

My name is Jessica Janet Pop of Bullet Tree Village. I was born on July 27, 1996 in the Orange Walk District, and lived in Guinea Grass Village in this Northern district for six years. As a little girl I lived with my family for six years of my life. At this young age I lost my mom to cancer, and to make matters worse my dad abandoned us. At young age my only brother took the responsibility of looking after my sister and me. After living with my brother for some time he got married to a very responsible and caring person who took both of us as her own children. My older sister got married at the age of sixteen For me it was a hard moment because I never knew my sister in-law family and the environment here was so different had to move from school left my friends and get some new ones. We stay one year here at Bullet Tree Village but then my sister in-law family start to have problems so we had to left and go back to Guinea Grass. Then at that moment my brother and sister in-law had a daughter and I was going in STD 1 and we live two years there and after at the age of 11 my sister was having her second daughter and I had to drop out of school when I was in STD 4 in Guinea Grass because my brother was not working and my dad was never willing to help me in nothing because he never took care of me. So we had to move here at Bullet Tree Village again then after that I decide to go back to school because I had seen how important school was. When I was 14 I start to go school and I graduated in the 2012 I felt I do something good, after that i wished and I wanted to go to high school but I couldn't make it because of the monetary needs. So at the age of the 15 as teenager was not able to go continue school but I had to start to work. I used to work at the cafeteria in Bullet Tree Primary SDA School and I was there for 3 years but as a teenager I never lose that hope that someday I was able to go to high school. Not only that work I used to do put I remember good that I went and pull some beans tree yes I had because had to help my family but I learn, but I never doubt of myself that was not going to make it through years until I met Pr. Leslie Gillett; Education, Manager of Bullet Tree SDA Primary school. He offered me the opportunity to attend Eden High school .I was in disbelief but at the same time I was positive about going to high school. This was my dream come true and soon after I found myself attending Eden High School under a working scholarship. After I make the first semester I was able to get a Scholarship from the Belize Education Project. Today I could say that having faith and be willing what you really want to become in the future I am sure people will be able to accomplished their dream. I feel proud of myself that I can find myself in fourth from looking forward to graduate this coming year and that I was able to make it even though I never had to support of my dad nor had my mom close to me. Today I can say I am

a wonderful young girl that can put and held her head high and say I make it by the grace of God and the way He had guide me until now. For me passing through all this as a young age was hard and sad but I have learn that never giving up is one way to lead to a better life because maybe I would choose and next way to go but I choose to the right thing to attend school and make it through. I am sure that have met person with big hearts and that trust me so I thank those person to because with their help I am here today about to finish high school but looking forward to attend UB and to give everything to get Educated and to be someone in life. Yes I had up and downs put I make it until today and being at the age of 22 I feel I have a big responsibility to look forward and help my sister and brother and their family and correct those who are wrong. I feel I am able to help those young person and cheer them to continue going in right path because it is a big victory they won for them to be in school to get educated and to feel good for themselves.