

Monique Ware, has had an extensive career in higher education, holding various positions within the post-secondary school systems. Currently she is the Regional Job Developer for Crafton Hills College in Yucaipa, California, collaborating with the other eleven community colleges within the region. She manages the recruitment, placement, and career services activities for community college students seeking employment. Monique has devoted her life to working with students, graduates, and alumni.

In addition to her work in education, Monique is a human sex trafficking and domestic violence advocate. She actively works in the community passing out bags of toiletries and other necessities to women forced into sex trafficking. Quarterly, her and other women get together to put homeless bags and kits together for those in the local community. Furthermore, she volunteers her time offering resume writing workshops, employment preparation, and job placement.

As the recipient of National University Life Changer Scholarship, Monique is looking forward to advancing her education by way of seeking a Master's in Social Emotional Learning with National University. Monique will use her degree in SEL by continuing working with students and community members to identify personal strengths and areas for growth, cultivate self-confidence, positive self-regard, a growth mindset, and optimism.

Monique is a loving wife, a nurturing mother of eight beautiful children, four biological and four amazing bonus children, and an endearing grandmother of three energetic grandchildren.

Although Monique was raised in a two-parent home, she faced many challenges, as both parents battled with addictions of their own. Monique and her siblings found themselves moving from apartment to apartment and sometimes with family members or friends; some days feeling more hopeless than others. Monique and her family relocated to San Bernardino, California and that is when things begin to turn, sometimes for the worst. Amid life filled with bouts of homelessness, food insecurities, lack of structure, and a solid foundation, she was embraced by a group of amazing "sisterfriends" as she calls them and their parents that provided support for her. Monique was once told that she did not have to become a product of her environment; that she could make a conscious decision of what she wanted her life to be. In that moment, Monique decided that she would not be overtaken by her situation or any circumstance in her life.

After graduating high school, she worked with the department of Children and Family Services and juvenile probations preparing courts wards living in groups home guidance transitioning out of the foster care system into transitional living housing for youth, family reunification or on their own. This opened doors for Monique to transition into career services.

As a result of Monique's past obstacles and accomplishments, she believes that giving back provides opportunity for someone to be successful and to develop the tools necessary to move forward in life in a positive healthy and productive manner. Monique's mission to assist with providing people with the necessary tools to overcome barriers.