

GOD'S LOVE

Our Hands



Kimberly's Story

Kimberly's parents left El Salvador due to the devastating impact of the country's civil war on her community. After a very difficult road they ultimately made their way to the US where Kimberly eventually joined the LSS Southern California Upward Bound (UB) program at San Ysidro High school.

Kimberly immediately became an asset and star student of the program. Once given the basic stability necessary for any student to succeed, she instantly excelled academically, adopting a very rigorous AP based course schedule, while also enrolling in several afterschool programs, like LSS Upward Bound.

Kimberly is the epitome of an Upward Bound student. She can often be found after school in the LSSSC Upward Bound classroom, participating in the tutoring program, volunteering for community service trips, SAT Prep Sessions, academic workshops and more.

In addition to her academic excellence, Kimberly also has strong leadership skills and regularly updates her peers on matters of social importance to their schools, families, personal rights and education. She often utilizes her social media to keep them informed of changes in the school district, area and national politics, school events and other key areas.

Kimberly is always in search of programs to expand and strengthen her educational experience. While participating in Upward Bound she's also enrolled in the very competitive Quest Bridge Prep Scholar program and Berkeley Virtual Experience Program. As a result of her hard work, we are proud to announce that Kimberly was accepted to Stanford University for the Fall 2021 semester. She is the first LSS Upward Bound student to attend that prestigious university.

Most importantly Kimberly is the first in her family to attend a post-secondary institution. We are so very proud of Kimberly and the team at LSS Upward Bound who work tirelessly to ensure a pathway to success for students like these.

The LSS Upward Bound/TRIO program has had to make a number of significant shifts to accommodate the virtual pivot of our institutions.

From basic school supplies to laptop computers and scientific calculators, the students' needs range from pencils, pens, binders, line and graph paper to small white boards (for the AP Calculus students) laptops and Chromebooks. In some cases, the LSS team has had to lend out their own laptops to help students connect to classes.

Participating in hours of Google Classroom, and ZOOM trainings they quickly shifted their physical curriculum (tutoring, academic advising, college and FAFSA applications workshops, mentoring, etc.) to a digital offering with little to no interruption.

That is just a small example of how LSS goes beyond for our clients, students and community. Your generosity and life changing contributions make that difference possible for students like Kimberly, their families and those to come. To learn more, visit lsssc.org and discover how you can share God's Love... Our Hands with those in need today. **Names and images have been changed to protect the privacy of our clients*

Upward Bound provides fundamental support and opportunities for participants to succeed in their precollege performance and higher education pursuits.

Upward Bound serves: high school students from low-income families; and high school students from families in which neither parent holds a bachelor's degree.

The goal of Upward Bound is to increase the rate at which participants complete secondary education and enroll in and graduate from institutions of postsecondary education.

