

Tamsin Jones

Interview with RFLB Volunteer Tutor

1) Tell us a little about your life and background.

I am an International student from Northern Ireland and have spent the previous 3 years studying in the states, I am currently 3 months away from graduating with an A.S in human and social studies, and will continue my education in hope to pursue a career in the field of mental health.

2) Tell us about an interest or talent you have that people might be surprised to know about you.

I absolutely love the outdoors, and have taken full advantage of the beautiful weather in Florida. My happy place is definitely the beach or wakeboarding on the river. I am a devoted dog mum to my husky Luna, I enjoy taking her on long walks and exploring new places.

3) What interested you in becoming a Volunteer Tutor at Ready for Life Brevard?

When I first heard of RFLB and the tagline, "changing lives beyond foster care", I knew instantly I had to get involved. I have a heart for mentoring youth and had previously volunteered in a foster care home. I really admired the approach that RFLB uses with how they care and support the students well beyond the classroom. Even though I have never tutored before, I was eager to learn and get involved and show the students some support in achieving their GED.

4) What do you like about being a tutor? What are the challenges?

I love being involved here at RFLB, and have learned so much already. I would say my favourite part of being a tutor is watching how the students show up everyday and keep at it. There are definitely hard times but the spark that comes to students eyes when they pass a test, or finally understand a math formula makes it so worthwhile. I am especially thankful to bear witness as they learn to believe in themselves more and more.

5) Can you think of a favorite moment or moments over the past few months with the FastTrack GED students?

I often make lunch for the students and this week I had a student tell me that the food I cooked was "the perfect combination of peace and love put together". This obviously made me smile. However, I really believe it's the environment and not my cooking that led him to this conclusion. I love being in the classroom cheering for the students. And finally, I really enjoy sitting round the lunch table having meaningful conversation and having a front row seat in watching how RFLB helps these teens and young adults to achieve their GED, but more importantly how they offer a safe and loving environment and a place of second chances.

Thank you, Tamsin for your faithfulness, your kind spirit and ALL the ways you've made this session of the FastTrack GED such a good one for our students!

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