college it changes the cycle of poverty and I want to be part of that change. I will now use my education as a platform to obtain a career, that allows me to continue to have a close relationship with my son, while being self-sufficient and part of that change. I understand that with the continued pursuit in my education it will only get much costlier. This award will not only help me where I am at now but also give me the boost I need into the future; so that I can continue to witness to other that all things are possible and there are good people and programs out there that are willing to help them accomplish their goals and dreams, like they did for me.

Mikaela Green



My name is Mikaela Green, I am a single mother of a 4-year-old, named Abram Jr., with another boy on the way. But these past few years have not been easy. At 4 months pregnant, the father of my children was sent to prison for over 3 years, leaving me to deal with raising a child on my own. The first 4 years of Abram's life, I struggled to find something to push me forward in life. The few jobs I had either laid me off due to unknown reasons or I was so miserable I had to let it go due to depression. I honestly was not sure how my life was going to end up. It was not until my childcare approval meeting that my intake caseworker suggested school to me in 2017. She asked me why I was not going to school, and I didn't have an answer for her, so I applied back to MJC. It was the best turning point for me. I made sure in the months before January that I had everything ready for school. CalWORKs and EOPS walked me through my appeal for financial aid. They told me everything I needed to be a part of

their programs. They connected me with other people and always made me feel like my success in college was their priority. Even when I am not the best me, Mary and Judy have pushed me to let me know that I am in the right steps toward my goals and that my goals are not out of reach. Being able to have automatic access to my case worker and having a cite to turn in all paper work needed on campus, has been a life saver in me pursuing to get my degree. I have a place where all my questions can be answered without me being nervous of not being able to turn in paper work on time or missing a due date. After I graduate, I plan to move to Fresno to complete my B.A. in Social Work at Fresno State and everyone in CalWORKs lets me know that I am on the right track to that. During this first year I have been involved in many programs on campus. I had a very successful year in the Bridge program my first se-

mester, so well that I was selected to be a tutor/mentor for the following Bridge class. I also was selected to be a CARE Council representative for the CARE program which helps single parents at MJC. On top of that, I have volunteered for many MJC events, which has helped me make many connections on campus to staff and other students. Without CalWORKs, being right there to support me, even sometimes being a shoulder to cry on, none of this would have been possible. I thank Judy and Mary every chance I get because they have kept me on track.

Veronica Nunez

I have overcome many challenges in my life that have allowed me to embrace the title of not only a strong intelligent woman but a survivor. I have freed myself from an abusive long-term relationship, which was not very easy but have gained an abundance of self-love, which was needed. My story also includes addiction and a lot of terrible details that go along with that such as being homeless and losing the respect of my family. Incarceration was my rock bottom and my goal was to regain the love of my children. Little did I know I never lost their love; my children just wanted their mama back. These past two years I have been focused on making positive changes in my life. I want nothing more than to be a mama to be proud of. Since my release of incarceration, I have gained my high school equivalency, registered in college at Modesto Junior College and am currently working on a double major of Human Services and Chemical Dependency Counseling. I have gained employment on campus, volunteer whenever possible both on and off campus,

remained abstinent from any and all drugs, with the support of many, and I am now an example for my children. My children have become a reaction of the positive changes in my life. I have had two of my sons grasp the opportunity to further their education as well and they are now enrolled here at Modesto Junior College as well. They tell me I am



their inspiration and I have embedded in them that there is no challenge that they cannot overcome. The CalWORKS program has helped me stay on track and has assisted me with resources to help me reach my goals. They have helped me with book vouchers, which I am truly grateful for because books are not cheap! They have also provided support through their counselors on campus which assist in

navigating and plan out realistic goals and help prepare educational plans that are reachable! I have made amazing progress so far, I was on the Dean's List this past summer and hold a G.P.A of 3.46. I have also learned to embrace the many programs and resources at MJC that will help me be successful in my educational career. As a mother, I understand that our children are our future. Therefore, I give back as much as possible. I have volunteered at The Hispanic Education Conference for the past two events; and share the importance of furthering their education. My children, grandchildren and I have also given back to the community by preparing meals and distributing them to the homeless. My recovery has allowed me to assist my 9 year-old autistic son reach his educational goals as well, he is now in a regular 3rd grade classroom setting. The CalWORKS program has opened so many positive doors that have allowed me to have hope that there is a better tomorrow, all I need is determination and anything is possible!

