

NextUp Video Three
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Steve: Eighty percent of all inmates have been foster children or in some type of foster care. So what we try to do is we try to, you know, break that cycle.

Jesse: Sleeping in your car sometimes makes it hard to like focus in school or to like be able to like complete assignments on time.

Jordyan: I think the Next Step program is something that is not a privilege but it's a necessity, like you need to be grounded in something while you're trying to figure out early stages of adulthood and all of the madness that comes with that even if your life was pretty calm and in place and stable. So, it is wonderful and it's more than wonderful, it's absolutely necessary.

Jesse: A lot of people tell me I can't do certain things and I mean I don't get that from people like Steve and Angie, they always remind me that I'm capable of doing things even though my situation is very tough. I mean, hearing that from other people helps me push forward.

Steve: All you have to do is come and go to school or come and just come and talk to me, come into the office, let me walk you through, let me show you what we have to offer. We pay for your books year-round, we'll help you with housing if you need some housing, we'll help you with transportation if you need transportation, we'll help you get to your goal, whatever your goal might be.

Angelos: The relationship is real, it's there, you'll definitely have a relationship once you enter the Next Step. I'm very inspired by what had happened, I'm inspired by other people who share their stories or the stories that I've heard so that I now could be able to share mine and be able to bless someone and be able to motivate them or encourage them that it's okay.

Angie: Our program, it's more like a family.

Jordyan: Like, if you look at the stars and you just have like a bunch of stars, kind of looks like madness, you don't really know what to make of it. But then some guy named Copernicus comes in-- okay this here and like they draw a picture for you with their fingers and kind of like give direction to what's already there so the substance is already there but they had to like mold it in your own eyes to see like what this looks like. So they give it shape.

Jesse: Me going to school is going to not only benefit me in my future but also you know set a path for my brothers to follow.