



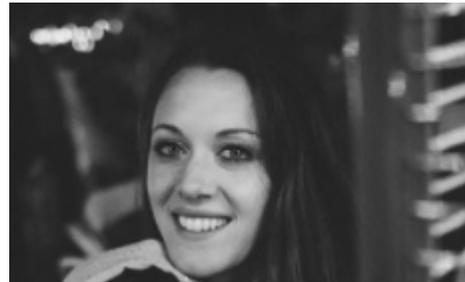
SRJC Alumni & Friends

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All About Marissa Walsh

“SRJC has always had my back”, says Marissa Walsh, Team Lead, Legal Investigations for Google, Inc.

Marissa utilized SRJC’s concurrent enrollment program to complete college classes and receive college credit while attending Montgomery High School. “SRJC was a great resource for me to push myself and prepare academically to transfer to a four year university.”



After transferring to University of California at Berkeley, Marissa took a semester off her junior year when her mother and grandmother were both diagnosed with breast cancer within a week of each other.

Although she came home to help take care of her family, she continued to focus on her education and enrolled again at SRJC. “I took a number of kinesiology classes – boxing, weightlifting and sports theory to manage my stress through sports. Those programs saved me during a difficult time. SRJC gives people a second and third chance and helped me to continue to pursue my goals. It’s a great community resource.”

Marty Kinahan, SRJC’s Head Men’s Soccer Coach, was a valuable resource for Marissa. “I coached for Marty at SRJC summer youth soccer camps and he became a mentor to me. The SRJC staff, especially Marty, cared about me as a whole person.”

Marissa finished her Bachelor of Arts in Classical Civilization with a minor in French at UC Berkeley and subsequently moved to France. “Languages and different cultures have always been a passion of mine. Languages are like fun puzzles for me.” She lived in France for two years, teaching English and playing soccer semi-professionally, before moving back to California and finding an opportunity with Google. Marissa’s team supports requests from law enforcement and government agencies investigating users who abuse Google products dealing with anything from fraud to terrorism.

Recently, she enrolled at the University of San Francisco to pursue a Master of Public Administration and Health Services Administration. “While working on emergency data requests for Google that help avert threat to life situations, I started to feel a strong calling to help people in need. I wanted to find a way to be more directly involved in the community. My mom and

grandma's experiences reminded me of the importance of healthcare and helping people meet their basic needs.”

SRJC had her back in Marissa's decision to shift careers too. “I took a work experience course at SRJC and volunteered for Memorial Hospital many years ago. It was a very pivotal moment for me and sparked the interest I have in helping others. I always remembered that experience at SRJC and it helped me realize what career path I wanted to pursue next.”

Marissa's goal is to apply for an administrative fellowship in a Sonoma County hospital to build her healthcare knowledge and eventually return to her roots.

In the meantime, Marissa was able to help her hometown respond to the recent devastating wildfires through her work at Google. Her family was safe, but she saw how centralized information can be crucial to help people find shelter and other resources. Read more about Marissa and Google's work to help keep information flowing during the crisis and Google's support for wildfire relief:

<https://www.blog.google/topics/google-org/supporting-those-affected-california-fires/>