



*Journey House*  
Forever Changed

# NEWS

A Non-Profit Benefit Corporation Since 1983

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Fall 2014

## I Am a Proud College Graduate

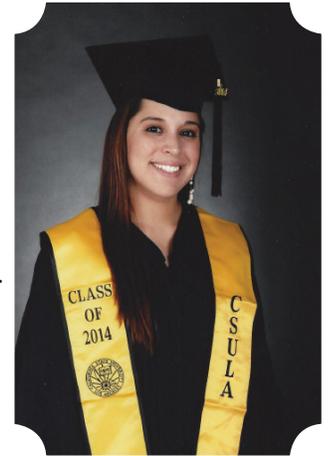
This is an unbelievable dream I never thought would actually occur. I was in the foster care system for eighteen years. I emancipated from the foster care system at the age of eighteen and have been living on my own ever since. Without the help I receive from Journey House I would be lost and, most likely, not able to continue my education.

I was taken away from my biological parents due to malnutrition and their drug use when I was three months old. I lived with my foster mother for sixteen years until she got deathly sick and died in 2007. Her death took a toll on my life, but I never gave up, especially in pursuing an education. It was always my goal to earn a degree in Social Work.

I attended Pasadena City College and earned my AA Degree in Sociology. My experience at PCC was wonderful. I was well connected with the financial aid office which helped me with scholarships. I struggled in the beginning of my first two semesters because my mom passed away, and I had to take a year off to get my mind back on track and get passed that emotional time. After PCC I enrolled at California State University, Los Angeles and entered their Social Work Program. My experience at Cal State L.A. was great.

I enjoyed all my courses and made so many friends. I always struggled in math which I ended up repeating three times. But I eventually passed all my required courses. I applied for EOP which is a program that helps low income students with books and counseling. Journey House was able to help me with my quarterly parking pass which cost \$90 and my books when I couldn't pay for them. With the help of the financial office and Journey House, I was able to receive my Bachelors in Social Work. I got accepted into Cal State L.A.'s Master's program in Public Administration. In September 2014, I started my graduate studies. Who would have thought!

I am very grateful to Journey House for helping me financially when I needed it, encouraging me to continue my education, but, most of all, just being available when I need to talk and discuss things. This agency does a lot of good for foster youth who really need the help, especially after years of living in the foster care system with very few resources.



Judeana



Sincerely,



**Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles**

MICHAEL D. ANTONIVICH  
SUPERVISOR

October 29, 2014

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to recognize Journey House alumna, and my staff assistant Judeana Velasquez. Judeana started in my office in 2011 as an intern, quickly establishing herself as a valuable asset to my team earning a promotion to a staff assistant.

Judeana has a deep desire to learn and to achieve – bringing with her critical thinking, problem solving abilities and a strong work ethic to every task she completes. She is well-liked by her colleagues, government personnel and constituents. Judeana is a success story of your organization and positive role model for our foster youth in Los Angeles County.



## Board Profile

I am so proud to be a part of Journey House because I often ask myself if we were not in place to help our graduates where would they be? Who would help them? I strongly believe they would become discouraged and not complete their AA and BA degrees, or even graduate from high school or technical school - which is one of the many things that JH supports them in doing.

Because of the drying up of funds in a lot of public programs I feel confident knowing that we are picking up the slack; and helping our recipients navigate through the existing social systems to get the help that they may qualify for and not know exists.

When I explain to people what JH does, I summarize by saying we are the parents they wished that they had. We help them in every way possible to fulfill their dreams, and sometimes, just to have a roof over their heads, or a ride to the doctor, or money for the books they need. We help with large issues and some seemingly small issues. It's these small issues that can add up and if not overcome, push a person to stop trying. JH is there for big stuff and the small stuff. Standing with our recipients to see them through it all. - *Venise*

### Board of Directors

Fred Wong, Esq. - President	Byung Jung Jhung
Venise Williams - Finance (Interim)	Patrick Mayworm
Ben Sarafi - Secretary	Kevin Sanchez
Andrew Cooper	Ron Younker
Tim Mayworm - Executive Director - Jorge Camarena - Program Director	

## ADOPT A STUDENT *A College Program for Former Foster Youth*

### *How It Works*

You will have an opportunity to meet and choose a student who you would like to help. You choose how much you would like to give on a monthly or annual basis. You will have the opportunity to have direct contact with the student at your convenience.

### *Who It Helps*

Former foster youth who are completing their higher education degrees such as; Chris at University of La Verne, Selenia at St. Mary's College, Crystal at San Francisco State University, and other students at area Community Colleges.

## Continuing the Legacy of Journey House

Some long-time donors (those who have supported Journey House for 20 to 30 years) as well as the founder, Tim Mayworm, and the staff and Board of Directors have express concern about the future of Journey House and how its 31 years of serving foster youth can be guaranteed for future generations of foster youth. Consequently, a group of supporters are engaged in creating a viable long-term financial package, which will include our customary fund raising efforts (newsletters, grant writing, and personal contacts), but will also include avenues of giving, such as estate planning, wills, and the establishment of an endowment.

Our focus is simply to ensure that future generations of emancipated foster youth will have the benefit of Journey House services. This is a very exciting forward-thinking progression of our service to foster youth since 1983.

Please consider us in your will and, after consulting your family and financial advisor, consider donating elements of your estate to Journey House. Not only will you be honoring the founder and all those who have been devoted to Journey House in perpetuity, but your legacy of concern for the aged-out foster youth of our community will live on. Please mail or call Journey House with your intentions of how you plan to help Journey House continue its vital services.