



Jeremiah's Promise Fall Newsletter, Inc.

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Financial and People Resources

If the idea of the You Have What It Takes workshops appeals to you, please consider a tax-deductible gift to help us fully fund this life-changing series that is a first of its kind to be offered on college campuses. If you feel compelled to facilitate or to help behind the scenes, then contact us at info@jeremiahspromise.org. For more info, please visit our website at www.jeremiahspromise.org.

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Meeting Them Where They Are

Why doesn't anyone understand me? How come I don't feel like I get respect from people? Will anyone ever love me just for me? Am I always going to be known as just a 'foster kid'? These are painful questions played over and over again in the minds of young people who - through no fault of their own - spent part or all of their childhood in foster care. We aim to tackle these questions in a new college-based series "You Have What It Takes." Monthly ground breaking workshops will be offered next quarter to former foster youth enrolled in local community colleges. The platform is designed for a facilitator to start the session and have the participants flesh out the answers to some really tough questions that frequently plague former foster youth. Among the topics are Strength through Adversity, The Big Secret: We ARE all That, Workplace Etiquette, Worthy of Respect, and Behaviors and Emotions that Get in Your Way. In addition, students will meet professionals from an array of career sectors to discover more job options. We also have some paid internship possibilities for youth who are interested. Better still, some of the workshops will be lead by our former residents who have

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experiences and knowledge of their own to share. We can't wait to meet these youth right where they are at!

Taking Charge of Her Life

An is a 19 year-old sophomore at DeAnza College who was among the last of the Jeremiah's Promise residents. The past year has been challenging for her as a young woman, yet she has grown in ways beyond her imagination. A young couple stepped forward to house her until June of this year. She worked, saved her money and when job demands forced the couple to relocate to another country, she was able to move into a studio apartment. Along with her mentor, JP worked behind the scenes to ensure she had viable housing options and were thrilled with her current living arrangements. She says she is really happy now. An told us she earned two promotions at work. She carries a 3.9 GPA, and has been accepted at Santa Clara University when she completes DeAnza. "I also have a group of people who are working with me to get into Stanford," she said recently. "They think I would do well there." She also remembered what she was taught at JP about student grants and scholarships and now has "maxed out" her scholarship options giving her financial breathing room. At present she is working toward her driver's license and the purchase of her first car. A volunteer with JP has been helping her toward car ownership. JP's chief executive gave her a driving lesson this week and was MUCH relieved to discover An's ability to catch on quickly. There should have been no doubt given her past track record in life.