

**Letter from 2017 Denny Chan Youth Leadership Award Recipient,  
Yessica Garcia**

May 23, 2017

Hello,



My name is Yessica Garcia, I will be a senior this Fall majoring in Nursing at Western Michigan University. With my degree I plan to contribute back to the West Michigan community following graduation. I am looking forward to the opportunities I may have in the future and for those opportunities I may be able to provide for others through my Nursing career.

I am very passionate about my career and have striven because of my family and their support. Unfortunately, under circumstances far from ideal, my family and I became divided. Now we are separated by thousands of miles and a border.

When this happened, my emotions plummeted and my world seemed to be turned inside out but regardless of the circumstances, I still had my goal in mind. I was and I am determined to graduate despite the unfavorable sequence of events. My life is an accumulation of my lived and learned experiences and no matter how bad experiences have been or may become, they do not hold me back.

Thank you,

Yessica Garcia