

Imagine What Would Happen If...

by Ursula Augustynski

My program offers free bus passes to and from school as well as free child care for those who need it when they are studying here. These are great incentives to stay in school. What other kinds of support do we need?

One suggestion is that we meet periodically at the center to discuss all of our concerns in a safe and comfortable environment. We could share our ideas about how to stay in school and how to not give up when the assignments prove to be difficult. We could discuss family problems when they came up, and we could help each other find concerned pastors or counselors who could advise us. We would no longer feel so isolated and trapped by our problems. Also, we could experience meaningful friendships along the way! Our problems would be transformed into possibilities and opportunities.

In addition to offering each other practical help, we could have fun. We could take turns bringing in fun comedies or other positive movies, as well as delicious food to share and enjoy.

Our first step should be to have a preliminary meeting to discuss our schedules and decide on the best time for all of us. If we got together as students to support each other and have fun, it would benefit us now and for a lifetime!

Ursula Augustynski was a student at the Odyssey Project at the Howard Area Community Center in Chicago, IL. She is interested in pursuing a career in researching holistic health. She wishes to thank the wonderful teachers at the Odyssey Project for their dedication, and the director, Catherine Zurybida, for helping to develop these ideas.



Activity

Imagine the supports that would help you stay in school. List them here:
