



SOUTH TAHOE HIGH SCHOOL

Home of the Vikings

has a magnetic personality. People are drawn to her for her warmth, sense of humor, and her compassion. She makes people feel better and has a strong desire to help others. has lived a life of poverty. Her father was deported when she was nine years old, leaving her mother to solely provide for their two children. Her mother often worked two to three jobs to try to make ends meet. Finding well-paying work was difficult being undocumented. The family originally came to California to get their youngest daughter medical care for her hearing loss. With her mother working so much, was left to take care of her younger sister. She had to make meals, clean the house, and make sure they were ready for school every morning. Working more than two jobs sometimes was not enough to pay for housing. They moved in with a family member several times because they could not afford rent. The family would sleep in the living room trying not to be too impactful. After time periods of up to a year they were finally able to move into low income housing where the girls were able to have a bed and their own room. At the age of fifteen began working every day after school and on weekends to help support the family. Things were settling in to a more normal pattern, but it was during this time that her mother had her first set of strokes. She was dealing with partial paralysis and it was discovered that she had diabetes along with a rare heart condition that was incurable. Her mother suffered more strokes and was hospitalized in Reno during Junior year. Academically, this took a toll on xxxx's grades. She would go to Reno on weekends and after school knowing that her mother only had a few months to live. Despite these obstacles, passed her classes and has met the A-G requirements to attend college. You would think that with so much hardship she would have shut down, but instead she has kept her positive attitude and persevere. Her mother passed away and is now living with a family member in an unhealthy environment. She hopes to attend CSU Sacramento and would like to become a nurse. After the experience she had with her mother she saw that nursing would be the perfect career for her to help others. is ready to live on her own and create a healthy living situation for herself. She feels that college is her only way to move out of the cycle of poverty that she has been trapped in. She has a passion for learning and zest for life. Financial aid has covered her tuition and fees but falls short in covering her living expenses. hopes with working this summer and during school, along with scholarship awards, to make up the difference.