



Former Foster youth who turned depression and abuse into a healthy cupcake business. Needs help funding his passion for helping other youth!

Hello my name is Sir James Gipson. I am a 23 year old former foster youth who came out of the system with a business idea, healthy cupcakes. I have leveraged a hand full of corporations, and non-profit organizations that have helped build my brand of healthy wheatgrass cupcakes. I have networked with a majority of stores on Melrose Avenue and was told that they love my idea and would be apart of my business. I am in need of sponsorships for a store front location in LA.

My story is no different from any other foster youth who has been abused in the system. Growing up, I had a hard childhood. My maternal mother was a crack addict and I witnessed her smoking when I was a child.

I was placed in Kinship foster care at age 5 and was abused by my aunt daily, mentally, and physically I was ridiculed about my weight and learning disabilities throughout my life and when my aunt would abuse me she always brought up how fat and sorry of a man I was. I was told that I had a learning disability in the 3rd grade and placed in special education classes for 6 years. I was told I wouldn't amount to anything. I entered the DCFS Transitional Housing Program (THP) at age 18; defeated, defensive and trusted no one. While in the program I was provided food vouchers allowing me to create my Oatmeal Butter Cupcake recipe. I am so thankful for DCFS for believing in me!

Well I proved them all wrong! I was one of the youngest board members on the Casey Family Programs Breakthrough collaborative to improve foster/kinship care that took place in three states. The team was lead by the Department of Children& Family Services Deputy Director, Eric Marts. I attended Cal Arts at age 14 for a hybrid animation college program. I was taught by creators of South Park and other DreamWorks projects. I was an Apprentice for M.O.C.A Museum of Contemporary Arts downtown Los Angeles. I interned while in high school at Tobin Public Relations; one of the biggest Public relation firms in Los Angeles. I had a hand in designing public relation activities for represented clients, Johnnie Cochran, Judge Mablelean, Toyota, H.U.D and a hand full of other projects.

I am the CEO/ Creator of America's first wheatgrass healthy cupcake line that has been reviewed and raved about by Starbucks, Celebrities like Sherri Shepherd from ABC talk show; The View, Eva Pigford; Winner of Americas Next Top Model, Sony Pictures Entertainment Executives, Microsoft, and several supermarket chain managers. I am a mentor to foster youth in the system who do not know where to go for assistance. I would

like to open my store to employ current and former foster youth who thought they wouldn't have a chance in society.

I need help to make my store front a reality. Any resources, donations, sponsorships are welcomed and graciously appreciated!

Best,
Sir James Gipson

For more info visit www.Oatmealbuttercupcakes.com