# Because of you... Doris continues to pursue her dreams





When Doris gave birth to little Delilah, she made a promise to her. To always be there for her. To never let her feel alone. To provide a stable life. To give her a forever home.

A lot to take on at 19. Four years later, Doris has kept her promise.

Thanks to you.

Doris came to Second Chance to get help with interview skills and employment guidance. Because of you, she graduated with so much more.

Your support provides hope, direction, and opens up a world of possibility for Doris and others navigating difficult life circumstances.

By the time she was 6 years old - a first-grader - she had already been homeless with her family for three years. She remembers it was scary, not having a place to sleep at night. And she suffered from detachment issues when her mother had to leave her at the shelter daycare.

Her family life turned around long enough for Doris to graduate high school. Always dreaming of a better future, and determined to go after that future, Doris left home at 18. She needed to escape her alcoholic and controlling stepdad. "I wanted to be able to accomplish the things I wanted to. He was going to hold me back, so I left."

But Doris wound up homeless again, sleeping in her boyfriend's car in a parking lot. Next to her was her sister, who was also living out of a car with Doris' four nephews. Doris and her boyfriend both worked, but it wasn't enough – they often went without food.

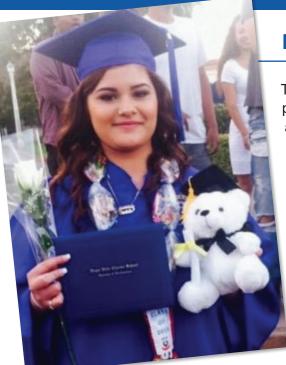
"It was challenging. I felt alone and was depressed," she remembers. Eventually, she found shelter with friends and enrolled at a local community college. She was determined to move forward. And then came little Delilah.

Being a young mom without family support is hard and continues to be a challenge, but Doris knew she had to stay focused - earn a living and stay in school to make a better life for herself and Delilah.

Doris found her way to Second Chance and participated in the Active Career Exploration workshop. After meeting with a Clinical Social Worker, Doris knew she had found a career path. A path you paved for Doris and hundreds of others through your generosity.

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**Doris...** Continued from Page 1

Thanks to you, she received wrap around services, such as monthly bus passes to get her to and from work and school. She developed a resume and honed her interview skills. She also realized she was learning valuable, transferable skills as an infant/toddler teacher at a childcare center. She learned that despite struggling to balance work, school and being a mom, she's in a good place now.

After she finishes her Associate's Degree, Doris plans to transfer to San Diego State University to pursue a Bachelor's in social work. Her long term goal is to acquire a Master's degree and fulfill her dream of working with homeless youth.

Your compassion and financial support guarantee youth like Doris are given a chance. A chance to rise above their circumstances and make their dreams come true.

# All things grow better with love.



Thank you Earth Day Volunteers!



Your gifts of time and treasure keep our Youth Garden growing.

Please donate today.



#### Stay connected







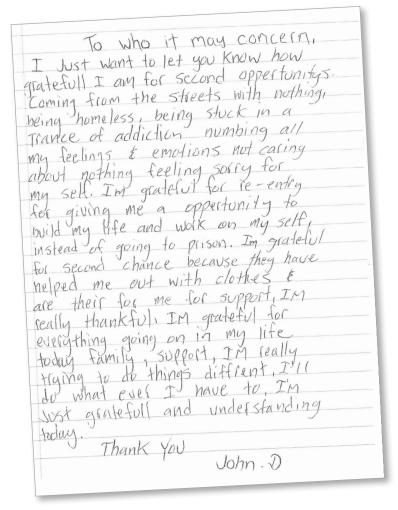
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#### **CONTACT US:**

(619) 234-8888

6145 Imperial Ave, San Diego, CA 92114
To donate: secondchanceprogram.org

## Thank you for giving... it makes a difference



### Thanks for the Job Leads!

Searching for a job can be an overwhelming and lonely process. But you've changed that. You've given jobseekers a chance to come together to share resources. To learn from each other.

Your thoughtful support gives Second Chance participants and graduates access to Job Club where they can give and get job search support and advice, review their resume, learn about apprenticeship opportunities and job leads, and more.

Led by our Business Services team, Job Club is a great way for participants and graduates to stay connected. The weekly meeting provides an outlet for individuals to share experiences in the work force, and brings a strong sense of accountability that helps keep participants heading in the right direction.

Finding a job is crucial to successful reentry.

You've made sure there's a way for any motivated individual to overcome obstacles faced in a job search.





Top 3 industry placements:

- Healthcare
- Customer Service
- Construction
   Typical pay is \$20+/hour

Other industries where we place workers

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Our deepest condolences to the family of Frances Hamilton White, local philanthropist and long-time supporter of Second Chance.

The impact of her generosity is everlasting.



### In the midst of a pandemic, you offer opportunity

Three years ago, Danny was serving a six-month sentence at East Mesa Reentry Facility. One bad choice had turned his life upside down. Worried and anxious about how to get his life back on track after release, he came straight to Second Chance. He hasn't looked back.

Thanks to faithful friends like you, justice involved individuals like Danny have an opportunity to start again. To make better choices. To be part of the community.

Danny graduated Job Readiness Training, and a with newfound confidence and improved people skills, he asked his former employer for a chance to come back to the work he loved – cleaning and maintaining pools. Like you, they thought Danny deserved a second chance.

And it's paying off. Danny is now being trained in pool re-pair, which means better pay and more job security.

Your generosity gives Danny and others like him a safe, supportive and judgment-free environment as they look forward to new futures.



"I am very grateful for the opportunity to stay at Second Chance housing. If it wasn't for the stability provided, I would have most likely violated my probation conditions and be back in custody."

Danny knows all too well how important it is to have someone rooting for you. He's been a resident at our largest sober living home, for three years. The structure and atmosphere keep him focused as he waits to term off probation. He often finds himself helping new residents - guiding them through the house rules, helping them stick to the program, even sharing his food with those who often arrive with just the clothes on their back.

At 48, Danny hopes his actions and his hard work inspire his housemates. Up at 4 a.m., he relies on public transportation to get to work and back home. At the least, it's 1.5 hours each way.

"It's not an easy road, literally or figuratively. You have to work at it and continue to work on yourself – to better yourself," explains Danny.

That's why your support is so important. You provide stability, structure and the chance for a better life.



### Want to get rid of an old vehicle?

Consider donating it to Second Chance. The donation process is safe and simple. We've partnered with Vehicles For Charity to process donated vehicles. Please call 1-866-628-2277 for questions and to arrange for vehicle pick up.