

# MEET HEATHER JONES

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**Mt. San Jacinto College | African American and  
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## **Walking in Faith: Embracing God's Grace on the Journey of Service and Scholarship**

My journey of faith and success is intricately woven with my relationship with God, the driving force behind every endeavor I undertake. God's grace, love, and mercy have inspired me to pursue a path of service and learning, even during the darkest moments when I prayed to not see the light of day.

Education has been a cornerstone of my journey. Currently pursuing a Doctorate in Marital & Family Therapy at Loma Linda University, I've been blessed with opportunities to expand my knowledge and skills. I hold a Master of Education in Counseling and Guidance from Howard University and a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Holy Names University.

Throughout my academic journey, I've also been deeply involved in various roles and responsibilities. From serving as the Inaugural Director of African American & Black Student Success Initiatives to leading as Director of EOPS/CARE, UndocuDREAMers, and Guiding Light at Mt. San Jacinto College, I've been committed to fostering success and support for students from diverse backgrounds.

My professional experience spans across mental health counseling, program administration, and academic advising. From serving as a Mental Health Clinician at CARE Counselors, Inc., to working as a Life Skills Trainer at House of Ruth, Reunified Families, I've dedicated myself to helping others navigate through life's challenges.

But my journey isn't just about professional accomplishments; it's about serving others and making a positive impact in the community. I've been involved in various committees and initiatives, such as the Community & College Engagement Committee and the Sankofa Taskforce at Mt. San Jacinto College, as well as mission trips to Nigeria and Samoa with Students for International Service Mission (SIMS) at Loma Linda University.

Through it all, my faith has remained steadfast. I draw strength from scriptures like Jeremiah 29:11-13, trusting in God's plans for my welfare and peace. I've experienced His faithfulness firsthand, turning my mistakes into messages of hope and resilience. As I continue on this journey, I strive to be more than just a scholar; I aim to leave a lasting legacy of hope and motivation. Through my work and interactions, I seek to embody virtues of empathy, ambition, and resilience, refusing to settle for the status quo and always striving to be a beacon of light in a world that often feels dim.

My journey is far from over, but with God as my guiding light, I walk forward with confidence, knowing that His plans for me are of hope and purpose.