

A WOLVERINE WHO HAS FOUND HER HOME

All it takes is one opportunity, one connection, one experience – just one thing can change someone's path and entire future. Your support was the one thing that changed freshman Sarah Dant's life. You opened the door to a world of opportunities and promise.



Sarah Dant, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Major, Traverse City, Michigan

Just two years ago, Sarah was homeless. Her mother struggled with mental health and substance abuse issues, and her father left the home to work on the road as a truck driver. She was left working 40 hours a week, going to school full-time, and caring for her mom.

After Sarah was admitted into the University, she applied for scholarships, one of which was from the Alumni Club of Traverse City. Your support gave her something she's never had in her entire life: the chance to simply be a student, and really, the chance to enjoy life as a care-free "kid."



My network of alumni and club connections gave me a community, and they are always there with answers. They changed my life.

"It came to a point where I had to make the very hard decision to leave home," Sarah explained. "I love my mom so much, but I knew the only way I could succeed was to focus on myself and my future. I had to do what was best for me."

"For the first time in my life, I don't have to work while going to school and I just get to be a student," Sarah marveled. "My network of alumni and club connections gave me a community, and they are always there with answers. They changed my life."

Throughout her junior and senior year of high school, Sarah was still working full-time while sticking to her studies in school. She was sleeping on the couches of her supportive friends and coworkers while looking for a place of her own that truly felt like home.

All it takes is one thing to change a life – for Sarah, it was your support. Your gifts touch every corner of our nation, supporting the clubs that remind all alumni that, when you are a Wolverine, you always have a place to call home.

Sarah was determined to get herself to a better place. She was determined to make her way to Michigan to begin pursuing her dream of becoming a veterinarian.

And three years later, she did.



To donate to the U-M Club of Grand Traverse Scholarship Fund, please visit: umalumni.com/grandtraverse