

## Louisiana Hero of Excellence:

Jennifer Barnes Maqqio

The Life of a Single Mom Ministries Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Jennifer Maggio is an award-winning author of four books, nationally-recognized speaker, and Chief Executive Officer of a global nonprofit, The Life of a Single Mom. Her personal journey through homelessness, abuse, and multiple teen pregnancies is leaving audiences around the globe riveted and has made her a regular on radio and television programs nationally. Although Maggio graduated as high school valedictorian and class president, life experience became her biggest educator as she became a single mother of two children by the age of nineteen.

She lived in the projects and utilized other government assistances to make ends meet. She pursued her education full-time at night, worked full-time during the day, and parented two children alone for seven years. She found herself huddled on her bathroom floor at twenty years old, certain that no one could ever understand how hopeless she was. Though the journey was long and hard and Maggio is transparent about her many mistakes, she ultimately became an 11-time Circle of Excellence winner in Corporate America for a prominent Fortune 500 Company, HSBC Bank. Her success in Corporate America garnered several regional and national awards, while also providing hands-on experience in human resources, public speaking, recruitment, financial counseling, management, accounts payable/receivable, and much more. Maggio oversaw business accounts totaling more than \$55 million.

In 2007, Maggio began hosting single parent support groups in her home as a volunteer for her local church. She eventually left her corporate job and founded The Life of a Single Mom. Today, Maggio is considered one of the most-recognized national advocates of single parent empowerment and success and uses her faith as a catalyst to teach single mothers that their true value is found in God and they can do anything. She recognizes that single parenthood exists and is passionate about seeing these parents thrive. Her passion is contagious and her story has been used to inspire millions around the globe.

Her long list of awards include the honor of becoming a 2014 Blue Cross Blue Shield Angel Award Winner, 2012 Baton Rouge Business Report's 40x40 Winner, and 2011's Mother of All Ideas Award Recipient. She also won eleven President's Council Circle of Excellence Awards during her tenure with HSBC Bank.

Jennifer has been featured in countless media venues in print, television, and radio, including The New York Times, The 700 Club, Moody Radio, Focus on the Family, Dr. James Dobson, Christian Mingle, Power Women, and many others. In addition to being a busy wife and mother of three, she is also a columnist with several magazines and websites and a national single parenting expert.

To find out more about Jennifer Maggio and all of her wonderful works, please visit www. jennifermaggio.com.