

... Rojas finished her graduation requirements early after transitioning to the Independent Learning Academy her senior year in order to navigate her new medical diagnosis of multiple sclerosis. The hospitalizations and constant headaches she was enduring made going to traditional high school challenging. Facing the mental aspects of this new diagnosis and what it meant for her future as well as her senior year also has created hardship for her.

... has not given up on her dreams. She plans to go to LTCC for two years and transfer to ASU to become a business major. She intends to open her own clothing store in the future.

... is the younger sister of two teen Moms. She has been exposed to addiction and incarceration from a very early age. The simple fact that she has avoided all of these pathways in addition to fighting for her health during the pandemic is unbelievable. She has defied the odds stacked against her and I am honored to suggest her for a HERO scholarship.