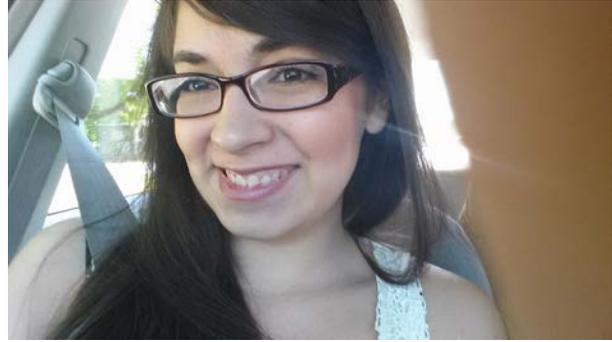


Hello.

My name is Jessica Vallejo-Maxwell.

I am sorry I could not be there today but wanted to still share my success story with everyone.

In high school, I was one of those girls who had a plan for her to do big and great things. I had all my ducks in a row then in November of my senior year of high school, I found out I was pregnant with my first child. As the saying goes, "If you want to make God laugh, tell him what you have planned."



After finding out the news, I automatically threw all my dreams and goals for myself to the side and motherhood took over me. That was almost 7 years ago and I now have 3 beautiful children; 5, 3, and 2 and a husband.

Last year, I found out that all 3 of my children were able to attend school. I had always told people who asked me if I was going to go back to school that once all my kids were in school that it was going to be my turn to continue my education. It was finally my turn to do it! My husband told me about how Workforce can help you pay for college and I immediately filled out the application and got approved. I completed Dynamic Futures and was given the opportunity to work at Wewoka City Hall in a Work Experience.

As a mother of 3 young children, a wife, having a part time job, and being a full time student can be hard balancing everything. My family is my biggest support team and they help me the best they can. Continuing my education was honestly scary at first because I have not been in a classroom for so long that did not know if I had the confidence to succeed but after a couple months, I was getting good grades and felt right at home.

This semester, I have been highly recommended to be a writing tutor for Seminole State College and have more scholarship opportunities to continue my career path for Business because of my good grades.

Given this opportunity has been such a blessing to me and my family.

I plan to attend either ECU in Ada or OU in Norman for my bachelors in Business after completing my Associate's at Seminole State College. After getting my Bachelors in Business, I hope to work in the HR department at Holdenville General Hospital.

I want to thank everyone that has a part of this program and can truly say you are making a difference in the world because you definitely have made one in mine.

Thank you