

Marsha Punzalan Torres
Project Aim Testimonial Speech
Friday, May 6, 2016

Good evening ladies and gentlemen. It is with honor and great pleasure to be given the opportunity to speak of my experience as a project Aim participant at GCC.

Many of you know me as Marsh, Marsha Torres, the ESO President, or simply just one of the project aim participants, but most of you probably don't know that I am a mother of four children and a grandmother of one granddaughter. I was a stay-at-home mom for many years and as my children got older I decided to go back to school and pursue a college education. It was one of the best decisions that I have ever made.

I knew that going back to college was going to be challenging with a lot of reading, writing, studying, researching, projects, presentation, and printing.

I started school back in January 2015 and it wasn't until August in fall semester of 2015 that I was introduced to the Project Aim program. A friend of mine named Camille told me about all the perks and services that project Aim had to offer. I immediately applied and qualified for the program.

I can honestly say that the Project Aim program is the key to my success in college. The program provided me with services such as printing, computer lab use, tutoring, mentors, incentives (Grant money), books, supplies, workshops, important information pertaining to school happenings, and most importantly words of encouragement. It is evident that the staff and faculty of Project Aim continue to pursue their mission and that is to see through the success of the students' one step at a time.

I appreciate all of the hard work that I saw that was put in for us. I appreciate all the workshops that were provided for us so that we can better ourselves. I appreciate all the fieldtrips that was planned for us so that we can have fun and enjoy ourselves and I will not forget all the free food and drinks that were provided for us during all the events. We were definitely taken care of.

It is an honor and privilege to be a Project Aim participant! It was an adventure of a lifetime. I thank you Dr. Julie Ulloa-Heat, Mr. James Fathal and Amanda Castro for always being there for us when we need you!

To my children, Jimmy, Azyea, David and Ashia, I hope that the example I lead will encourage you to go to college and pursue your dreams.

So, to all my fellow Project Aim Participants, and all the people in the room, TURN YOUR MAGIC ON, BECAUSE EVERYTHING YOU WANT IS A DREAM AWAY! Thank you!