

## Transform Rhode Island Scholarship

"This project is important to me because as a person with anxiety and autism, art has helped me in many ways and has helped me to express myself. It's a beautiful way for people to express themselves and give them a safe space."

Naomi Delgado PedrazaCentral Falls High School

## **BIG IDEA:**

Naomi's change-making idea is to create an art therapy program to help children and young adults struggling with mental health challenges and those with disabilities, trauma, social, cognitive, behavioral, and physical conditions.

Starting as an after-school program for youth in Central Falls, her goal is to transition the program into one that provides support and guidance for both youth and adults through artistic expression.

## HOW WILL SHE DO IT?

Naomi believes access to art therapy programs will provide participants with a way to express their feelings in new ways.

She hopes to grow the program from an after-school program run by a teacher to a larger program in a community center or public library that is staffed by volunteer art therapists and psychologists as well as art students from local colleges.



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