Sharon Grogan



It's a breezy day fairly cloudy but no chance of rain in sight, you're on a race track with you and two other race cars. You adjust your helmet and fasten your seat belt, and then look to your right and see the black and white checkered flag blowing in the wind. Then you look to the left and you see yourself driving the other two cars and then you realize you're in a race against yourself. My Journey here at Modesto Junior College has been filled with so many curves, speed bumps, and also triumph.

My name is Sharon Grogan I'm a 33-year-old single-mother to an almost 4-year-old named Melody Grogan. She is an amazing child whose talent, vocabulary, & creativity grows by the minute. Now that she is getting ready to turn 4 she is excited to attend pre-school

herself. Melody has seen me stay committed to my education being very diligent since 2015. I am currently a double major striving to obtain two degrees one in Office Administration and one in Clerical. The staff in the Modesto Junior College CalWORKs department along with professors, counselors, and case workers are the race-car pit crew. The pit crew team keeps me motivated and ne-tuned and on track ready to win the race to the degree.

Some personal challenges I have overcome was recently being diagnosed with cysts and fibroids. Having these issues has caused me a lot of pain from time to time. But I continue to overcome and push through the pain so I can attend classes and gain the knowledge I need to graduate. Some success that I have gained has been landing a job at Modesto Junior College in the Career Services Center as a student worker. Working in this department has given me first-hand knowledge & experience in what I want to do for my future career goals. Another success was being one of the four nominated for this scholarship. The community college

CalWORKs program has been tremendous in helping me meet my educational and career goals, so that I can have long-term economic self-sufficiency. The MJC CalWORKs program has helped me make education a priority for myself and my child because the benefits of being in the program, I have received priority registration to make sure I can get into the classes that I need to graduate. I'm also grateful for the Work-Study Opportunities, Academic Counseling meetings to make sure my educational plan is on track. As well as all the financial help with Childcare, Reimbursement's, and a personal dedicated case manager on campus. I have many plans in motion to become self-sufficient, but one major plan is putting my degrees in action and applying to jobs so that when I graduate, I will be in a great career. I have been involved in community service, I have volunteered at a place called The Hope Chest. This organization is a wonderful charity that provides funds to families who are in need of hospice facility care.

Jennifer Aguayo



I can start by saying that I have overcome on being

more dependent on myself by the CalWORKs program they have offered me help and so many doors have opened for me and have provided me books, clothing, work study, child care, etc and it helped motivate me to push myself toward my goals. I can say the CalWORKs program has helped me in a major way because the girls in the front always provide the information that you need when you not

sure about the questions your looking for. I can also say that the if wasn't for CalWORKs that a lot of moms and dads wouldn't have this opportunity to push for our dreams and get a good job to able to provide for our children. CalWORKs has made it possible for moms like us to push ourselves, believe in ourselves and follow our dreams.

Emy Desoto

As a first generation, and first time college student who relocated the Central Valley for a new career, I had challenges I needed to overcome. My biggest challenge was the lack of having a support network to guide me through the process. Fortunately, I was lucky enough to receive that support from the MJC CalWORKs program. I attribute them to my goals of successful enrollment as a student by providing important information, helping me put together an educational plan for a career in Real Estate, and realizing the im-

portance of independence. In the past, I have attempted attending college but I felt too lost in the process of enrolling. Sadly, I would continue to put my dream on hold. By staying motivated, following a plan, and having a support team as an MJC CalWORKs participant I can continue to meet my short term and long-term goals. I have two full time semesters to complete this year, I definitely on my way to a new life of independence, a rewarding education and new career. MJC has many resources available to ensure self-



sufficiency, I have contacted the MJC Career Services Center to begin receiving assistance with updating my resume and to attend career events. I am also excited about joining the Child Development Club. My journey through college has been great and I'm happy that I chose Modesto Junior College. It was one of the best decisions I've made.

