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East High School

I grew up with the strong smell of alcohol lingering about, and white lines of powder laid out on the coffee table. I had drugs and alcohol acting as parental figures in my life. I grew up in the ugliest house on the block where I shared a room with six people on the floor. I was familiar with financial insecurity and a life lived on welfare. I was familiar with letters from the prison and the empty feeling in my stomach when I went to bed without dinner. Despite the loud and abusive environment I grew up in, I still managed to obtain a happy personality and I performed very well in school, always having almost perfect attendance and sufficient grades. However, within the span of one year, when I was 14, I lost three very significant family members in my life, including my father. These events were life shattering, and I soon was evicted from my house and the only option I had was to live with a friend. I had to work 30 hours a week during school to be able to pay my bills at only 16. Within time, I saved up enough to buy myself a nice car, but within only a month of owning it, another car crashed into me. Now, I struggle with PTSD and anxiety every day I get into a car. Although, I had many road blocks in my life, I have always been motivated to succeed and overcome my past. Success and happiness is all I have ever wanted, and I managed to obtain sufficient grades in school with the ability to participate in community service despite having to work part to full time. I am an over achiever, I am a hard worker, I am a driven individual.

My motivation is my past experiences, although I have overcome them I am still driving and pushing myself to be the best version of myself possible. What inspires me to push harder is my future, I strive and desire to have a bright future so badly. The possibility of holding success in my hands is such a dying urge I have. I want to be better than my parents, I want to be better than I thought I was, I want to be the best me I can. I aim to adopt my childhood and turn it into a passion. My intention is to study psychology and get my bachelor's degree to become a family social worker. I have always been fascinated by the "system" as it is often called, and how crazy familiar my life was to other children. I watched shows and documentaries about the foster system and the process of children being placed in group homes. I also love children, which is why I chose to participate in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program for a year. Moreover, I have eternally been enthralled by the concept of drugs and alcohol. I remember being only 10 years old looking up the effects of methamphetamines. Ultimately, I have always been engrossed with psychology and sociology. To conclude, I believe I would be an efficient social worker. I aspire to help people and children who had similar issues as myself growing up. I yearn to aid people and be the motivation for them to overcome their own obstacles.

What I bring to the table is more than just your average meal, I am an ambitious individual who is ready to serve the community in any way possible. This scholarship is right for

me because it will aid me in path of success so that I can achieve my dreams and further be able to enhance the dreams of many in the future.

This scholarship will support my goals and I by adding some financial coverage to my plans for college. It will take some of the weight of college expenses off my back and give me the hope and urge to finish college without too much strain. It will encourage me to pursue my ambitions and strive to be the best student in college, knowing that someone else's money is being put on the line for me because I earned it.