



**FATHER JOE'S**  
VILLAGES®

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## Formerly homeless teen receives \$100,000 Bill Gates Scholarship

**San Diego, Calif.** -- Five years ago Cody was homeless and living with his family at St. Vincent de Paul Village. This month he graduated high school as valedictorian with more than \$100,000 in scholarships to help him through college.

Cody attended high school at Toussaint Academy of the Arts and Sciences (TAAS) while his family was living at St. Vincent's. For his final year of high school, he wanted to see how he could do at a public school and decided to give Lincoln High School a try.

Cody's three years of study at Toussaint Academy proved a solid foundation, and this month he graduated valedictorian of Lincoln High School with a \$100,000 Gates Millennium Scholarship, a \$1,500 Jackie Robinson YMCA scholarship, a \$1,000 UCSD Black Alumni Scholarship, and a \$1,000 Mission Federal Credit Union scholarship. In the fall Cody, 17, will start school at the University of California at San Diego to study Media Arts.

Shy and hardworking, Cody was active in the film program at TAAS and with the Media Arts Center of San Diego, working on a number of acclaimed student films. The day after the graduation ceremony Cody returned to work at Pierre's Place, a restaurant operated by Father Joe's Villages to benefit students of TAAS.

"The day after he graduates and receives all of this recognition Cody goes right back to making pizzas," says Father Joe Carroll, president of Father Joe's Villages. "It shows what a truly humble person he is."

The Gates Millennium Scholars Program promotes academic excellence and provides an opportunity for outstanding minority students with significant financial need to reach their highest potential.

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Father Joe's Villages® is a San Diego-based nonprofit that helps homeless neighbors in need regain their lives through a unique life-changing program that is nationally recognized and modeled for its effectiveness. Our groundbreaking approach to rehabilitation, known as the "University of the Human Spirit," addresses the underlying causes of homelessness to break the cycle and help thousands of people become responsible, self-sufficient, productive citizens and pass their newfound independence and life skills on to their children and families. When we help one person, we help generations of families and communities.

Members of Father Joe's Villages®

