

# JOB Transitional Living Program

*A Program of Catholic Charities of Los Angeles, Inc.*

## Fall 2020 Newsletter

### *Introducing Our Newest Residents*



**Matthew** is an eighteen-year-old former foster youth that aged out of the system and joined the JOBE Program in July 2020. **Matthew** recently graduated high school and started his freshman year at Los Angeles Pierce College. **Matthew** has chosen Computer Science as a major and looks forward to obtaining a career in that field. He enjoys electronics and listening to music. **Matthew's** goals include obtaining a driver's license, saving money to purchase a car, and earning work experience.



**Tony** is a twenty-four-year-old former foster youth that attends classes at Cal State University Northridge. **Tony** is a senior and will be graduating in Spring 2021 a degree in Computer Science. **Tony** joined the JOBE program in July 2020 because he lost his housing during the COVID-19 pandemic. **Tony's** goals include obtaining his own apartment after transitioning out of the JOBE program, jump starting his career in the world of technology, and learning how to play the piano.



**Elmer** is an eighteen-year-old former foster youth that aged out of the system and joined the JOBE Program in July 2020. He is a freshman at Pierce College majoring in Kinesiology. **Elmer** enjoys physical fitness, sports, and athletic activities. He aspires to use his education to become a personal trainer in the future. **Elmer's** goals include obtaining a driver's license, saving money to purchase a car, and earning work experience.

### *Message from the Director*

I would personally like to take this opportunity to welcome our new residents to the JOBE program, **Elmer**, **Tony**, and **Matthew**. They all have similar goals in life, education, gaining work experience, learning valuable life skills and achieving success. However, the common goal JOBE attempts to instill in all its residents is laying the foundation for a successful, rewarding life. Working hard and earning everything in life is a quality that will benefit our residents throughout their entire lives. Our residents have adapted well to the challenge of virtual learning during this difficult time. Also, I would like to express a special "thank you" to new donors, **Alejandra** and **Sean Kiernan**. During 2020, **Alejandra** and **Sean** have donated many items to the JOBE program: a laser printer, DVD's, gently-used clothing, and housewares. Most importantly, **Alejandra** and **Sean** have referred numerous friends who have also donated to support JOBE's mission. Through the generosity of benefactors and Catholic Charities of Los Angeles, JOBE continues to serve the most vulnerable, former foster youth/homeless youth.

Sincerely,

Keith Wieser  
Program Director  
JOBE Transitional Living Program

**For more information about  
JOBE Transitional Living Program, visit:  
[www.jobetlp.org](http://www.jobetlp.org)**

## Resident Success Stories



**Jerry**, a former resident of the program, was recently hired with the Los Angeles County Coroner's Office. **Jerry** is a former foster youth and was a resident of the program from 2014 to 2015. **Jerry** has always been ambitious. In 2015, he graduated with a degree in Biology from Cal State Northridge and became an EMT. During that time, **Jerry** also joined the JOBE Team and worked as a counselor with the very same program he graduated from. **Jerry's** life experience helped him relate to the residents of the program and become a lifelong inspiration to them. We are proud to say that **Jerry** continues to strive for success several years after transitioning out of the program.



**Aaron**, a current resident of JOBE, obtained his license and purchased a car! **Aaron** has been in the program for five months and has done an excellent job saving his money and budgeting, which allowed him to be able to purchase his car without financing. This was an exciting goal for **Aaron** and another step towards his independence.

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### Our Mission

The mission of JOBE Transitional Living Program is to create a trauma informed, culturally aware, and safe environment for our Transitional Aged Youth (TAY)/homeless youth to utilize their individual strengths to end the cycle of poverty and become pillars of the community.



### Virtual Learning at JOBE

The Study Room at JOBE has been used around-the-clock since the beginning of school closures. The Study Room is a quiet space that is equipped with multiple desks, high-speed internet, and printers to support residents as they complete their online classes during this time of virtual learning. **Destiny** (pictured above), a resident of the Women's Program, comes to the JOBE House several times a week to log in for her online classes, study, and complete her assignments.



