

My name is Rudy Rises Regalado. I come from a small town in the Salinas Valley called Gonzales. I attended and graduated Gonzales High School in 2015. When I was in high school I was struggling to find my path. By the grace of God, I was fortunate enough to meet people and lifelong friends who uplifted and encouraged me to be a better me. One of those friends passed away and led me to a tough moment in life. I then realized that I do this work because I had someone who poured into me and I want to return the favor. IYT found me during my first year at Sac State. I was first enrolled as a member of the program then I transitioned into a mentor who served at Encina Preparatory High School in 2018. I became a program manager in February of 2021 and I am looking forward to making an impact. My mom is from Tijuana, Mexico and I know the struggle of being low-income, having a divided family and a product of generational trauma. I plan to turn my pain into positivity.

I am interested in this program because I want to constantly push myself to become better. I feel that this program will give me an opportunity to learn more about myself and this community at large. I plan to keep on being a leader in my community and impact those around me positively.