

OUR VOICES, OUR STORIES



Transforming Lives & Communities



Name: Britney Winters

Age: 25

Occupation: Global Category Analyst, Shell Oil Company

Housing Program: Public Housing

Short Term Goal: Continue to serve on the Resource Council of the Texas Juvenile Justice Department. Continue to mentor young girls.

Long Term Goal: Attend Harvard Business School. Run a Fortune 500 company.

I was raised in Third Ward by my great-grandmother, Bertha Henry. I loved my great-grandmother, and she did a great job of raising me. She died when I was 12 years old, which caused me to move in with relatives at Cuney Homes and with my paternal grandmother Olivia Flentroy who is on the Housing Choice Voucher Program. The fact that my home life was so unstable was the reason why I focused my attention on doing well in school. School represented stability, and I had great teachers that encouraged me to pursue my dreams. I worked hard throughout my years in high school, which garnered me the Most Outstanding Female Student Award in 2004 from the Houston ISD Board of Education. I felt great about graduating in the top one percent of my high school class but nothing compared to the feeling of receiving the acceptance letter from my dream school—Stanford University. After I graduated from Stanford with a B.S. in Management Science and Engineering, I moved to New York to work on Wall Street as an analyst with Credit Suisse. The hours were long but I loved my job and living in New York. After a year in New York, I came back to Houston to provide a stable home for my little sister. She was eight years old when I gained full custody of her. I have been raising her for the past four years on my own and it is such a rewarding experience. I want to instill in her the values that my great-grandmother taught me—always be humble, thankful, help others and trust in God. I share those same principles with the girls that I mentor through the Texas Juvenile Justice Department. As a mentor, I hope to encourage young girls to make positive choices in their lives and recognize their self-worth.