Angelica Shidler

I am 23 years old, with three children. A set of twins, and a beautiful 4-year-old. My journey to becoming a student at Modesto Junior College is rough. I am a high school dropout, I dropped out at the age of 17. I dropped out because I had become pregnant with my first born, and because of religious reasons at that time. I was required to marry, in this relationship, I went through mental, verbal, and physical abuse. For a long time, it altered my brain to believe that I was ruined. I wanted to finish my schooling, but it was fear that really held me back. I was afraid of embarrassment, and not knowing much. I finally went in to study for my G.E.D. at Learning Quest Stanislaus Literacy. I successfully passed all my tests with one try, I was an official graduate from Learning Quest in April of 2018. I signed up for college in September of 2018 and started classes on August the 27th of 2018. I am a single mother of 3 children, a full-time student, and a student worker. I

work in Food Service on the East campus of Modesto Junior College. I currently have 12 credits, as of right now, my major is Nurses Association, next semester I will have a new major, that being Administration of Justice. Next semester I will be completing 21 credits. I am a very driven person, I am



passionate about becoming a medical examiner. The reason I chose this specific road is because, I love learning about the human anatomy, and why things happen. I am a big believer in justice, so many people are not given the justice they deserve or any at all. I consider myself to be a warrior, I

I have survived a domestic violent relationship, I am even smarter and sharper than I was before. That relationship has no “down sized me” it was made me grow. The past relationship has taught me to see my true worth. I am worthy of self-love, I am enough, and I do matter. I decided after I became a mother of three, that I had to go to college or find a job. I had nothing to offer my children. To be quite honest, I still have nothing but my love. I am attending school to learn a trade, a profession to make a good amount of dollars to support my children and myself. I want to be an inspiration to my children. When I was 10, I saw my mother walk the stage

graduation from Kaplan University. I remember playing with her graduation cap, reliving that day. Only I was the one who was graduating. I lost that before, but now I have it back, this time my children will play with my graduation cap, reliving that day in their room.

Lucia Oseguera

My name is Lucia Oseguera I'm a proud single mother to a beautiful 5-year-old daughter. As I'm writing this short biography I remember not too long ago during these holidays was the toughest to pass by. I have been homeless since I was 16 years old only because my entire family resides in Mexico. I moved to Modesto California with my then boyfriend and later got pregnant, and life changed completely. My daughter was born in 2013 and it was amazing. I learned to love, and I had more encouragement to work harder for her. My daughter's biological father and I had a conflict in interest because I wanted to pursue my education. My child's biological father kicked us out a year later. I was once again homeless, but this time with my baby. His reason was he wanted to live his life and enjoy it with many women, and if I wanted to stay in the house, my job was to clean after his family and still attend him like a woman such as cooking for him and ironing his clothes for his dates. His mother was in favor of this absurdity. Only because he was not supportive of my goal of furthering my educa-

tion. I immediately denied his proposal, which led them both to gather my stuff. I was boot-ed out with my daughter. Gospel mission was my home for a while. However, I eventually was very blessed and moved into Pathways a center for home-



less youth. My goal for attending college was still there. I eventually graduated from Pathway's and got my own apartment. The success I have had in progress toward my educational and career goals is thanks to CalWORKs I'm a MJC student. My life has had many up and downs. However, I have been blessed with amazing tools to move forward such as

CalWORKs. Thanks to CalWORKs, I am able to pursue my dreams of going to school. CalWORKs finally helps me maintain a job in MJC, which opens the opportunity to take 14 units. I want to raise my daughter and be by her side at all times. I want to let her know that being a single woman is not an obstacle. My plans to become economically self-sufficient is to apply all these life skills I have learned in my college lectures and work department and implement them in the real world also networking and connecting with my peers help me to open more doors for more job opportunities. I'm proud to say I am part of EOPS and the CARE program I also volunteer at Standiford Elementary "daughters school". Lastly, the CalWORKs Program has helped me make my and daughters education a priority because it's helping me fulfill my dream of furthering my education, and I already see an enormous difference in my life which is changing for the best thanks to CalWORKs. I will never give up and I will set an example for young single mothers.

