

Raising and providing for a family can be very difficult at times, it can put a lot of strain and hardship on everyone involved especially the children. When I was laid off from my job right before summer it took a toll on my family and myself, It especially affected my oldest son Luis. He felt this need to provide and help out with our financial issues and by stepping up even when he had dilemmas of his own he needed fix.

Luis struggled this last school year from working and his uncle being incarcerated. Not knowing the consequences would affect him badly in the long run, he thought no wrong was done in putting no effort into school and his classes and just from working he did get caught behind a lot his grades went down hill. But I believe one of the reasons was the cause of his uncle, who he was very close to, being incarcerated. All this affected him deeply due to the bond and closeness they shared. His uncle had been a mentor and kept Luis out of trouble, which in return made Luis appreciate everything he had done and helped him with. This event caused Luis to lose focus in school and on homework.

Losing my job, our family struggling, plus the fact Luis had to go to summer school, put everything into perspective for him. He knew stepping up to the plate and owning his mistakes and taking responsibility was the only right thing left to do. Luis took up a job working in the fields which has helped us out, and we appreciate him for it. With a job Luis was waking up at four thirty a.m. to work and going to school by seven and going back to work right after school ended he would come home tired and just fall back to sleep and waiting to do it again the next day. I knew it wasn't the right thing for him to be doing but we were struggling and needed help. This summer he still worked and went to school working hard in class on assignments to recover from last year. Being this responsible has matured and changed him for the better and has made me proud of all his efforts.

Putting all this responsibility into everything finally sunk in when he realized that with bad grades he wouldn't be allowed to play soccer his senior year. It took a hard blow on him, the reason being because of how much he loves soccer. Its a sport that gives all these boys passion and meaning especially since he has played alongside most of his teammates since fifth grade. So finishing his last school year with them doing what they all love the most, would be an irreplaceable memory he does not want to miss out on.

Luis and I both know that school comes first, and should have been that way since the beginning of school. So therefore we would gratefully appreciate if he was given a second chance to right his wrongs and was allowed to play soccer for his last and final year. He knows the consequences and is not willing to sacrifice what he loves for mistakes he doesn't plan to make again. Please take into consideration our letter and allow him to show you his potential and his drive.

Thank you for your time

Sincerely, Luis Gartias