

MERCY AYENI'S PACE SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENT

When I was little my Grandfather always told me that my last name Ayeni meant warrior. I believe he told me that because he knew that our family was going to go through some tough times and fight through it. we came to the United States less than 4 years ago and in order to work in a good job and have a stable income in the U.S you have to either be a permanent resident or citizen and no one in my family is any of those. Things have been really hard for my family especially for my mom. Being a single mom she has a lot on her plates. In less than 7 years she has experienced a lot of big life changes like being physical abuse, being a single mom of 5 children, moving to a different continent with my siblings and I, the death of her dad and two sisters, a child that was diagnosed with a mental illness and the frustration of almost being deported and having to work extremely hard to feed and give my siblings and I a roof over our head and has had no help from anywhere. you would think that all of this will break this woman but no she is still the strongest person that I know and she has taught me to be strong and resilient and to challenge myself. I try to help out a lot but I want to help her a lot more and this is why I make sure that if I can, I make the best grades and work hard so she does not have to worry about me and so that when the going gets tough she can always sit back and realize that she has accomplished a lot because of her children. I do not only make good grades I am also in the National Honor Society, in the Spanish national honor society and teens offering peer support (T.O.P.S) club, so helping out in the community is like a lifestyle but one of the most impactful community services I have been to is the feast of sharing. This is an event where the students are put in situations where we realize the bountiful opportunities we have by serving the less privileged.

Besides being a helper in the community I aspire to become an electrical engineer because for one it is something that I am not only fascinated by, I am also pretty good at the basics. This career also brings a lot of money and when I get that money I will make sure my mother gets the wonderful life she deserves. But before I get there I have to go through with college and paying for college can be a struggle this

where your scholarship comes in place. With this scholarship, I am one step closer to fulfilling my mom's dreams and paying her back for all her love and hard work. With all that has been noted, this is my reason to be considered for the PACEScholarship Award.