

GENFATE Speaks is a publication of Generation Fate, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of our foster children. To view this email in a web browser [click here](#).

# GenFate Speaks

A Publication By  
**Generation Fate**

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## Introduction:

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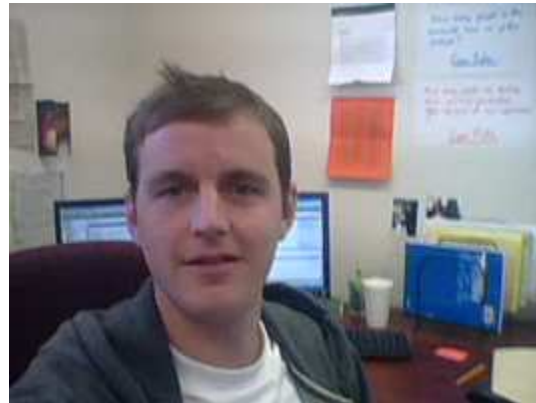
Hello All, Nick here.

I am proud to present our first news letter from Generation Fate, Inc. Through this news letter you can expect updates, useful information and inspirational stories a couple times a month.

We intend to keep you informed and updated as much as possible. Please pass this on to all your friends and family so that we may continue this amazing journey. None of this would be possible without your support.

Enjoy...

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## Project Fortitude: Counselors Making Miracles Happen

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Our first project in which we set out to connect foster youth with counselors on a long term basis has been growing and working wonderfully.

Thanks to your support we now have 13 kids meeting with counselors on a weekly basis.

Below is a letter from one of the kids to her counselor:

*"..I can't even begin to express how much I appreciate you. Thank you so much for allowing me a space to have a voice and for providing me a safe place to express emotion. I know deep down inside that, although it may not always seem like, I am no longer alone. Thank*

*you..."*

This is one of many stories that our counselors are experiencing on a weekly basis. With your support and their guidance these children are learning to grow, cope and understand that anything is possible in their lives. Once again, thank you for continued support on this project. We will keep you updated as we continue and expand these services to more foster youth. [Click here for more information on our Project Fortitude](#)

## Former Foster Youth Heading to Princeton

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Kim Snodgrass knows first hand the challenges of growing up in foster care. At times, Kim was homeless, searched through dumpsters and at eight years old she took on the role of being a mother to her siblings.

Exposed to drugs and alcohol her entire life and not enrolled in school until the age of 11 she experienced more chaos, heartbreak and loss than one would think a young girl could endure.

At the mere age of 18 years old Kim was on her own, like too many other foster children, left to fend for herself with little support from anyone.

As statistics would have it, she was headed for a life of

defeat and sorrow. However that is most certainly not the case here. Paddling upstream in a river of hardship and despair, Kim propelled herself forward with great courage and relentless determination in order to secure the victory over life circumstances.

She caught up in school, made great choices and she graduated high school with honors. Next, Kim applied to college and held steady jobs preparing herself for the soon coming opportunity to persevere and advance to the next chapter of her life. Amazingly, Kim was accepted to the University of California at Irvine; an unlikely outcome. But it wouldn't be long before Kim would face her next set of nearly detrimental circumstances. In her first year of college she tragically lost her Adopted Father to cancer, her grandmother shortly thereafter, and her older sister in a fatal car accident. Kim stated that her Adopted father was the first Father figure that she ever truly loved and trusted. Kim also remarked that her grandmother and sister radiated endless positive encouragement toward Kim's academic life. Few can truly understand the severe pain inflicted upon Kim. Although she struggled for a relatively brief period she continued to battle through the darkness into the wonderful light of her awaiting future.

Thus far, Kim has managed to draw great strength from all that she has endured. As a result, Kim has discovered how truly grateful she is and now recognizes the life of service that she aspires to live. Kim wants to give back to her community and seeks to implement the wonderful and challenging things she has learned into the present foster community and for generations to come. Kim now plans to be a mentor wherever possible to those in foster care as well as any who have lost hope for their lives. More recently Kim has finished work on her first book, titled "This is My Life, I was left Behind", which is accompanied by a children's book, titled "I am a Foster Child and I Have Feelings Too". Both books are projected to hit the printing press some time this year. Kim is now mentoring high school students on campus at UCI; she is also on the board for the Community Service Leadership Program (CSLP), as well as an intern for the President of Associated Students University of California Irvine (ASUCI). In addition she is an intern for the CEO of Orangewood Children's Foundation. As grateful and passionate as Kim is, she has already completed over 500 hours of community service. She loves to give back to the community whenever possible. With her spare time, Kim teaches Special Education preschool children; roughly once a week. Not to mention she is an assistant to a professor on campus. Along the way Kim has successfully completed two summer intense preparation programs; Summer Bridge and Summer Academic Enrichment Program, both at UCI. Both programs are designed to better pave the road to success for Kim as an under-grad and graduate student. As if this wasn't enough, Kim is the first student in UCI history to receive a grant to the Public Policy and International Affairs program (PPIA) at Princeton University. Amazing! Here Kim will undergo seven weeks of intense policy research where she will explore the depths of Foster Care Policy in California, ultimately empowering her to give back to and improve the quality of life for foster youth around the globe.

It is clear that, against all odds, Kim's life is currently fueled for the greater good and the ultimate betterment of her community and the world, through service in gratitude and impenetrable determination and perseverance. Kim has chosen to light up the darkness in her world, charging through the peaks and valleys of life. Let her be an inspiration to us all!

For more information visit Kim's website here (<http://www.kimsnodgrass.com>)

## General Updates:

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**Wine Tasting Event** – Don't forget about our first annual wine tasting event. February 29th, 6-9pm. For more information and to RSVP [email Nick](#)

**Bay to Breakers** – Our second annual Bay to Breakers Event will be coming up soon. Our goal is expand our team to 150 people. Come join us in this fun, wild and memorable event. To join our crazy run club please [email Mary](#)

**Good Search** – Google is out, Good Search is in. When you need to conduct an online search try [GoodSearch.com](#). Just type our name in – Generation Fate – as your charity and search away! Penny's add up! (We will keep reminding all of you until you jump on the band wagon)

**Summer Camp Mentors Needed** – We are preparing for our first annual summer camp and leadership program and we need volunteers. Mentor a foster child through a wonderful experience and impact their lives forever. Anyone interested please [email Jason File](#)

## Next Issue:

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Updates on our Simple Heroes Initiative and an introduction to our newest member Nikkie Ghazizadeh. Also we will be providing more information on Bay to Breakers, an event that you won't want to miss. Till next time!

The primary goal of Generation Fate is to instill vital self-confidence in our foster youth. By providing these children with consistent positive relationships, access to enrichment programs, supplemental education, and the support of a loving community, we will become an agent of change in the lives of America's foster children.

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