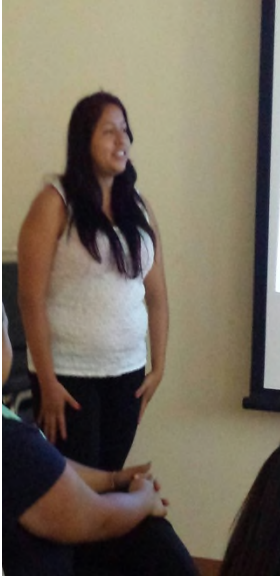


August Student of the Month

Leslie Rizo



Leslie Rizo is a young teenage mother determined to exceed in life. Leslie joined the DOL Escalera program in hopes of receiving assistance in achieving her career goals. Leslie is a very committed and responsible student and parent. Over the summer she joined the Leadership academy and attended every meeting where she was able to share her life story and connect with other teen parents. Her life story is that of many young teenage ladies living in a single parent home and in a low income community. Her mother is her emotional and financial support. Leslie decided that she would not be a statistic; therefore, she recently graduated high school and is determined to become a professional in the health care field. Leslie was hired by the AltaMed Summer Youth Work Program; she worked for the AltaMed Boyle Clinic. Leslie worked as an office assistant and was able to observe the Medical Assistants; the exposure provided by the AltaMed Summer Youth Program made her even more determined than ever to continue moving forward. Leslie is a very timid and shy student. Through the AltaMed Summer Youth program she was able to learn how to develop the self-confidence needed to come out of her comfort zone and become a better communicator. With the assistance of the AltaMed DOL Escalera program she is determined to enroll in a Medical Assistant certification program and work for AltaMed. Her supervisor is very pleased with her work and how much she grew professionally. She developed the skills to become a better communicator, more professional, reliable and dependable. She has the goal to enroll in a university and further expand her career path in the health care field. Leslie will not allow her situation of being a teenage parent handicap her in becoming a productive individual in society.