



Testimonies for Jim Sullivan, Certified Career Direct Consultant 2012-2019

"There are many surveys and tests that claim to give young people insight into their natural personality strengths and match those with possible vocational interests. Career Direct is one that lives up to that claim and actually exceeded my expectations. While the survey design is certainly a factor, the true value comes during the meeting between the consultant, student, and parent. The way Jim Sullivan approached each meeting with genuine care and obvious planning, truly helped students reflect and gain insight into their personality strengths as well as open their eyes to possible vocations. Before our students used this assessment, I personally went through the process and can attest to Jim's caring facilitation, asking questions to draw out nuances to more completely interpret the results. Career Direct reminded me of my natural strengths, confirmed my top area of interest (Education!), and allowed me to reflect on how I can leverage my strengths when making decisions."

Genevieve Ermeling, Chief Academic Officer at Orange Lutheran High School

I am delighted to share my experience with Career Direct. I was looking for a tool that would really give my students an understanding of who they are and where they want to go before they start college. It would benefit the student to have the knowledge as they plan college and it would most likely save parent's money since they are less likely to change majors.

I have observed all the consultations Jim Sullivan had with our students. Each one was amazing! Students who had no idea what they wanted to do were given some direction, others had things confirmed, some had confirmation of some things but new insight to other. They were excited when they left.

The parents were especially pleased as it helped them learn about their student. It was eye opening when one parent knew that their student was very good at something, which led the parent to decide that was the field they should pursue, but the student didn't like doing it. I am sure that not only saved the parents money but the student was saved discouragement as well. He saw things in a new way. Every parent I met with was thrilled with Career Direct.

Career Direct is much more than your talents, likes and skills. It goes into great detail about the best atmosphere for you to work in. It covers everything!

Even though the student gets a printed out report, they have access to it online with live links to take you to all the other resources as the student explores further. It gives them everything they need to research further into what they discovered and go as far as they want to with it.

Jim Sullivan is one of a kind. He is kind and sensitive and knows exactly how to approach each student during the consultation. He values them and makes them feel comfortable as he shares the results. I learned a lot from watching him.

Warm Regards, Anne-Marie Lockmyer
Orange Lutheran High School
Faith and Entrepreneurial Business Academy Advisor

I have known Jim Sullivan for more than 20 years and my experience with him has been of integrity. He has served the body of Christ consistently with passion that God owns it all. Crown Career Direct was a tool that Jim made available to my family when our youngest daughter Miriam was in her last semester of college.

The purpose was to gain clarity and validation of the uniqueness of how God created her which helped validate her skills, leadership abilities, and what work environment would generate the best career experience.

Miriam had already had some success in working during college with Apple and a variety of internships but something was unsatisfying. The Career Direct report provided insight of a fulfilling work experience. This report and consultation provided the confidence for her to apply in a very competitive field, survive the grueling interview process by bringing clarity of her value proposition. I am happy to report two promotions later she is working as an assistant producer in the GoPro extreme sports media dept.

I would highly recommend Career Direct as early as possible with High School being the optimum, however this resource proved useful for someone who was about to graduate from college. I could see employers using it to make sure the employee they are hiring is the best fit for the position offered. I am by profession a Financial Planner. I understand the value in planning, the amount of investment for education, the value of a satisfying career. Without reservation I recommend Vision Resourcing Group, Jim Sullivan and Career Direct.

Fred M Vaught ChFC, CLU, CKA
President Capital Resource Management, Inc.

My name is Tyler,

I'm 33 years old and I am currently a manager at a large home improvement store. Even though I have been fortunate enough to climb the managerial ladder within the company due to hard work and a strong desire to provide for my family, I still felt like I was just going through the motions everyday rather than working up to my potential in a career that suited ME. For so long I have conformed to jobs in order to fit their needs, when I could have been searching for a vocation that fit my needs and my God-given talents.

