



Milan Graduate Shares Her Journey To A Rewarding Career



To listen to Denise Romero talk, you would never guess the level of despair and hardship she has faced. However, adverse circumstances are not always a limiter of success. Denise has been able to rise above her

troubles, and today, she exudes happiness, confidence, and a spirit of determination.

At one point, after her husband lost his job of over 30 years and experienced tragedy in the death of his 14-year-old daughter, Denise and her husband found themselves in Central California without a home and not knowing where they were going to turn. "The first year here in Fresno was horrible. We sold everything just to get by," Denise remembers.

There happened to be a Milan Institute campus just down the street from where they were staying. Denise had seen the Milan Institute commercials on TV and recalls: "Something kept telling me 'do it, just do it.' I had to believe that something good would come out of it."

Despite not even having enough money for gas to drive, Denise was determined to find a way, even if she had to walk to class. With that resolve, she went to the campus to enroll. "After that, everything just got better," Denise says. Being a military veteran's spouse, she found out that she was eligible for military spouse's financial assistance to help offset her tuition. Things were finally looking up.

"The very first day of class when I walked in and saw my name up on the board saying 'Welcome Denise,' I knew I'd made the right decision by choosing Milan." Denise was so excited about becoming a massage therapist that she never failed to complete any homework assignment and never missed a single day of class. Even a fear of taking tests didn't deter her. Denise credits her fellow students for their teamwork, help and support in getting through the tough moments.

Fast forward and Denise is celebrating two and a half years of being employed as a Certified Massage Therapist with The Spa & Hungry Hair Salon, a premier full-service spa and salon in Fresno, California's Fig Garden shopping center. "I was hired as soon as I met the owner, only one month after graduating. I was self-assured and ready to begin my career. My experience and training at Milan gave me the confidence I needed to pursue my goals. After graduating from Milan Institute, I have more freedom and confidence with a career I can be proud of," explains Denise.

Milan Institute helped Denise change her life from being unemployed and financially insecure. "I highly recommend Milan Institute to everyone," she says. "I also regularly encourage people to make use of the value-priced student salon and spa services at Milan Institute for a fraction of the regular cost." ■



You can also check out Denise in her graduate testimonial video on our website MilanInstitute.edu.

Have You Heard About Our Alumni Website? Your Guide to Staying Connected

We care about our students and graduates and want to help you stay connected to classmates and Milan Institute. Your Milan journey doesn't end when you graduate. We're excited that you're part of the Milan alumni family, and our hope is to serve you with helpful information.

Explore how the Alumni Website can be of help.

Connect with our Career Services staff for placement assistance, information on licensing, certification and to share your success stories. Become a member of the alumni community today to keep in touch and network with other Milan alumni. ■



alumni.milaninstitute.edu

Milan Students Doing Their Part In The Community

At Milan Institute, education is the heart of what we do. And helping our students learn to be a part of improving their communities and helping others is a big part of that.

Milan Institute encourages student, faculty and client participation in many community service projects. Each month a different charitable organization is the focus of our fundraising efforts when proceeds from our student salon and spa services on a given day are donated to charity.

In addition, students from each campus are encouraged to participate and volunteer for local events and programs that focus on issues from homelessness, health and wellness, addressing food insecurity and more.

Community involvement provides the opportunity for students to act as vital members of the community, share their resources with others and develop skills and leadership abilities.

For more information on the current monthly student salon and spa fundraising events, please visit

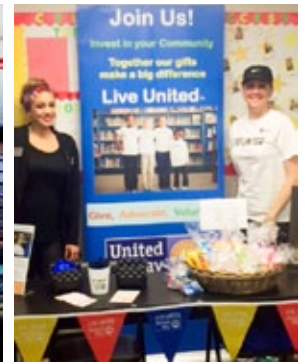
<http://milaninstitute.edu/student-services/student-salon-spa/>



Collecting comfort items for local assisted living facilities.



Blood drives at Milan campuses in Bakersfield, Las Vegas, Nampa, Palm Desert and Visalia have helped to collect over 125 pints for local blood centers so far this year. Students help out by greeting & directing donors, passing out refreshments and assisting with paperwork.



Milan Institute - Merced during the recent fundraiser for United Way.



Milan Institute of Cosmetology - Visalia students providing haircuts during Project Homeless.



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For more information about our graduation rates, the median debt of students who have completed the program, and other important information, please visit our website at <http://milaninstitute.edu/consumer-and-clery-information>. Milan Institute-San Antonio is a main campus with branches in Bakersfield, Fresno, Las Vegas, Merced and Nampa. Milan Institute-Visalia is a main campus with a branch in Sparks. Milan Institute-Palm Desert is a main campus with a branch in Amarillo.