

Espejo, Gina

To: Best, Liz
Subject: RE: NSE comment

Sent: Thursday, June 10, 2021 9:18 AM
To: Espejo, Gina <Gina.Espejo@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: NSE comment

"Before the virus, Grace was enjoyable. I got to meet new people and learn more about them-- they're family to me. It took a while. I think now.. wow! if I hadn't joined Grace there would be nothing to do. Let me say that Grace taught me boundaries- what I know, what I expect from people, what I demand for myself- safety, safe environment, it taught me to respect other people in their present situations. I worked hard for this. I suffered for this (I was homeless for 7 years). Now I am taking care of what I was blessed with. I learned to appreciate where I came from. I was taught a lesson- how other people live- And I take that lesson and be there for other people. With Zoom, I feel closer 'cause I'm not talking to a face but to a person (you can tell a good person from a bad person). I don't think we could have lived without Zoom during this time. Zoom is essential. It is a learning process and we are all here to learn. We got closer. We understand each other more. I think it saved a couple of lives. For me, as an artist, I need the chatter to draw. I miss my Grace family. Zoom has helped my artist block. It took me 3 months to break through my block, then Zoom started, and it lit the fuse! Grace on Zoom is not in person, yet I'll take it!"

-Reginald Howard
6/9/2021