



If Given A Chance identifies Napa County high school students who have been faced with extraordinary social, medical, and economic challenges, and provides them with mentoring and financial assistance to support their efforts in completing a college degree or vocational training program.

November 2022



Dear If Given A Chance Supporter,

We invite you to join us in our life-changing program that transforms the lives of high potential Napa County high school and college students. Since 1995, your financial support has directly impacted dozens of students who have experienced profound, traumatic challenges through no fault of their own, so they can navigate towards successful and rewarding futures.

Why Is This Important?

The Napa County visionaries who founded If Given A Chance (IGAC) understood the importance of helping promising students thrive. They knew the profound impact of post-high school education on life skills, emotional balance, professional advancement, annual income, and family stability. They were determined to engage with students who, if given a chance, could reach their full potential.

How Can I Make A Difference?

Your donation counts! Read these stories to see how well our students are doing.



Angeles Dalila Zaragoza Madrid, an alumni from 2000, graduated from UCLA and is now a public defender for youth in Los Angeles. Angeles was raised by a single mother living in tremendous poverty. She was given a chance to flourish with IGAC support, helping her find her voice and courage to go to law school to help those youth and young adults who needed an advocate.



Katlin Kiehl, an alumni from 2017, graduated from Sonoma State University in 2021 with her bachelors in psychology. She has overcome a complicated childhood, a great loss of a significant other, and has decided to pursue a masters in psychology with a concentration on adolescent/family therapy. She is currently working as the Assistant Store Manager at Oakville Grocery in Oakville and is the Student Services Manager for IGAC.



Koda Inman-Ahlstrom was awarded the IGAC scholarship in 2017. He is majoring in psychology and music at the University of Missouri, with goals of being an art therapist after graduation. Koda has faced a life of being paralyzed from the waist down after a head on collision and has chosen to be positive despite his struggles. Koda has been playing multiple instruments since a young age, and plays on a basketball team of those who are disabled. He has an amazing attitude and is excited to be graduating this coming year!



Anastasia Novozhilova, is an alumni from 2007, who graduated from Brandeis University in Boston. Anastasia was a foster youth since the age of 13, going from home to home. Despite her struggles, she was a straight A student throughout high school, which led her to study Economics and International Finance in college. She got an amazing internship with Apple, which led her to a career in operation management. She has been with the company for 11 years and is now a Senior Product Manager. Coincidentally, she is on the board of Students Rising Above, our new strategic partner for student services!

A New Day for If Given A Chance

In its 27 years as one of the most lauded non-profit organizations serving the Napa Valley, If Given Chance (IGAC) has served over 400 underserved and at-risk youth. As the services it provides are even more necessary in this time of deep economic uncertainty, IGAC has established a strategic alliance and partnership with Students Rising Above (SRA) to better serve our students.

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Like IGAC, San Francisco-based SRA is dedicated to impacting the future by investing in low-income youth who have demonstrated a deep commitment to education and the strength of character necessary to overcome poverty, homelessness, neglect and more. SRA has built a deep bench of talented and compassionate individuals, including college and career advisors, healthcare coordinators, college admission counselors, and youth mental health professionals, a feature which is very important for IGAC recipients.

With this strategic partnership, IGAC students will have access to a host of new benefits and services, including:

- Monthly meetings with peer mentors and fellow students
- 24/7 access to mental health therapists
- Workshops on everything from college admissions, career choices and financial independence, to stress reduction and mental health
- Greater college financial aid support and advocacy
- Access to The Hub, SRA's online resource designed to provide students comprehensive, up-to-date information, personal advisors to facilitate college and career opportunities, and a supportive online community of motivated peers.

“While this partnership will bring many positive additions to our program services area, our mission remains dedicated solely to supporting at-risk youth in Napa County. We will continue to work closely with Napa County high schools to select the neediest, yet most resilient students within our community,” Allison Haley, President of the Board of IGAC and District Attorney of Napa County.

With gratitude



Allison Haley
IGAC Board President and
Napa County District Attorney



Peg Maddocks
Executive Director

Your investment in the future of these promising and resilient students is an investment in the future of our community.

Please help us transform lives.

Become a Starlight Society Member

The Starlight Society is the principal giving circle of If Given a Chance and consists of individuals and organizations who donate \$2,500 or more annually. The Starlighters philanthropy is critical to realizing our mission to help resilient Napa Valley students who have faced adversity in their lives succeed in their post-secondary education. A \$5,000 gift provides the financial award, mentoring and program costs for one year for one student.



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If Given A Chance is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization, ID# 91-1852336
Your donation may be tax deductible as allowed by law.

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Celebrating **27**
Years

Supporting Napa County Students