

CHILDREN'S AID AND FAMILY SERVICES

Jamani's Story: Determined to Succeed

When Jamani looks back on her young life, she sees how far she's come. She spent much of her childhood in and out of foster care and has been on her own since age 17. With no family support system, she's worked hard to build stability and independence for herself.

She found Children's Aid and Family Services' Mobility Mentoring program on her own. The program pairs young adults, who have aged out of foster care, with a mentor who helps them set and achieve educational, career, and financial goals.

"Jamani is an excellent advocate for herself and very self-motivated," says Annette Flores, Children's Aid and Family Services Mobility Mentor. "She's taken advantage of every resource she could find. As a result, she is thriving."

Through the program, Jamani learned about credit, budgeting, opening a savings account, and setting and meeting goals. When she rented her first apartment this past summer, Mobility Mentoring provided her with the first month's rent while she waited for her first paycheck. "The program gives me a support system," she says. "I've known Annette for five years. We have a good relationship, and I can ask her for advice and share my achievements with her. Our conversations mean a lot to me."



Hard work pays off!
Jamani earned her
degree in Chemistry
with a perfect 4.0 GPA.

"This program is so essential because a lot of people who age out of foster care don't have a support system."

While receiving tuition assistance from Mobility Mentoring, Jamani earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry and secondary education from Caldwell University, becoming the first in her family to graduate from college. She initially planned to work in a lab, but a professor encouraged her to consider teaching.



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"I like working with kids," she says. "I feel like I have a lot to offer them: not only content knowledge, but empathy and life lessons."

Jamani began her teaching journey as a substitute for a sixth-grade science teacher on maternity leave, and was soon recruited to teach high school chemistry. She connects with her students through music, games, and a quick sense of humor.

Now living independently in her own apartment with her cat, Scout, Jamani continues to set goals for herself, including earning tenure as a teacher within the next few years.

"I've learned that it's important to ask for help," Jamani says. "This program is so essential because a lot of people who age out of foster care don't have a support system. Mobility Mentoring gives you that, in all aspects."

Because of community support, young adults like Jamani have the opportunity to build stable, independent lives and reach their goals.

Your generosity helps make that possible.

Impact of Mobility Mentoring

Mobility Mentoring is a five-year program designed to help support youth aging out of foster care as they transition into adulthood by equipping them with essential life skills. It is fully funded by the generosity of our supporters.

In 2025, there are 19 mentees in Mobility Mentoring.

100% have a bank or financial account

90% are working

84% have obtained or are pursuing higher education

90% are in stable housing

The impact of your gift:

\$100 | provides professional attire for internship or interviews

\$250 | provides books for school and meals

\$500 | provides driving lessons

\$600 | provides a laptop for use in studying

\$1,000 | provides a security deposit for an apartment

DOUBLE your impact this holiday season!

Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, **every gift will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$50,000.** Your support will go twice as far to help those who need it most.



Please donate today to help more children, families, and individuals like Jamani reach their full potential!



Thank You!