My Career Direct Consultant, Jim Sullivan, spent a couple of hours with my wife and I, explaining in depth the results of my test and the implications of my answers. I learned more about myself in 2-1/2 hours with Jim than I have for the better part of my life! This evaluation will not only confirm who you are and how God made you, but what your strengths and weakness are as well. The most helpful part of this process for me was being able to have words and explanations spelled out for me regarding my characteristics, skills, abilities, and values that I have been unable to verbalize myself in the past. In addition to the consultation, Career Direct provided me with several "next steps" resources to help me narrow my vocational search in order to find the ideal career path for who I am. I have spent money seeing other "career counselors" and always walked away wanting more, needing more clarity, and disappointed in the outcome - mainly, not knowing specifically which career(s) best suited me and where to find them. This was not the case with Jim and Career Direct. I highly recommend this process to anyone who desires to get more out their work, who wants to know themselves on a much deeper level, who feels lost or confused in terms of career choices, who seeks clarity in regards to narrowing their search, who feels trapped in a dead end job, and/or for anyone who has had a successful career but still feels like they are missing out on God's true purpose for their life based on their God-given talents, skills, abilities, values, and characteristics.

You have a choice, you can continue conforming in order to fit into a career that does not fulfill your needs and does not utilize your gifts, or you can contact Jim Sullivan at Career Direct and begin the eye-opening, life-changing journey to discovering your true self and the career that fits YOU!

Tyler, Simi Valley, CA

"I would greatly encourage anyone looking for confirmation or guidance in career choices to take this assessment with Career Direct and the review session with Jim Sullivan. The test results are incredibly thorough. The assessment delves into an array of important aspects of the individual's skills, interests, values etc. to show a composite of your career self. For me, it confirmed that where I had been and where I am planning on going is indeed in line with how God made me. What a blessing! Mr. Sullivan's review session afterwards really helps with breaking everything down and simplifying the results. This is due to Mr. Sullivan's professionalism and godly disposition which aids in understanding for the post-test process. He helps you go further in streamlining the results to a clearer version of your strengths and options for the future. Jeremiah 29:11! "

Bridgette, recent USC graduate. Los Angeles, CA

"I was privileged to work with Jim Sullivan on the Career Direct Assessment in June 2013 as I was transitioning to a new career. I thought the survey was very well done and asked great questions. The real value though was sitting down with Jim after the survey was completed to review the results. Jim was prepared and had copies of the results for me to take home and review with my wife. He walked me through each page of the results explaining what everything meant. This survey really helped me understand how God has wired me and gave me tangible career fields to explore. I really enjoyed how it tied together my personality, skills/abilities, and vocational interests with my values. I came away with a laser focus as I'm exploring options for my next career."

Jeremy, recent COO of Mariners Church in Newport Beach, CA

I found Career Direct to be one of the most accurate and insightful tools for understanding my personal and career profile I have ever used. Instead of simply being a static, theoretical assessment of my "strengths" and weaknesses, Career Direct gave me deep understanding of my work style, my optimal work environments, and even suggested things to do that can help me balance my strong areas and weak points for greater success. I highly recommend it to anyone seeking a deeper understanding of what can make them successful in their career and happier in their life.

**Dr. Carl Moeller
CEO, Biblica International**

"For me, it felt kind of like the Lord was bestowing a rite-of-passage type of manhood blessing on Daniel [17 yrs. old] as his God-given design was being revealed to him by the Lord in the presence of his dad and youth pastor. Afterwards, Daniel was very appreciative and commented that he felt validated, confirmed, and as he looks back on things based on the assessment, understands why he feels God's pleasure in the things he enjoys.

At the conclusion of the consultation, I shared with the youth pastor that I have made two educational assessment "scholarships" available to the ministry for students whom he thought may benefit from this type of service.

