

Scholarship



Taylor Fatherree's Story

2016 recipient of the AAUW Healdsburg Branch SRJC Scholarship

I am so grateful for the Healdsburg AAUW's support when I was finishing at Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) in 2016. It helped me build on my academic and ultimate professional career. I had gone back to school after a significant absence, and this was one of the first scholarships I received. It helped me study abroad that summer in Jordan, and then earn my BA in Peace and Conflict at UC Berkeley in Spring 2018.

After undergrad, I taught English in Bogotá, Colombia for eight months on a Fulbright grant, and then I enrolled in law school at the University of Virginia. Back at SRJC, I had wanted to use my education to serve others and work for justice, but I hadn't completely settled on how. By my first year of law school, I was dedicated to reforming our criminal legal system and working for those affected by it. Today, with one semester left in law school, I'm extremely excited to start my career as a public defender.

I'm currently working for the Charlottesville Public Defender's Office, and interned last summer with the Public Defender Service for D.C. In law school, I've participated in the Federal Sentencing Reduction Clinic, Criminal Defense Clinic, and Holistic Juvenile Defense Clinic.

When I received your Healdsburg AAUW scholarship back in 2016, I was just getting started on my education and becoming useful to others. I would not have been able to support myself during these opportunities without this type of support, and I promise to pay it forward. Now, after years of school and many jobs and internships, I am getting ready to move to the D.C. area with my partner and become a public defender. Thank you so much for helping me get here. I'll do everything I can to help my clients and pass along all that I've been given.