

Transformation

Featuring Tamera Carter's Story



Investing in others creates changes for generations!

TAMERA CARTER'S STORY



Tamera has excelled in her favorite subject: reading.

education. Sadly, education was beyond her control until she turned 18 years old – a point at which she could legally begin to make decisions that were in her own best interest.

Tamera's life-changing transformation began when she met a friend who attended Begin Anew. She encouraged Tamera to enroll, but lack of transportation limited her ability to attend class. Her friend helped her overcome this barrier by identifying another student to provide a ride to class – a testimony to the power and importance of community. Tamera enrolled in Begin Anew's High School Equivalency program in August of 2022. Tamera's commitment and passion for earning her High School Equivalency motivated her to excel in her studies. Her favorite subject was reading. In general, she loves books. "Reading books is not work for me," she stated. Binh, her High School Equivalency tutor, provided encouragement and worked with her one-on-one. He took time to break down subjects so Tamera could understand them.

Tamera shared, "Shane, Woodbine's Program Manager, kept me aware of my stats, and when I wanted to give up, he would remind me of my goals to help keep me focused." She also reflected, "I am now more confident because of my education, and while at Begin Anew, always felt the support of the Woodbine Campus community." On her birthday, Tamera received notification that she passed her final writing test! When Binh and Shane learned of her testing results, they

texted her a congratulatory note. We celebrate Tamera's completion of her High School Equivalency and look forward to seeing her walk in our December 2nd graduation – job well done!

"I did not exactly drop out of school," shared Tamera Carter. When she was in the third grade, her mother decided to homeschool her children. Tamera's father worked to provide the essentials for the family and felt education was important but could not change the direction they were headed. In addition, her family moved around a lot, so she never attended public school again. Unfortunately, Tamera is an example of just how easy it is for children to be overlooked and fall behind at such an early age. Her mother's decision to homeschool her children (but inability to follow through) created in Tamera, the oldest of seven siblings, an inner hunger for

"It is worth the time you will invest. You have to trust the process."

—Tamera Carter

Tamera shares, "Getting your HiSet/GED will open other doors, college, and career opportunities... I worked two jobs while attending night class, but it was all worth it." Because education is so important to her, she continues to encourage her brother to enroll in Begin Anew. Tamera has laid the groundwork to break the cycle of poverty for herself and is setting an example for her siblings to follow. Nothing is more powerful **than teaching one generation to change the next!**



Volunteer's Reflections

Pablo shared, "I admire the courage, resilience, and drive that my students have, coming to class for two hours after a long day at work.... I feel energized by them, regardless of how tiring or stressful my week has been. I love seeing their reactions when a concept sinks in, when at the end of each class I ask what they learned, and they start listing the different things they can apply."

Transformation Corner

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LIFE CHANGING IMPACT

EVELYN RIBEIRO 2022 December High School Equivalency Graduate. Her passion has always been to attend nursing school. She is enrolled in a nursing program, completed her first semester, and is now enrolled in her second semester.

YESICA JIMENEZ 2022 English Language Level 3 Graduate and 2023 December High School Equivalency Graduate. Yesica loves to help others and is now fluent in English and Spanish. She has used her talents to help new ELL students get acclimated in class.

ANNIE REYES 2023 December High School Equivalency Graduate. Annie enrolled with a very specific goal in mind: achieve her diploma before delivering their baby. After passing her final two exams, their baby girl arrived the next day. Plans include enrolling in a community college.

DWIGHT HARRIS 2023 December High School Equivalency Graduate. He will walk during the December 2nd graduation. "It is pure joy that I share I just completed my final subject – math – and passed my final exam." Dwight plans to enroll at Volunteer State Community College.



SONEIL DAFALLA (Pictured above) 2023 December High School Equivalency Graduate. He will walk during the December 2nd graduation. When things get hard, Soneil reflected, "I remember where I came from and all the opportunities that are available to me today." He plans to enroll in college with a bachelor's degree in business administration in his sights!

TRANSFORMATION AT WORK

Begin Anew was founded in 1997, and we are now celebrating 26 years of creating life-changing transformation for adult students, their families, and our community! Our mission is to empower individuals to overcome the obstacles caused by poverty by providing education, mentoring, and resources. Thanks to your investment of time, talent, and financial treasures, we see the results of transformation in the lives of adult students every day. The families of our graduates experience the impact of better career opportunities, becoming first-time homeowners, and starting their own businesses. These changes, and others, are only possible because you invest in the unique work taking place within the campuses of our organization – thank you!

We are excited to share that we have officially launched our Online Campus.

This Online Campus will allow adult students to enroll who aspire to earn their High School Equivalency and improve their English language skills but are limited because of work hours, transportation, and other issues. We will also engage more volunteers who want to give their time and talents but need the same flexibility this program will offer.

Your partnership transforms lives for generations to come!

MAKE AN INVESTMENT AND TRANSFORM A LIFE

Give today and join our mission to break the cycle of poverty (*generational and situational*) for the students we serve, their families, and the community.

- ▶ Return the enclosed card today and help teach one generation to change the next.
- ▶ Or give by scanning our QR Code.

1. OPEN CAMERA
2. SCAN CODE
3. GIVE NOW

Together, we are creating life-changing transformation for generations to come!

“Health. Gender equality. Poverty. Every important social issue is impacted by low literacy. When individuals learn how to read, write, do basic math, and use computers, they have the power to lift themselves out of poverty, lower health care costs, find and keep sustainable employment, and ultimately change their lives.” — ProLiteracy

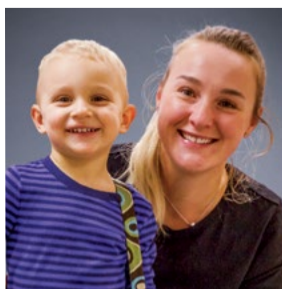
We invite you to join us in breaking the cycle of generational and situational poverty by teaching one generation to change the next.

In 2022, over 300 dedicated volunteers provided approximately 5,166 hours of service. We served 330 students from over 34 countries of origin, and 65% of these students continue to make forward progress in their studies or have graduated (63 Graduates celebrated). In addition, we offer a Children’s Program for the families of enrolled students and served 68 children (infant – 5th grade). School-age children receive help through a collaborative partnership with Homework Hotline from certified teachers online. This teaches children to use a valuable resource which they can access from home as well. All children are engaged with arts and crafts, playtime, and adventurous Bible story reading.

Thank you for joining us in breaking the cycle of generational and situational poverty.



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Affiliated with: