

H.I.S. House Residents and Mentors in the News!

by Lisa Pacheco



Maggie: Standout Mentor and Volunteer!

Maggie first started mentoring H.I.S. House residents around 1992. During that time, she has mentored five people. Presently, she is mentoring Ariel. She says, "Ariel is very likable. I enjoy talking with her, and she seems like a great mom." As a mentor, Maggie states that the greatest challenge is that some residents are reluctant to change, but even so, she says that she likes to be a companion and source of support to them during the time they are in the house.

In addition to mentoring, Maggie works in the front office at H.I.S. House every Friday morning. Interim director, Carrie Buck, states, "Maggie is our number one volunteer," and business manager, Melissa Stewart-Garcia says, "Maggie is always willing do anything we need. She's extremely helpful."

Maggie is a clearly a standout mentor and volunteer. She is also very humble and not one to sing her own praises, but we will: *You're simply amazing, Maggie!*

H.I.S. House Loves Souplantation!

Yes, we love those healthy salad options. And, yes—we love those tasty soups and pastas, breads, and their yummy swirled ice cream. But most of all, we love the fact that they have hired three H.I.S. House residents, and that *tastes* better than anything they serve!

Teresa, Veronica, and Courtney are all donning Souplantation aprons these days. They all work at Souplantation's central kitchen in Fullerton. Unbeknownst to most, their central kitchens prepare the majority of the food for their restaurants. Senior Vice President, Andy Simpson, says, "Filling up a 50-foot-long buffet with cut vegetables, you need an army of people doing it." These three ladies are part of that army and they are grateful to being doing the job.

Teresa says that the best thing about going to work is that you feel like the management really cares about you and the day goes by so fast. "The managers are all very friendly and they make you feel comfortable. Every day, we do warm-up exercises—we stretch and do hand and arm exercises to start the day. They want to make sure you don't get hurt. They also feed you lunch. The Santa Fe Chicken Chili is so good."

Those sound like some pretty good perks, ladies. The only question I have is, "Do you get an employee discount and can your mentor take you out to dinner?"

Success Story: Hilda!

Seven years ago Hilda was down on her luck after making a move from New York to California. She thought she would find a job quickly, but that didn't happen. Thankfully, H.I.S. House was there for her and her son, Anthony.

For Hilda, being a resident at H.I.S. House was humbling, and it brought her to her knees. She says, "I was used to trying to control everything. This experience taught me I had to be willing to turn things over to God."

She still remembers her mentor. "Her name was Sherry Drake, and she was awesome. She helped me to deal with my pridefulness and my desire to go back to New York. She helped me to see things realistically." She also recalls director, Teri Niebuhr. "I loved Teri. She had the warmest heart ever!"

Good things started happening for Hilda after she moved to H.I.S. House. Within a week, she got a job at NutriLife, where she still works today. She is a brand ambassador and tour guide that trains Spanish speaking distributors. Of her time at H.I.S. House, she declares, "I am so grateful to them for giving me a push up and helping me to stand again."

Hilda, you are truly an inspiration, and we think you're absolutely remarkable!



"The only place success comes before work is in the dictionary."

Vince Lombardi

Have a H.I.S. House success story to share? Contact Lisa Pacheco at dbhpacheco@yahoo.com.