

JOBE Transitional Living Program

A Program of Catholic Charities of Los Angeles, Inc.

Spring 2020 Newsletter: Graduation Edition

Congratulations to the Class of 2020!



Congratulations to CSUN graduates, **Kevin** (resident pictured on the left), **Maria** (counselor pictured in the center), and **Edwin** (resident pictured on the right), who have made it to the finish line! **Kevin** joined the program in 2018. He has earned a bachelor's degree in Sociology with an emphasis in Criminal Justice. **Kevin** is interested in enrolling in a graduate program for Social Work. His ideal school is University of Southern California. **Maria** has worked as a live-in Counselor for the Women's Program of JOBE since 2017. She has earned a bachelor's degree in Sociology with an emphasis in Criminal Justice and Chicana and Chicano Studies. **Maria** will continue to be a valued employee of JOBE and work to positively influence the lives of our residents. **Edwin** is the longest-tenured resident and has been with the program since 2015. He has earned a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering. **Edwin** intends to obtain a career in the aerospace industry. **Kevin**, **Maria**, and **Edwin** have been dedicated students that worked hard to complete their education. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, they were unable to physically walk the stage along with the rest of the Class of 2020. Despite the circumstances, we honor **Kevin**, **Maria**, and **Edwin's** achievements and are very proud of them. As first-generation students, they all have become role models for our current and future residents to come.

Letter from the Director

We are thankful for our dedicated team members who are working every day to provide support and essential services to the residents of JOBE. The strengths of JOBE are the outstanding, dedicated staff and our resilient residents who persevere through all challenges. The dedication of the JOBE staff gave hope to the residents that they had the support to succeed during the COVID-19 pandemic. Overnight, classes were switched to online courses and college campuses were shut down. The JOBE residents immediately adapted and completed the semester mostly through Zoom. This has been especially challenging for our seniors, Edwin D. and Kevin. Both of whom graduated in May 2020. Edwin was part of a group that built a plane this semester for a required Mechanical Engineering class. Building the plane required working on weekends and evenings. Kevin majored in Sociology with an emphasis in Criminal Justice. JOBE continues to comply with all CDC and county requirements during the pandemic. Residents are adhering to the "Safe at Home" order and are wearing protective gear provided by JOBE when they do go into the community. All employees are wearing face coverings, washing their hands frequently, sanitizing common areas periodically throughout the day, and practicing social distancing. Although this is a difficult time, we are working together to do our part to keep everyone at JOBE safe and healthy during this unusual time.

Sincerely,
Keith Wieser
Program Director

Introducing our Newest Residents



Aaron is an eighteen-year-old former foster youth that joined the JOBE program in April 2020. **Aaron** is a freshman at California State Northridge majoring in Electrical Engineering with an emphasis in Biomedical Engineering. He was referred by ILP Coordinator, Dede Kuper. **Aaron** previously lived in the CSUN

dorms and, unfortunately, needed to vacate and find stable housing due to the COVID-19 school closures. **Aaron** is a very well-rounded young man with many interests. He is involved in multiple clubs on campus, speaks German, loves to cook, and is very sociable. **Aaron's** goals include obtaining a driver license, enrolling in an engineering internship, and utilizing the scholarship that he was awarded to a culinary school. **Aaron** has been a great addition to the JOBE program.



Darryl is a twenty-four-year-old former foster youth that joined the JOBE program in May 2020. **Darryl** needed stable housing because he recently lost his job and housing during the COVID-19 pandemic. **Darryl** previously worked as a Data Analyst prior to being laid off. He is currently actively seeking employment. **Darryl**

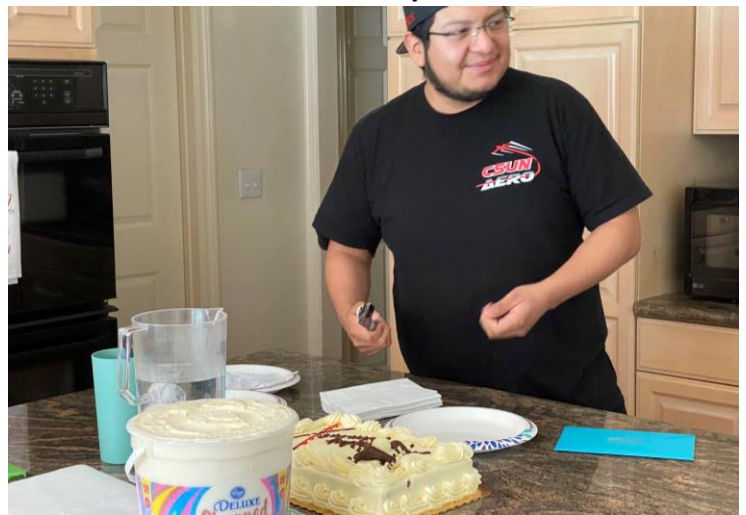
earned bachelor's degree in Mathematics from Cal-State Los Angeles in 2019 and is awaiting acceptance into graduate school for Fall 2020. **Darryl** is talented at playing the guitar. He is also quite the thrill seeker and has gone skydiving, bungee jumping, and ziplining. **Darryl's** goals include obtaining employment, continuing to build his savings, earning a master's degree in Business Administration, and learning how to surf.



Lucky Strike!

As a kickstart to the Spring 2020 semester, JOBE residents and staff joined for a group outing. Delicious food was enjoyed during lunch at El Torito. Afterwards, the group headed to Matador Bowl for a little friendly competition. This was a first-time experience for a few of our residents, but one resident, Shalamar, showcased his hidden talent of excellent bowling skills. Who knew he could bowl so well? Overall, it was a fun day filled with laughs and quality time spent.

Edwin celebrates his 26th Birthday



Wendy celebrates her 21st Birthday



For more information about JOBE
Transitional Living Program, visit
our website at:

www.JOBETLP.org