

About The Founder



Gina S Surgeon Founder / Executive Director Positive FACE

My earliest life memories start on the path that would lead me to Positive FACE. I lived with my great-grandmother until my birth father decided he could care for me.

That led to placement in foster care, due to the sexual and physical abuse at the hands of my father and his wife, which caused me to have an extended hospital stay. I was adopted by my foster parents, which should have been the start of a better life. Instead, I had to survive new layers of sexual, physical, and emotional abuse. By age 16, I became a teenage runaway, feeling I couldn't do worse than all of my parents combined.

So, I know their stories. Wanting love from people that didn't know how to care; people that didn't care what made you happy, people whose personal happiness was all that mattered in their life. I also know what happened in my life to give me the courage to have a Positive and Productive life - to Excel.

Positive FACE is a vision, birthed out of the reality of my journey. A journey that includes a bachelor's degree and Master's in process. It includes 25 years of corporate experience and direct work with relevant County of San Diego departments. Most importantly, my journey includes over 20 years of mentoring youth, so they will see the best possibilities for their life.

Positive FACE membership is extended FREE of cost to foster, kinship, at-risk, and adopted children based on space availability. We are dedicated to being that Positive difference that mentors' children to success.

**I Know that
Positive Foster & At-Risk Children Excel
...Because I did.**

POSITIVE FACE
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What if you could change the World...

We happen to believe
that you can!



Encouraging Lives and Enriching Minds



Because Positive Foster & At-Risk Children Excel

www.positiveface.org

Follow Us!

FACEBOOK: [Positive FACE](#)

Twitter: [@ThePositiveFACE](#)

Instagram: [@Positive_FACE_SD](#)

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WHAT IS POSITIVE FACE

Mission Statement: To encourage positive life choices for foster, kinship, and adopted children through Social, Emotional, and Academic Development Activities with a STEAM based focus.

Membership is FREE to eligible students:

Program components include

Social Development to provide:

Entertaining getaways encourage social interaction and normalcy

Extracurricular activities that promote healthy lifestyles and teamwork

Volunteer activities that promote community responsibility and purpose

Emotional Development to provide:

Healthy mental development to deal with challenges of separation, multiple placement, PTSD, and varied abuse.

Active development of self-esteem and confidence to strengthen pride and respect for themselves and others that have had similar life experiences.

Academic Development to provide:

Identify early reading and math skills needs to promote improved graduation success

Provide fun and interactive learning activities to reinforce classroom instruction

Program Goals for Members

- Reduce Teen Pregnancy
- Advance High School Graduation
- Prevent Incarceration
- Increase financial stable adulthood

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Social Development -

C.D.C. (Choices, Decisions, Consequences)

Provide opportunities for activities that encourage positive social development and establish normalcy.

- Regular physical education activities, team building, and healthy nutrition workshops.
- Field Trips
- Group Volunteer activities

Annual sport activities will include Sports Performance, Tennis/Racquetball, Basketball, and Football.

Group workshops will include Gymnastics, Dance, Golf, Volleyball, Soccer, Baseball, Art and Music.

Emotional Development -

The courage to be the Best Me!

Provide opportunities for clients and parents to strengthen through effective mental health intervention programs.

- Monthly workshops to address common youth development issues.
- Paid referrals to Mental Health professionals for youth that require enhanced treatment.
- Family support to encourage placement stability

Workshops will address topics including Fears, Self-Esteem, Bullying, Anger, and Peer Pressure

Support member development to avoid the challenges of being “termed out” by providing life tools to promote adult success.

Academic Development -

Success for Now - Success for the Future

Provide opportunities for educational enrichment and early learning intervention to improve client graduation success rates and employment skill sets.

- Tutoring and Educational Enhancement Curriculum to track and encourage Reading and Math achievement at grade-level+ proficiency through graduation.
- Academic Games competitions to showcase achievement.
- Monthly Financial Literacy and Economic learning to develop good money habits
- College & Career Readiness Curriculum to provide internship and job shadowing opportunities, and workshops for essay and resume writing. (Grades 10 - 12)

Program Highlights:

Sports Experience (Physical activities lead by former college and NFL athletes)

Arts Experience (Workshops to expose students to varied art-forms including, vocal, instrumental, dance, painting, writing, and more)

Pursuit of Excellence (Identify student interest to enroll them in extracurricular activities - fees, uniforms, and equipment covered through Positive FACE)

Healthy Habits, Healthy Lifestyles (Workshops on good life behaviors and good nutrition with fun sessions lead by local chefs)

Be a Better Me (Workshops to reinforce positive self-esteem, confidence, and other productive behaviors)

Full STEAM Ahead (Interactive classes teaching Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics)

Bank It for Life! (Financial Literacy including banking, investments, personal finance, and entrepreneurship)

The More I Know, The More I Grow (Elementary - Academic Games Competitions, Jr. High/High School - Financial Literacy Sponsored by First Bank, High School - College/Career Readiness)