



Highfields, Inc.
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BRIGHT
FUTURES

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Save the Date!

Highfields *40th*
Annual Golf Outing

Putt for a Purpose

Monday, June 8, 2020
at Forest Akers West

Our mission is to provide opportunities to children, youth and families to become more responsible for their own lives and to strengthen their relationships with others.



Logan

Rising Above

Thanks to your support, Logan has a brighter future.

Trying to Fit In

From a young age, Logan found it difficult to make friends. At age 12, he started smoking marijuana as a way to fit in.

“I was caught up in being someone I wasn’t because I thought it was cool,” said Logan.

By the time he was 16 years old, Logan went to live with his grandma because of the negative relationship with his dad.

Though his grandma supported him, Logan didn’t receive the

discipline he needed. It wasn’t until he was expelled from a fight at school that his dad insisted on stepping back in.

“He wanted me to have structure, but the kind he settled on wasn’t right,” said Logan.

Logan’s situation only got tougher from there. After 15 years,

he finally met his biological mom. She invited him to live with her after hearing about the negative relationship he had with his dad. While living with his

“Everything happens for a reason. My success came from going through hard times and toxic

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Rising Above (continued)

mom, Logan received his first charge of aggravated assault and experimented with hard drugs. It wasn't until he overdosed on synthetic marijuana that he was finally sent to a juvenile detention center.

"The lack of structure at home gave me too much freedom," said Logan. "I wasn't able to teach myself to grow up the right way."

Finding Stability

While Logan was living in the detention center, he completed treatment and earned his High School Diploma. He was finally given a chance for success!

When Logan was released, his relationship with his dad resorted back to arguing and fighting. Eventually, he was told to get out of the house.

Logan was living in a hotel when he was referred to Highfields' Families Together Building Solutions Counselor Julie Culp. He had no job and only a little money in his savings account.

"Julie was always there," said Logan.

"She was able to help guide me in the direction to be successful."

Push for Success

Basic necessities such as food, clothing and shelter were difficult to come by. Thanks to Julie counseling him and sharing knowledge, he learned how to problem solve and find the things he needed.

"There will always be obstacles in my way, but it's up to me to overcome them," said Logan.

Through counseling sessions, Julie helped Logan take control of his life in order to keep going in a positive direction. He discovered coping skills of art, music and staying active.

Logan also set goals for his future. He plans on joining the army to keep a stable routine, and honor his grandpa who had recently passed away.

"Thanks to Highfields, I was and still am able to keep fighting for the success I deserve," said Logan. "I've learned how to maintain positive structure in my life, and keep reminding myself that everything is going to be okay." 

"It's not easy, but I believed I could do it with help."



You Only Live Once

Thanks to you, Elanzo found a better path.

A Little Help

Elanzo struggled at school. Unlike the rest of the students, he needed a little extra help. As he progressed in school, he became more frustrated with trying to understand his homework, which made him upset and angry. Other students picked on him. Elanzo started skipping class and getting into fights trying to defend himself. In the end, he was suspended from school.



Elanzo and his family played basketball together during family treatment weekends on campus.

Wrong Crowd

Problems in school weren't the only thing holding Elanzo back. He hung out with friends who encouraged him to sneak out of the house at night and destroy property. Before coming to Highfields, he was charged with breaking windows in a local neighborhood.

Making a Change

At Highfields' Residential Treatment Program, Elanzo tried to find a better path. Unfortunately, during his stay, two of his relatives passed away. One was his uncle, who Elanzo was very close to. He realized it was time for a change, and being away from his family wasn't something he was willing to risk anymore.

Elanzo learned how to control his anger, and be aware of things that upset him. Highfields' staff helped him find positive ways to solve problems. One new coping skill he learned is to remember his uncle when he feels upset. He reminds himself how his uncle would expect him to behave or react in situations.

"When I find myself in a difficult situation, I close my eyes and get out of this world for a moment," said Elanzo. "I pretend I'm talking to my uncle, and it gives me a chance to breathe and think about the consequences."

After six months, Elanzo is preparing to return home with a new mindset. He continues to work on his emotions, focus on school and be the person he knows he can be.

"I'm thankful that I came to Highfields," said Elanzo. "I've learned to keep my focus on the important things in life." 

Highfields services

Highfields is a nonprofit human services organization providing opportunities to children, youth and families through home-based counseling programs, a residential treatment facility, and educational services.

Highfields provides 17 different programs in 13 counties and serves about 7,000 individuals every year.

Our Mission

To provide opportunities to children, youth and families to become more responsible for their own lives and to strengthen their relationships with others.

Our Vision

To create bright futures for children, their families and communities.

Our Locations

Onondaga Campus
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