

I JOINED TIA ABOUT 5 YEARS AGO, IN 2017. I ORIGINALLY CAME LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO BRIEFLY OVER THE SUMMER WITH SARAH BUT GOT WELCOMED INTO THE GROUP INSTEAD. WHILE THERE, I BECAME ESPECIALLY FAMILIAR WITH THE NEIGHBORHOOD--FROM CHARLESTOWN HIGH TO BHCC. I QUICKLY LEARNED THE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING SOLID CONNECTIONS WITH NEIGHBORS YOU TRUST. IT IS NOT A LESSON I WOULD EASILY FORGET. I OCCASIONALLY RECALL THE FISHING TRIP. I'D NEVER BEEN FISHING BEFORE, SO I WAS QUITE SHOCKED THAT I ACTUALLY CAUGHT SOMETHING. EVEN THEN, NOTHING COULD GET ME TO HOLD MY CATCH. I REMAINED A RELATIVELY ACTIVE MEMBER UNTIL I OFFICIALLY GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL IN 2020. AS A COLLEGE STUDENT, MY INVOLVEMENT IS LIMITED, BUT I DO KEEP UP WITH TURN IT AROUND THROUGH INSTAGRAM.

REPEATEDLY, TURN IT AROUND LEAPS TO THE ROLE OF VERY CAPABLE HANDS I CAN RELY ON. DESPITE MY RELATIVE INACTIVITY, MY PAST INVOLVEMENT HAS SET CONNECTIONS WITH THE LEADERS AND MEMBERS OF THE TIA TEAM. THEY ARE THERE WHEN I NEED LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION, NO MATTER HOW LAST MINUTE THE REQUEST MAY BE. I TRULY APPRECIATE THEM!

ADVICE FOR CURRENT MEMBERS: KEEP IT UP! IT IS NOT EASY, AND YOU MIGHT NOT REALIZE JUST HOW IMPORTANT TIA IS AT THE MOMENT, BUT THE CONNECTIONS YOU ARE MAKING ARE THOSE THAT LAST A LIFETIME. GO TO THE MEETINGS, MEET THE PEOPLE, HAVE BIG DREAMS, AND IDEALIZE. IT'S SUCH A SMALL REQUEST WITH INFINITE REWARDS. THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING.

