



“Where There’s a Will...”

Dear Friend,

My name is Maricruz, and I am a senior at Christian Brothers High School. Because of donors like you, I attend one of our nation’s most challenging high schools. I realized in grade school what I wanted to do with my life. But I know there’s a big journey between knowing what I want to do and being able to do it. Thankfully, **my CB family is helping me towards my goal.**

I’m the fifth of seven children in a very close family. They mean everything to me. When I was in 8th grade at St. Patrick’s school, a CB student came to our class to tell us about his high school experience. What struck me the most in his presentation was that he said CB felt like a family. I knew then **I wanted to be a part of CB’s family too...but I would need to find a way to pay for it.** My mother raised us alone, working at St. Anne’s school until suffering a back injury, leaving her disabled. Knowing she couldn’t afford CB, I took the entrance exam, applied for financial aid, and prayed. When I received the scholarship letter that read “Welcome to the CB family”, I cried. That moment was pure happiness. **Thank you for being my way into CB!**

I discovered my career path through my sister, Isadora. When Isadora was expecting her child, she glowed from happiness. It was such a beautiful time for our family. Watching my sister made me realize I wanted to have a career supporting expecting mothers by becoming an obstetrician. My nephew is now 8, **and I haven’t wavered, especially since CB is giving me the foundation and direction I need to achieve my career goal.**

During my sophomore year, I took a biology class to prepare me for entering the medical field. I was fortunate to have Dr. Iliff, a dentist and CB graduate, as my teacher. When I told him about my career goal, he was very excited for me and took the time to educate me about the classes and experience necessary to be a pre-medical student in college. My dream is to attend UC Davis, which will give me a world-class education while staying close to my family. **Earning a biology degree from a UC will be challenging, but I know CB’s college prep classes and teachers, like Dr. Iliff, are preparing me well.**

ENROLLED IN:
College Prep Courses

LOVES:
Cheerleading

WORKS:
in a grocery store

DREAM SCHOOL:
UC Davis

CAREER GOAL:
Obstetrician

ATTENDS CB:
because of you



Attending CB has been an amazing experience. **I feel blessed to be at such a supportive school.** It's easy to surround myself with teachers and classmates who inspire me and have a positive influence. Their encouragement led me to be a cheerleader as well as an Open House representative!

CB's counselors are wonderful too, always lending an ear when we have a problem or need a friend. They never judge, just listen, and help guide us to the path God has set out for us.


As for my path, I am preparing as best I can now for the expense of college ahead. Rather than cheer my senior year, I've decided to work part time at a grocery store. I love cheering, but I need to work. Between class, earning money and applying for college with the help of CB's college counselor, Ms. McClellan, I feel like my goal is that much closer...and attainable!

I know all I receive from CB would not be possible without you. I think about you often and wonder who you are. I believe God created us to love, and you have shown that with your generosity to me. **I look forward to someday helping other students like me so they can be blessed to be in the CB family.**

Thank you,



Maricruz '16



“Maricruz is the shining example of the kind of hardworking and dedicated student any teacher would be lucky to teach. She is hungry to learn, eager to improve, and fearless in her integrity. Mari is a spectacular member of our Lasallian Family and the Christian Brothers High School Community is blessed to have her presence in our hallways.”

– Stephanie Roybal, CB teacher