

Asian and Proud: A Helpful Community

Growing up in Saugus, a town with few minorities, was difficult. It felt as if I could not be implemented into the community, because I was Asian. At a young age, I did not understand the importance of heritage and my background. Individuals within my school community and neighborhood would constantly judge me for being a minority, making me feel alienated. Being an outcast was not easy to handle, but my mother introduced me to activities implemented by South Cove, helping me cope and appreciate the unique aspects of my life.

With the help of the South Cove community and its events, I began to embrace my Chinese background and Asian culture. As a child, I would participate in wrapping presents for the annual Christmas dinner, held by South Cove. I would work with a girl named Lillian, who shed light on the importance of giving to others and helping others. Additionally, I consistently participated in the August Moon Festival events, as well as various other events, allowing me to learn about my culture and the importance of heritage. My culture is unique, and I should not allow my hometown



community diminish the importance of different races and cultures. By learning these positive morals, I have been shaped into an individual who is caring and responsible. These experiences have sparked growth and have been teaching me significant skill sets and characteristics.

South Cove has not only helped me, but it has helped my mother and my family significantly. South Cove provides my mother with a stable job, which she enjoys. She is able to passionately work and help patients. South Cove has supported my mother and my family financially. Having three children is not easy for anyone, and my mother dedicates most of her life at work to support her family and make sure that we are able to live comfortably. She shows true joy when working, showing me the importance of career choice. Being passionate about a specific topic will provide happiness, and South Cove has given my mother the opportunity to experience genuine happiness while helping others.

As I continue to grow and become a young adult, I realize that my mother is my role model. My mother's career has sparked my interest in nursing and helping the society heal, mentally and physically. My brother and sister have both graduated college recently, following the footsteps of my mother's career.

Without South Cove, my family and I would not be even remotely the same. South Cove has inspired me to pursue my passion, and by pursuing my passion, I can be comfortably content, while still having strong family connections. I would not have understood the importance of my Chinese culture. I would not be inspired to pursue a career as a nurse practitioner. Without South Cove, I would be a different human being. My family and I are extremely grateful for the strong, supporting community created by South Cove and Asian Healthcare.