

For Immediate Release
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Jennifer Lindo, Oasis After-School Tutor, to Attend the College of St. Elizabeth

PATERSON, NJ – After spending 16 years growing up as part of the various programs of Oasis, Paterson teen Jennifer Lindo was accepted to three universities and was provided large financial awards at each. Ms. Lindo has chosen to attend the College of St. Elizabeth in Morristown, New Jersey beginning in August 2015. Her enrollment results directly from the work of the staff and volunteers of the Oasis Teen Empowerment and Enrichment Network (TEEN) Program.

“We are so thrilled for Jennifer to soon begin this next phase of her life’s journey,” noted Executive Director Jennifer Brady. “She first came to us as a baby in our Nurturing Center while her mother took English-as-a-second-language classes with us. As she grew, she attended our Michael Wagner After-School Program and Carl’s Kids Summer Camp, and eventually gave back to both programs as a volunteer and staff member when she reached high school. Applying to and attending college would not have been possible for Jennifer without the support of Oasis, and we’ll continue to be here to support her throughout her college experience.”

“Jennifer is a great example of the tremendous potential of Paterson teens who may not have thought college was possible or affordable,” said Walter Ginsberg of Mahwah, Oasis TEEN Program volunteer. “I wanted to use my knowledge of the college process, after going through it with my sons, to help these students research, apply to, and receive financial aid from colleges throughout the region.”

The College/Career Planning component of the Oasis TEEN Program includes 1) academic support through SAT tutoring, this year from BrainStorm Tutoring Services in Franklin Lakes; 2) one-on-one mentorship to support teens when deciding where to apply, writing essays and completing applications, selecting majors, and visiting regional colleges/universities; and 3) financial counseling when completing financial aid applications, scholarship forms, and loan documents.

Ms. Lindo, a current senior at Silk City Academy, will receive financial support from both the College of St. Elizabeth and the New Jersey Educational Opportunity Fund, which will cover 90% of her tuition, housing, and academic expenses. “I cannot wait to begin college this Fall,” noted Ms. Lindo. “And someday, I hope to become a special education teacher so I can give back to the community where I grew up. I know nothing is impossible and my future will be exactly what I want it to be. I have Oasis to thank for that.”

About Oasis - A Haven for Women and Children:

Oasis – A Haven for Women and Children is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in Paterson, New Jersey whose mission is to change the lives of women and children by breaking the cycle of poverty through compassionate programs designed to feed, clothe, educate, and empower women and children in need. These programs include GED, ESL and Computer classes for adults; a Workplace Readiness Program; an after-school program, summer camp, photography program and teen program for youth; and basic needs services that include weekday breakfast and lunch in our soup kitchen, a food pantry, diapers and other baby needs, and clothing distribution. Learn more at www.oasisnj.org.

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