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To Whom It May Concern:

..... was one of the few students, the Equity & Student Wellness office was able to connect with during the pandemic and campus shut down. He initially accessed services through the Basic Needs Center to address food insecurities then through a foundation of trust requested help in other areas. As a young military veteran, first-generation to college, Filipino student, has been met with many challenges but none greater than addressing his basic needs. Some of the greatest barriers to ... achievements has been housing insecurity and the need for mental health support. He has pushed past these challenges time and time again to demonstrate a resilience that is unmatched by many of his peers.

..... financial struggles have also made it difficult to remain as dedicated as he is to his studies. Nonetheless, he manages to hold an above average GPA of 3.78. This is a tremendous accomplishment in and of itself. His ability to prioritize his student workload through personal challenges is rare and truly commendable.

.... is more than worthy and in need of this scholarship as he continues his journey with transferring to San Jose State University to obtain a BA in Kinesiology. is on a path to success. More importantly, he is also just beginning his journey of self-healing and asking for help when needed. It has been my honor to have been a part of this journey and truly believe that he will positively impact those he encounters and through a career in promoting positive physical health.

I strongly recommend for the H.E.R.O. scholarship.

Sincerely,

Laura Salinas

Director of Equity & Student Wellness