

# VALOR Scholarship Program



**Maria Bitanga** is a former VALOR recipient who is now studying at San Diego State University pursuing her Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Maria's hard work at Miramar Community college earned her a cumulative 3.84 GPA. While at Miramar College Maria was requested by the Dean of Student Affairs to be on the Safety Committee, in addition to being a Student Ambassador for Campuses Organized and United for Good Health (C.O.U.G.H). While in high school, Maria was Vice President of the Science Club and Vice President of Phi Theta Kappa. Upon completing her Bachelors of Science in Nursing at SDSU, she intends to work locally in addition to internationally with the Red Cross.

*"Community HousingWorks has given me hope that anything is possible as long as I put my heart and mind to it, which was proven upon receiving my scholarship."*



**Ahmed Ahmed** is a resident of Bandar Salaam in City Heights. Ahmed immigrated to the United States from Somalia with his family. His gratitude for the assistance he received is part of what has inspired him to give back to others in his community by volunteering at the Learning Center at Bandar through the Junior Leader Program. Ahmed was accepted at San Diego State University where he is pursuing a degree in journalism and broadcasting. Ahmed was the Valedictorian of his graduating class at Crawford High School.

*"At Bandar Salaam apartments I tutored kids who came from third world countries, who didn't speak English and many of whom have been through far worse situations than I could ever imagine. I shared my own experience with them and how important it is to learn and do well in school."*

For more information about how you can support the Community HousingWorks VALOR Scholarship Program in order that other aspiring young students like Maria and Ahmed have the opportunity to go to college, please contact K. J. Koljonen, Vice President of Resource Development, 619-282-6647 x 304. Thank You!



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