



saint john's
PROGRAM FOR REAL CHANGE

GRADUATION 2023

Friday, July 21, 2023 • 6 p.m.



A MESSAGE FROM JULIE HIROTA CEO SAINT JOHN'S PROGRAM FOR REAL CHANGE



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On behalf of your Saint John's family, I extend a sincere congratulations to the Summer Class of 2023! You have been an exceptional representative of Saint John's Program for REAL CHANGE. I am confident that you will continue to be worthy ambassadors for this program as you move forward with courage and confidence.

You have embraced the opportunity to be the best version you can be for yourself and your family. As you take your next steps, I encourage you to remember why you walked through the red doors and the hard work you put in to make it happen.

I would also like to give special thanks to the families, friends, and Saint John's staff that have walked alongside our graduates for their kindness, patience, understanding, sacrifices and support during this challenging and rewarding journey. Each one of you can appreciate the shared feeling of pride in what your graduate has accomplished and future opportunities.

In the days to come, I would ask that you not forget Saint John's, the staff, and fellow and future graduates. I invite you to remain a part of the Saint John's family through our Alumnae Program, Guest Chef Dinners and in other ways, but also, we welcome you to keep us updated on the many achievements you will experience in your life.

Congratulations again to the graduates of Saint John's Program for Real Change. The entire Saint John's Family is very proud of you!

Take care and stay in touch!

Julie Hirota, CEO
Saint John's Program for Real Change

GET IT *done*



SHOW UP



DO THE WORK



MOVE FORWARD



CELEBRATE!!!!

GOT IT

done



Jessica A.

After six years of addiction to pain meds, I came to Saint John's broken, alone and with mental health issues. I began to heal with the support of the community, the sisterhood, therapy, and the wonderful and amazing staff. The most important being the love of everyone there. They helped me love myself again and become the best me I could be. I love who I am today because of Saint John's. Two years and three months today clean and sober. Thank you Saint John's program for real change.

Love,
Jessica A. ♥



Cyrinana C.

When I came to Saint John's, I was looking for a new beginning and a safe, stable environment. Being here, I found the courage and strength to be the mother my children deserve. I also worked towards getting my high school diploma through Highlands. Now I'm working at Contractor's Warehouse full time. My family and I have moved into our own home -- Clean, sober, and happy.



Aisha C.

Originally from the Oroville area, I found myself homeless in a metropolitan city. I came from another shelter that wasn't giving me the growth needed to really take my next steps. I entered the program completely broken and unsure if I had made the right choice. They accepted me for who I was, I stuck with it, got through all of the course work, and found my will to live again. I'm so thankful for the opportunity to work on myself. I'm gainfully employed and I'm doing well. I owe it all to Saint John's. As I've said it to most of our case managers, thank you for all that you do! I appreciate the program and the opportunity to get back on my feet. I couldn't have done it without you.



Darlene G.

Hello, my name is Darlene and today I'm going to tell you how Saint John's help change my boys and my life. We came here homeless and alone but left with a home, a career, and new friends.

At first, I was afraid I made a mistake coming here but being here at Saint John's and finishing the program was a life changer and I couldn't ask for a better ending. Saint John's promises change for a better life as long as you work hard and do what is asked. You too could be a graduate from Saint John's.



Monica K.

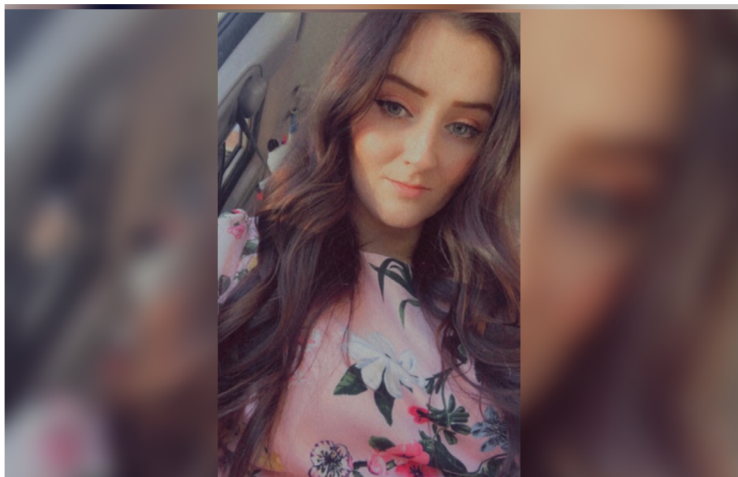
I came to Saint John's over a year ago after a couple attempts of trying to get in the program and the timing wasn't right. I knew I needed some help getting my life back on track for myself and my kids. Since being at Saint John's, I have reunited with my two youngest children, I've completed multiple life skills classes and I completed vocational training which helped me get a dream job at Sutter Club. In addition to the great things I've accomplished, I have also made some great friends and built supportive relationships with clients and staff. I feel good about everything I have accomplished, and I am excited for what the future holds.



Sinath K.

Saint John's brought me the real change I wanted and needed, but never had. They allowed me the opportunity to prosper and accomplish reaching my goals, no matter how big or small.

Communication isn't my strong suit, but all I know is that I had guidance every step of the way from CMs and staff. Lastly Saint John's helped me feel at home when I was without a home. And I thank them every day for helping build me up to being the person I am today.



Karina K.

I wasn't looking forward to coming to Saint John's. I knew I needed to get my life back in order. I came in very focused, and I didn't care if I made any friends in the process, but despite that thinking, I did. I'm happy I get to graduate with my best friend. I am doing really well now, and I have a great job where I've already been promoted. My two kids are not only doing well, but they're thriving, and I am proud of myself for everything I have accomplished.



Roselind M.

What brought me to Saint John's? If you would have asked me this question a year ago I would have broken into tears about leaving my abusive relationship and becoming homeless. Today I say The Most High God brought me to Saint John's. He saw the direction my life was headed in and he rerouted me and my daughter right through the red doors of Saint John's Program for Real Change. Once through those doors everyday was a battle to break old habits and mindsets but through therapy, classes and an increase in my faith in God my daughter and I were both able to shed some of our dead weight. My daughter and I were able to gain stability and structure while learning and growing with each other. Through the grace of God and Saint John's support my daughter and I are no longer just surviving, We Are Thriving! All Praises to The Most High!



Ashley P.

I first came to Saint John's with a grim support system and no hope. I had no source of income and nowhere to stay, but I persevered. Since coming to Saint Johns, I've gained an amazing support system and hope for the future. I have a job, a car, a place to stay, and plans for the future that are finally realistic. I found hope, love, and peace through Saint John's and I'm excited to continue my journey of self discovery.