

# Celebrating Success and Transforming Lives.

The Eckerd Connects Success Award recognizes individuals who have overcome adversity, demonstrated resilience, and achieved remarkable success through their involvement with Eckerd Connects programs. These inspiring stories showcase the transformative impact of our programs in empowering individuals to overcome obstacles and build a brighter future.

**KENNEDY**

**AGE:** 16

**LOCATION:**  
Trout, LA

*"I love the fact that you {Eckerd Connects} care enough to help me chase my dream. I am so grateful because I have needed this saddle for so long. I saved my money to buy my first horse (Archie) and my first saddle, but it is very used and old... I can't remember a time that I didn't love horses or dream about riding them."*

**ACHIEVEMENTS:** Thriving academically, Riding horses for mental health, Positive life transformation.

Kennedy, a 16-year-old from Trout, La., faced significant trauma and behavioral challenges as a child, including abuse and instability in her family life. Placed with her adoptive mom in 3rd grade, she struggled academically and emotionally, but with the support of tutors, psychiatrists, and her community, she began to progress. Despite setbacks, including hospitalizations, Kennedy persisted in therapy and academic pursuits. Finding solace and purpose in riding horses and barrel racing, Kennedy discovered a lifeline, helping her stay focused on school, her treatment, and her home life. She approached her Eckerd Connects Wraparound Services therapist for support in pursuing her passion, aiming to compete in rodeos. Despite her troubled past, Kennedy's dedication to her therapy and academic responsibilities never wavered. Her journey is one of resilience and triumph over adversity, serving as an inspiring testament to the strength of the human spirit.

## HOW TO SUPPORT THE SUCCESS AWARD:

Your support can make a difference in the lives of individuals striving for success. Consider making a contribution to the Eckerd Connects Success Award to help us continue our mission of transforming lives. Visit our donation page to contribute and make a positive impact today.

## ADDITIONAL STATS:

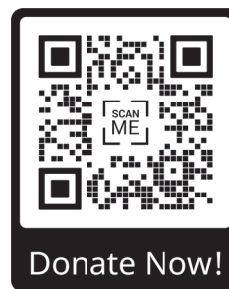
- This saddle will provide physical as well as mental support for Kennedy.
- Kennedy competes in barrel racing and competitive horseback riding.
- With help from Eckerd Connects, she has made great strides to overcome a difficult past.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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