Maricela Penalosa-Mendez



Hi, I am Maricela. I started college spring of 2017. It had been 9 years from when I last attended any school. When I first started college I was scared, confused, lost and overwhelmed. Staying focused has been my main struggle. I suffer from major anxiety. I recently learned how to keep my anxiety under control. It has been the hardest time for me. As soon as I started college, I found myself jobless, dealing with custody courts, trying to keep my children and I safe, away from the domestic violence we had previously experience. I had to make sure my children and I received counseling weekly. Also, my 4-year-old was born

with a Venus malformation, for the past 4 years I have been taking him to Children's Hospital in San Francisco. The only place that can treat him. It all piled up in the same year. Waking up every morning finding the strength to put myself together, telling myself I can overcome it all has yet been the biggest challenge. After a whole year of being stuck emotionally, I forced myself to find ways to balance custody courts, counseling, Dr. Appointment, support groups without it affecting my school. School is the only way out of my struggles. Starting spring 2018 I made a huge effort to stay focused. I had not yet received any grade higher than a C, but then summer came along. I devoted myself to my classes and finished the semester with two A's. I was very proud of myself, being my first A's and still dealing with all my other issues I manage to do good. This was a big deal for me. I began to believe in myself and now I have become more motivated to keep pushing through. I became a woman who can one day walk into a courtroom full

of anxiety, to the next day walking into a classroom feeling confident about taking an exam. Being in the CalWORKs program has helped me in many ways. The entire staff is amazing. All the women in the program have big hearts who only wish success and happiness for us the students. I have struggle financially since day one. The program has provided books, materials, child care for me to be successful in my classes. It honestly is a big blessing. As soon as I earn my associates, I will right away apply for many positions available so that I can start support my family on my own. So that I can give them a stable home. I will continue to attend school to earn my masters in psychology. I do volunteer work at my children's school, as well as joined the CARE Council as Secretary at Modesto Junior College. The CalWORKs program always reminds me that my situation is only temporary. I will make it through this time. CalWORKs is here to help me so that I can get back on my own feet.

Sokun Yoeung



Growing up as a first-generation American with strict refugee parents, I have faced challenges that shaped who I am today. I faced a language barrier, fear of a new culture, and being unable to rely on my parents due to these challenges.

However, new challenges are in my college years where I've faced EVERYTHING on my own.

Academic/Financial Aid dismissal, homelessness, and raising my children are my makers.

Dedication and discipline are how I've broken through these

challenges, and importantly, seeing happiness in my children's eyes awaken me to maintain a successful route in life. During my time at MJC, successes made are placing in the Dean's list in Spring 2017, making MJC history by taking part as a mural painter, and learning art forms in people, history, language, and so much more. Joining

MJC CalWORKs had brought me successful bouts prepared for the long run. CalWORKs granted priority registration leading me to prioritize school, aided in materials during financial hardships, and provided a worker who shaped me as the student, mother, and wife of today. I am a student worker for MJC's Community Education, a hostess at MJC's Art Gallery, and an Assistant Instructor for MJC's Art, Humanities, and Communications department. Finally, I've shaped myself into a

purple belt in American Kenpo Karate and a known painter at MJC. My plans to be self-sufficient is apply the knowledge and experience to become a community college instructor in the art, humanity, or communications field. As a role model for my children, the assistance of this scholarship would aid in building my professional portfolio and bring me a step closer to my dream career.

Kelly Tachiquin

What challenges have you overcome to pursue your degree or certificate? I am a single mom with two young sons, Levi 5 and Carter 4. Their father has been incarcerated since Levi was 3 months old and Carter has never met him. I also take care of my father who is sick with diabetes, hepatitis, and several other health problems.

What success have you had in progress toward your educational and career goals? I have been working on two degrees, respiratory therapist and human services. I have three more classes to complete before I can apply for the respiratory program. I currently enrolled in several human service classes and after spring semester I will just need my practicum completed.

How has the community college CalWORKs program helped you meet your educational or career goals? CalWORKs has helped me in

several ways: gas money, helping me afford my books, also emotionally I love how on holidays CalWORKs thinks of us and will have fun events for us and our children. My kids love going treat or treating on campus each year.

