2021 Rising Star Award: Kristina McTigue, 2012

Nate Wildes
Kristina McTigue

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Kristina McTigue ‘12 is a co-recipient of the Rising Star Award. McTigue, a first lieutenant and licensed clinical social worker in the U.S. Air Force, is vice president of her class and helped organize alumni events in Washington, D.C.

I met Christina in 2015. I was a program manager and I was on an interview panel for hiring social workers to come on board and work with kids in foster care.
i remember the interview like it was yesterday and was very impressed and knew that we would hire her and that she would be great as soon as she walked out the door. she is full of compassion and understanding and strives every day to make this world a little bit better for everyone that she loves. working with Teach for America and Charlotte North Carolina earning her master's in clinical social work with a focus in mental health and joining the Child and Family Services agency in the District of Columbia. Some call her Christina but to me she's known as Chrissy. I will also tell you I call her LBW Little Baby Wisdom because she is one of the smartest people I have met who is still figuring out her career.
01:21
she feels very passionate about how
01:24
things should be
01:25
for people and so she wants to ensure
01:28
that the contribution she's making has a
01:30
great return
01:31
for as many people as possible lindsay
01:34
nix
01:34
assistant attorney general for the
district of columbia worked with mctag
on complicated and challenging medical
child abuse
01:40
cases i actually met chrissy because she
01:43
was interested
01:44
in one of the cases that i had at the
time some people would run from these
01:48
cases
01:49
and chrissy stepped up to handle this
01:51
case
01:52
the work that chrissy and i did on this
01:54
case set a precedent that future cases
01:57
in dc must consider the ada and that was
02:00
a win
when not helping shape law mktag rallied
fellow umaine alumni at events in our
nation's capital
today colleagues at wright-patterson air
force base call lieutenant christina
mctigue
invaluable she can help me navigate the
kind of questions asked and just
getting at some of the things that are
deepier that the patient might not want
to talk about at first
to do what lieutenant mctonic does it
takes
takes
takes
the head and the heart to be able to
cradle somebody baby that just died and
just be there
for the mom that's the type of
person that
that she is the person that have heart
for other people chrissy gets up in the
morning to help people and i know that
sounds contrived but it's true
your work is very meaningful really

i know that the entire alumni association

is proud of what you've done by the support uh

children all around the country the work that you've done

uh and you know the the focus that you've brought to

mental health and so i applaud the university of maine for whatever impact they had on christie she's a star as a person and a social worker chrissy's time at the university of maine very much formed the parts of her that all of us are so grateful for we need more christina mctime in our world christina mctagg a tireless advocate and a rising star
in umaine's 2021 alumni achievement awards
tank you umaine for the honor of being selected as a rising star this year and the honor of representing black bears in such a special capacity i am forever grateful to have been a part of an institution that allowed for me to grow as a leader and provide opportunities that have been the foundation of my many successes i'm extremely proud to be a part of a system that not only recognizes but celebrates the crucial work that happens at the community level and draws attention to the importance of the work occurring in the field of mental health umaine always provided me with a sense of community one that i am i was happy to extend and help create for others in all types of capacities in washington
it is what makes umaine and its alumni such a special and unique thing to be a part of. thank you to everyone that has helped me thus far everyone that took the time to celebrate and extend their kind words and the university of maine for this award i am proud to be an airman proud to do this critical work and always proud to be a black bear.