

RITE NOW @ ROP

In a recent email to Hillcrest Academy staff, a graduate's parent reminds us of the positive impact made through effective programming and educational opportunities.

"I missed a call from my oldest son this afternoon. He did leave me a voicemail. He called to tell me he is officially an Ohio High School Graduate!!!!!!

Y'all have no idea how proud I am today. The past 7 years has been a huge headache. He had been expelled 3 times before he ever made it to 8th grade. Suspended numerous times. He robbed family and friends and strangers. He sold and stole drugs. He ran away from home and was missing for days at a time. He was shot and almost died. Became paralyzed from his gun shot. He learned to walk and went back to those mean streets... But God was not done with my Baby Bird, he stayed strong and positive.

For the past year he has went from being a 10th grader to a high school graduate!!! He put his mind to it and he did it!!! I couldn't be more proud of my son than I am now. I never gave up on him. I was there through it all with him. Even when he didn't want me there I was there. I prayed that he would wake up one day, and God answered my prayers. He woke up y'all, my baby is headed in the right direction. I am so proud of him.

Thank you to the juvenile system for rehabilitating my son. You all did what no one else that came in my sons life could do. I was so sad that he had to go away and so mad that he was going to be gone for so long. My baby was born the day he was sentenced. I have never had all nine of my kids in one room at one time. That saddens me so much, but in the end I'm OK with it. Cause I know he had to go away, he needed help and guidance that I tried so hard to give him, he just wouldn't listen.

So today I am one proud mother, my Baby Bird is finally done with high school, he did it! I have a GED and his dad doesn't have either, so this is a huge accomplishment. His grandma would be so excited, she's looking down on him and smiling, her little Fuss Box will be somebody!!! So proud of you. I love you."
