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Grade 12

How has Drug Free Clubs Of America changed my life for the better? It has adjusted my life on several aspects of my journey through high school.

What the DFCOA program has done for me is it taught me, how much harm drugs can really do to ones body, Ways to avoid friends offering them to me and the bigger picture of why drugs hurt so many people. Drugs are a thing that not only impacts you but also your family, your friends and communities. The program taught me how an addiction can ruin your life from a financial standpoint. I learned more than I could ever express in words. I spread the word of the program to a lot of people I know.

Throughout my life, I have experienced a lot concerning the results and the use of drugs. Drugs are what tore my family apart at the seams. I used to be involved in drug activity before the program, and I have lost family members due to overdoses. Kids are the first ones to suffer in these drug-related situations at home, which is why I wanted to be a part of standing for a change. Drugs have broken and taken so many lives; they have taken money from the government in aid of the drug war, the families, loved ones and the addict themselves.

My family began to look at me in a different light, realizing the change in who I was ever since I joined the program. From a bad influence to an A-B student. Some of the family I have everyday contact with have put down their own addictions. There is a sense of what my family thinks of as pride when I speak of being in the program. My family encouraged me to join the program but just seeing the huge group of kids my age at the Drug Free Clubs Of America Rally just changed not only my heart but my mind about how large as well as important the change really is.

My school life has completely been turned around. Before, I used to be surrounded by a bad crowd but now people know not to even ask me. I have become a different person with a better circle of friends. My teachers have expressed how happy they are that all the students have joined. We as a school get special privileges like special lunches, music get togethers, rallies and snacks. But to me that's not what it is all about. In all reality it makes school feel like a safer and more laid back place.

Ever since ending my problem with drugs with Drug Free Clubs of America, things have changed in my life at home. I learned different and healthier habits. I love Art I express it in all forms from drawing to painting. Sweets became part of what I would do instead of drugs. I regained the trust I lost within the time frame of my addiction. I made new friends and love spending time with them, and they do not pressure me to do things I don't feel comfortable with. My brother and sister are the reason I am here, and I love to do everything with them, from playing Uno to running around playing in the yard. But most importantly, I learned that I love life. Some days are harder than others, but Drug Free Clubs of America, the people who stand behind the program, and my brother and sister are what keep me on the right path.