What are your plans for becoming economically self sufficient? I plan on working in either human services or respiratory and helping individuals who need help.

How have you been involved in advocacy, student leadership, community service, or extracurricular activities? I volunteer at a rehab right now in Ceres, it's called SRC. I volunteer in

the behavioral health part and get to help those with both drug addiction and mental illness. I love it. I love being able to help others and learn what they have overcome.

How has the community college CalWORKs Program helped you make education a priority for yourself and your children? By giving me priority registration to be able to take the classes I need to start my career and being able to show my kids how important school is. Also, helping me get a job on campus that I love. I'm so grateful for the CalWORKs program, if it wasn't for it I don't think I'd be able to be in school and be able to work.



Paige Hensley

Hello, my name is Paige Hensley, I am twenty-three years old, and I am a mother to a two-and-a-half-year-old little boy name Travis. This is my fifth semester attending Modesto Junior College, and my oh my it's been a journey. I have been a part of the CalWORKs Program since I started attending Modesto Junior College, with that I am also apart of EOP&S and the CARE Program. These Programs have helped me out tremendously with my college education, and without them I don't know where I'd be. From the help I have received from these programs, it has helped me to get to where I am today. When I graduated from high school, I had no intentions of going to college. See, I was supposed to graduate high school in 2013, and didn't graduate until 2014. This was my own fault, I just had zero interest in school. I knew it was wrong, and I finally realized that when I didn't get to walk the stage with all my friends that I had went to school for four years. Thankfully, I found the Come Back Kids Program and was able to graduate and be a part of the graduating class of 2014. Given my track record of not liking school I had no interest in going to college. A few years went by, and bam it was January of 2016, I had just found out I was expecting my first child. When I found out I was

pregnant I was only twenty years old, and I had no idea what I wanted to do with my life. I knew it was time to start figuring it out. On September 20th of 2016 I gave birth to the most precious thing that I had seen in the whole wide world. Over the summer of 2017 I really started to ponder on what I wanted from life. So, I decid-



ed to give college a try, and that summer I submitted my application for the 2017 Fall Semester at Modesto Junior College. In my first semester I decided to sign up for CalWORKs, EOP&S, CARE, and take twelve units while being a full-time mom to my almost one-year-old son. When I started college, I had no idea what I

wanted to do, and in the process of trying to figure that out I have changed my major three times. I finally have a plan, and that's being a third-grade-teacher. I will be graduating from Modesto Junior College in Spring of 2020 and I will be graduating with my AA in Social Behaviors, my AS in Elementary School Teaching, and I am just hours away from getting my Associate Teaching Permit. From Modesto Junior College I am planning on transferring to California State University Stanislaus in the Fall of 2020 to obtain my BA in Liberal Studies, and from there I will be starting my teaching career. It has been a long road. I have been a full-time student from the beginning, and just recently these past two semesters I have been taking fifth-teen units all while maintaining above 3.0 GPA every semester since the start. So far, I feel very accomplished, and I intend to keep striving. I know that one day my son will realize and appreciated everything I've done for us. He has truly made me do a remarkable turn on my life, and I will forever be grateful for him. I would like to thank CalWORKs and all my other programs that have helped me succeed on this journey I have endured so far. I'm excited for the end results, and what the future has in store for my son and I.

2018-2019 Scholarship Recipients



Lucia Oseguera
 Latina Leadership Network
 Soroptimist- "Live your Dreams"



Deirdre Korst
 Soroptimist- "Live your Dreams"



Christie Tinajero
 Soroptimist- "Live your Dreams"



Alissa Linerud
 The Peggy E. Goforth Memorial



Sokun Yoeung
 Bernard Other Foundation
 Blanca Lennae Fletcher Art Memorial
 Raymond Bates Art & Art History



Veronica Nunez
 W.E.L.L Women's Educational
 Leadership League



Emma Castanon
 Soroptimist- "Live your Dreams"



Jenna Deliddo
 Soroptimist- "Live your Dream"



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CalWORKs Program**

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