



Fall 2014 | Issue 3

Milan mourns the loss of Amarillo faculty member, Donna Alward



Milan Institute of Cosmetology in Amarillo, Texas, announced the loss of their Career Services Coordinator Donna Alward, who passed away July 21, 2014 following a stroke.

Donna, an Amarillo native, was often thought

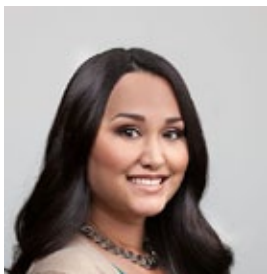
of as a mom to many at the campus. "She had a listening ear and open arms when we needed a hug. Donna's heart was filled with love, and she always had words of wisdom to share," said co-worker Christina Villagran, Education Finance Advisor for the campus.

Donna was a 2012 graduate of Milan Institute of Cosmetology and a licensed cosmetologist. She also served as director of the Christian Women's Job Corp of Amarillo and was a bus driver for the Children's Ministry through Living Way Fellowship church.

In honor of Donna, students and staff of Milan Institute of Cosmetology Amarillo donated their time and energy to raise money for the Alward family. All proceeds from services performed in the student salon on August 23rd were donated along with funds raised through students and staff purchasing passes for the opportunity to wear jeans in lieu of the standard dress code. ■

Meet another successful Milan graduate...

Kelli Torrence, Esthetician



An affordable, short term program and flexible class schedules are what attracted Kelli Torrence to the Esthetician program at Milan Institute in Clovis, California. "At the time," says Kelli, "I was working as a professional makeup artist on TV commercials

and corporate videos. Although I was able to maintain enough part time work to support my family, I knew that in order to take my career to the next level I needed to get my esthetics license."

Heading back into a classroom environment was a little daunting. "I was nervous that I was going to be the old lady of the group. I graduated high school in 2002, college in 2005, and was married with a child by the time I started at Milan," says Kelli. Much to her surprise, she discovered her classmates to be both younger and older. There was also a good mix of people in various life stages, some just starting out and others like her returning to school to further their education. "We helped each other, motivated each other, kept each other accountable and supported

each other through the program. I would never have imagined that I would meet so many strong, intelligent women in one class," says Kelli of her classmates.

With the fast pace of the program, it took a little of adjusting to get her mind back into school mode. "I think my experience in the beauty industry helped me," says Kelli. She remained focused on her goal and didn't let self-doubt get in the way. "We can be our own worst enemy. There were times when I would get overwhelmed with school, work and family life, but I did my best to keep my eye on the prize," says Kelli.

Today, Kelli is a licensed esthetician working part-time at Estancia Day Spa and Salon in Fresno, California. In addition, she continues to grow her business Forever Adored makeup and beauty services where she recently added a cosmetics line and bridal division. She has also become certified in eyelash extensions and is now providing that service.

"I love, love, love what I do," exclaims Kelli. "I truly believe that I have the best job in the world." You can check out some of Kelli's work at www.foreveradored.com. ■

Milan Schools Raise \$7,309 for the Professional Beauty Association CUT IT OUT program

The Milan school group raised \$7,309 for the CUT IT OUT domestic abuse awareness program. The money was raised from all services performed at the Milan Institute Student Salons and Massage Spas on May 20, 2014.

In June, a check was presented on behalf of the entire Milan school group to the Professional Beauty Association's Cynthia Heisser, Foundation Board Member for the CUT



IT OUT program.

CUT IT OUT is dedicated to mobilizing salon professionals to fight domestic abuse by building awareness and helping victims find the voice and courage to speak out and seek help. ■

Saving Lives in Honor of Mary Mardirosian

In April, the Milan Institute Clovis, California, campus hosted a blood drive benefitting the Central California Blood Center, the sole provider of blood and blood products for 31 hospitals in California's Central Valley. Milan Institute Clovis has been regularly hosting this event since 2007.

Included in the day's activities were vendor booths, prize drawings, a free food court with food generously provided by campus students and staff and a DJ with live music entertainment.

This year the blood drive was dedicated to Mary Mardirosian, sister-in-law of Sylvia Pogue, Medical Assisting Instructor at the campus. Mary lost her battle with ovarian cancer in January 2014. In Mary's honor, an amazing 99 pints of blood were collected during the drive. ■



Milan Institute Clovis Medical Assisting students lend a hand during campus blood drive.

Congratulations Graduates!

Pictures from just a few of the many 2014 Milan graduation ceremonies.



Milan Institute Student Massage Spas

Aromatherapy Deep Tissue Body Wraps

Hot Stone Swedish Shiatsu

50 and 80 minute sessions available

Schedule An Appointment Today

1.888.207.9460

Gift Cards Available for any Occasion

Instructor supervised student massage spas.

For more information about our graduation rates, median loan debt of students who completed the program and other important information, please visit our website.