

## Gratitude for/from our Scholarship Winners

Dr. Star Rivera-Lacey, the current President of Palomar College wrote in the Forward to the book of thank you's from Assistance League Scholarship winners: "with the help and support of many wonderful people, I went from a five-year-old who ran around the college while her parents took English-as-a-second-language classes to becoming Superintendent/President. It was a long and winding road, but one created by people like you, who see what is possible, believe in it, and take action to make it possible. On behalf of Palomar College and all the students in whom you have believed, thank you." **We are grateful** we could help so many.

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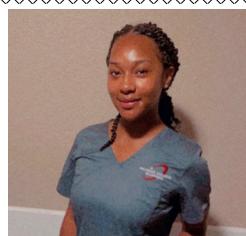
There is a young man who received an Assistance League Scholarship that would help him to attend his college of choice, the University of Notre Dame. That same young man was a participant in Operation School Bell® when he was in grade school and as he reminded us in his thank-you note, "Assistance League has been there for me and played an important role in my educational journey from first grade to Notre Dame". **We are grateful** for his success.

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Maria Souza Leite is a hardworking mother of four who works the night shift as a Patient Care Assistant with the goal of becoming a Certified Nurse Midwife and provide financial stability and a wonderful role model for her children.

Omarra Hameed-Williams is a mother of a first grader, married to a Navy Veteran, who juggles the nursing class/clinical program to obtain her ASN at Palomar and concurrently, a Bachelor of Nursing Science at Grand Canyon University. She writes "I hope one day to help students achieve their goals as you have helped me".



Misael Venancio comes from an immigrant family and constantly struggles to climb out of financial hardships. "Being able to attend Palomar's Trade and Industry program has been the best decision of my life. There are no words to express how grateful I am; your generosity tells me I am on the right path in life."

Kevin Rankin is in the Paramedic program at Palomar and plans to go on to become a Firefighter Paramedic, his dream career. The Assistance League Scholarship came at a time when he was struggling and gave him the extra motivation to keep going and achieve his goals.



These are but a few of the many students who have been helped by receiving an Assistance League Scholarship.