### Making the Best out of Summer

The beginning of summer is usually something that college students look forward to. It is the perfect time to put down the books, enjoy the warm weather and spend time with friends and loved ones. Due to county-wide shutdowns, JOBE residents did not have much to look forward to once the spring semester ended. However, the JOBE Program has done its best to get creative and make the best of summer during the COVID-19 pandemic. There were plenty of trips to the beach, hiking adventures (see photo above), and poolside barbecues at the JOBE House. Residents of Rancho San Antonio Transitional Housing Program, a local housing program for former foster youth, were also included in the fun. All activities were done safely while practicing social distancing. Special thanks to **Counselor Mike** for organizing these events and making it all happen!

## Recent Birthdays at JOBE

Birthdays are always a huge celebration at JOBE. Normally, JOBE staff and residents will gather at a restaurant chosen by the birthday boy or gal. Unfortunately, we have had to make some adjustments due to the pandemic and celebrate the resident birthdays at the JOBE House. It turns out that birthday dinners at the house are much more enjoyable than eating out at a restaurant! Everyone orders an individually-packed meal and gets exactly what they want. In order to keep everyone safe, the birthday boy or gal has a bowl of ice cream with a candle for them to blow out after making a birthday wish.



Kevin (pictured above) celebrating his 24<sup>th</sup> birthday.



Darryl (pictured above) celebrating his 25<sup>th</sup> birthday along with his lovely girlfriend, Emelyn.

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## Resident Success Stories



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**Matthew**, (pictured above on the left), obtained his driver's permit! He has only been in the program for two months and is already meeting major benchmarks. Although he is nervous to take the behind-the-wheel exam, he has a great instructor who will be teaching him how to drive. **Darryl** (pictured above on the right), a current resident, has volunteered to teach **Matthew** how to properly drive and learn the rules of the road. We appreciate **Darryl's** willingness to assist younger residents achieve their goals. **Darryl** has successfully taught several other friends and residents of the program how to drive in the past.



**Xina** (pictured above) has obtained a license and her own car! **Xina** has been in the JOBE program for one year and has reached many benchmarks. She has successfully passed her classes and has begun her second year at Cal State Northridge. **Xina** is a very hard-working and ambitious individual who worked two jobs during the summer and is currently taking sixteen units for the Fall 2020 semester. We are excited to see what goals **Xina** will achieve next.

## Recent Birthdays at JOBE

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**Aaron** (pictured above) celebrating his 19<sup>th</sup> birthday.



**Matthew** (pictured above) celebrating his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.



### Please Pass the Bread

“Etiquette & Table Manners” was the topic of discussion at the most recent Life Skills class. A mock restaurant was set up at the JOBE House where residents were the patrons and staff acted as servers. Residents practiced how to properly use utensils and display etiquette at the dinner table. Image is important and table manners are an excellent way to make a good impression. This was by far our most enjoyable and interactive Life Skills class yet!



### JOBE Launches Social Media

The JOBE program is now live on Instagram ([@jobe\\_tlp](#)) and Facebook (“**JOBE Transitional Living Program**”). Get connected and stay updated on everything happening at JOBE. You can see fun pictures and videos of our residents, learn information about foster youth and homelessness, and get access to useful resources that you can use for yourself or pass along to someone in need. Special thanks to former **Counselor Bree** for launching JOBE’s social media and **Counselor Maria** (pictured above) for taking over. Follow, like, and share with your friends! You can also stay updated and learn more about JOBE by visiting our website at [www.jobetlp.org](http://www.jobetlp.org).



### Who’s Cooking?

Learning how to cook is an integral part of the JOBE program. It is an important life skill that all residents will learn during their time at JOBE. We implement this by requiring one resident each night to cook dinner for the house. Residents are encouraged to get creative and try new recipes. **Aaron** (pictured above on the left) and **Kamau** (pictured above on the right) were caught making a healthy breakfast together before class. **Aaron** always goes above and beyond to assist others in the kitchen and teach his housemates how to cook. **Kamau** takes pride in starting each day with a big, healthy breakfast.