



Haven Moreno was selected this month as Mentors Care's 'Gold Star' graduate because we are so very proud of her success and how far she's come. Haven elected to enroll in the Mentors Care program as a freshman attending Midlothian High School (MSH). She was failing in grades and dealing with a lot of anxiety and depression and dealing with difficult circumstances at home. She always felt angry and ended

up in a lot of fights at school. She lacked self-esteem, self-control, and coping mechanisms required to overcome life's day-to-day challenges.

Fortunately for Haven, her decision to join Mentors Care and meet weekly with her mentor was a life-changing choice. Paired with the same mentor each school year, Haven began to make major changes in the behaviors that were creating a barrier to her academic



success and self growth.

She became more active and involved at school. She went to prom, joined the drill team (The Pantheretts) and worked hard to make better grades earning all A's and B's! She learned coping skills that helped mitigate her anxiety and began to see that she can't control all circumstances but she can control her reactions by making better decisions. She takes heart having learned that not every problem with other people is an attack on her personally.

When asked how Mentors Care has positively impacted her life, she said,

“If it wasn't for the Mentors Care program, I wouldn't be here. This program saved my life.”

Today, she is a high school graduate, a first generation graduate in her family to be accepted into college. Truly, she has changed her entire life's trajectory.

“I'm super proud of her for all she's



accomplished. From not coming to class and no coping skills to doing so well and ready for college, she's just such a special person,"

said Ev'marie Peach, MHS mentor coordinator and close confidant to Haven.

Haven's transformation has influenced other students in the program as well. Joining with other seniors enrolled in Mentors Care, she's part of a small community of elder students taking younger students under their wings and supporting them on their journey toward graduation and more fulfilling lives.