

## Because of You, He Graduated: An Update

A few months ago, we told you about Henry, a high school senior who found himself homeless just three months before graduation. Although he was able to stretch his savings to cover the first rent payment, he wasn't sure he would be able to get his diploma. Thanks to your support, Bellevue LifeSpring was able to provide him with rent assistance so he could focus on school.

We're happy to announce that last month, Henry graduated from Bellevue High School and will be continuing his education at Bellevue College in the fall. He's since been able to find a job at a restaurant and now makes his monthly rent payment on his own.

Because of you, students like Henry are able to get back on their feet after a crisis instead of being overwhelmed by it. Thank you for the futures that you're making possible!

## Announcing Your Class of 2020!

You made college dreams a reality for these six first year students who received Bellevue LifeSpring scholarships - meet your class of 2020!

**Somme**, studying Psychology at UW - "Though I am just taking my first steps, I am on the path to success, leadership and reform for myself and our community. My drive to help others is more than a passion, it's an integral part of my character."

**Omar**, studying Electrical Engineering at UW - "When I lived in Somalia, many families couldn't afford or didn't have access to electricity. Students used candlelight or street lights to study at night. I vowed to make a change."

**Michelle**, studying Psychology at UW Bothell - "Although my mother's depression wasn't mine to endure, I had to grow up too soon to help her. I want to help people, especially children, to understand their behavior and get better."

**Luisa**, studying Biochemistry at UW Bothell - "High school was a roller coaster. I hit rock bottom when I failed a class but it awoke my drive to succeed. I took summer classes for credit retrieval and now I'm attending the University of Washington."

**Emma**, studying Education at UW - "The energy of a classroom and the excitement that children have about learning inspire me, but what inspires me most is the students themselves."

**Madelyn**, studying Biology at UW Bothell - "I am the first generation to go to a university. My academic counselor told me my GPA was too low and I would not be accepted anywhere. I overcame this personal hardship by not giving up and opening closed doors. I was accepted to four out of the five universities I applied to."

In addition to these first years, Bellevue LifeSpring renewed college scholarships for 18 sophomores, juniors and seniors and two parents to continue their education and break the cycle of poverty. Stay tuned for more information on our 2016-2017 recipients!

## Get Ready to Uncork the Night - Tickets Now Available!

Saturday, October 8, 2016 | [Hyatt Regency Bellevue](#)

### Honorary Chair

**Leslie Chihuly**

President and CEO | Chihuly Studios

### VIP Experience Featured Winery Quilceda Creek Vintners

### Event Co-Chairs

Akhtar Badshah, Randi Brazen, Trish Carpenter, Dana Frank,  
Cathi Hatch, Anu Jain, Benjamin Lee, Stacy Lill, Molly McConkey,  
Joe Tafoya, Michael Thompson and Betty Tong

### [Tickets now available!](#)

Uncork the Night \$250

Uncork the Night with VIP Experience \$350

### Limited availability for the ultimate VIP Experience:

Complimentary valet parking

First look at silent auction items

Early access to select seating for the evening

Bidding on exclusive VIP-only auction items

Complimentary tastings of highly-rated [Quilceda Creek Wines](#)

Entertainment provided by the lovely ladies of [Animate Objects](#)

Unique swag bag valued at \$150

## Welcome to Our New Board Chair!

At the beginning of this month, **Past President Jim Mitchell** handed the gavel over to our new **President and Chair of the Board Joseph Brazen**.

Joseph joined Bellevue LifeSpring's Advisory Council in 2009 and joined the Board of Directors in 2012. He and his family have lived in Bellevue for over 20 years and he looks forward to increasing the impact and awareness of Bellevue LifeSpring in his new role.

“For many years Joseph has been actively involved in Bellevue LifeSpring as a volunteer, event sponsor and advisory council and board member. I am excited to watch Bellevue LifeSpring grow and increase its support for the children living in poverty in our community with his leadership.”

- Jim Mitchell, Immediate Past President

We want to thank Jim for his commitment to and leadership of Bellevue LifeSpring over the past two years. Jim will continue to serve on the Board and contribute his passion and professional experience to the organization. **Chair Elect Akhtar Badshah** will step into the role of President after Joseph completes his two year term.

**Help more kids like Henry and the class of 2020!**

[Donate Now](#)

Connect with us:

[www.BellevueLifeSpring.org](http://www.BellevueLifeSpring.org)