Robert, Career Direct Consultant and father of Daniel in Pasadena, CA

Hope Pilkerton 17 and Parents Career Direct Testimony Summer 2015

Dear Mr. Sullivan,

Thank you so much for your time, expertise, and thoughtful prayers. I was excited to review the results of Career Direct. The question of, "What do I want to do with the rest of my life" is daunting to a 17-year-old. I felt optimistic and relieved when my character strengths and weaknesses were explained. I feel the test was quite an accurate measure of my personality traits. This information will help tremendously as I make decisions to guide me in my path to glorify God and continue with my journey of life. Thank you again Mr. Sullivan.

Sincerely,
Hope Pilkerton

Hope Pilkerton
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Our daughter Hope, is entering her senior year at Lutheran High School of Orange County. Suddenly it has become real to all of us that the future is here already! It is time to identify the colleges that would be the best fit for the possible career path she is working towards. Overwhelmed with the possibilities, Career Direct's program has been so helpful in providing filters to identify Hope's gifts and interests. The Educational Decision-Making tool is exactly what it says and has already helped us define some parameters to work with. Thank you for your insight and guidance!

Sincerely, Dr. Dana and Stacey Pilkerton

Mr. Sullivan, in terms of the consultation helping us narrow our focus for Joseph – it has shed a light on the variety of options ahead for him.

It was particularly fascinating to distinguish between Vocation, Means, and Hobbies/Lifestyle, and Interests. The fact that Joseph (15 ½ years old) has an interest in something does not necessarily mean he needs to make a vocation out of it. The Personality and sub-factors as well as strengths and non-strengths were also helpful. You were very patient in answering all our questions, and thorough going through the report and discussing the next steps for us. There are so many resources available through the web site that it will take some time just to research and watch the videos! We are also considering having my younger son go through the assessment, as well as both of us – as I am less than 7 years from retirement and it would help narrow my focus now at my current job of 27 years, as well as post-retirement options. Again, God Bless and thank you again for all your help,

John and Donna

We have a son, Camden, who is in his senior year of high school. Last year we had Camden, who was less than enthusiastic, work through all kinds of personal inventories and workbooks trying to find some direction for his future. We were made aware of the Career Direct program earlier this year, but weren't willing to commit any resources toward it because Camden just wasn't interested.

We were pleased, however, when Camden approached us during the summer ready to participate and be invested in Career Direct. We contacted Jim Sullivan who helped us understand the process and then communicated directly with Camden to get him started.

The day of our consultation with Jim was a very enjoyable and enlightening time. It was so helpful to see the information contained in the Educational Decision Making report. Consideration was taken in the areas of personality, general interests, skills & abilities and values. The results confirmed some of the careers that he had previously been thinking about and also highlighted some new areas to explore. Camden will definitely enter this next season of his life with more direction. An unexpected benefit of this process was being able to use the information as a tool in filling out college and scholarship applications.

We would highly recommend the Career Direct journey for any student who is looking for motivation and guidance in making future education and career decisions.

Sincerely,

Steve & Penny Leptich

Hi Mr. Sullivan,
Here is my testimony:

Career Direct has been a whole process that has helped me to connect the dots of where I am now, to where I want to be, to what I want to do. Before this, I had some ideas of what I might want to do, but ultimately, I wasn't very sure. After the consultation with Jim Sullivan, I have realized that some of the ideas I had were accurate, while others are actually not the best fit for me. This program has helped me figure out where my God-given gifts will be best spent, and given me a better idea of what I should be aiming for. It is now exciting to think about going through the career planning research process offered in the "Next Steps" part of the program. It is my goal to pursue a vocation, and even hobbies, that will add energy and excitement to my life.

Camden Leptich is 18

It was a pleasure and a privilege for our family to have met you, through God's grace. We were glad to have you help us guide Adele in this crucial developmental stage of her life. Now armed with the knowledge and riches of resources provided during our consultations with you, we don't feel so lost.

Here is Adele's testimony: Adele is 16 and sophomore in High School

"I have always had a vague idea of what I wanted to pursue as a career, however I wasn't sure where to start looking. Jim helped me narrow down my options in an easy, informative, and fun way. The assessment was extremely accurate and told me several things I already knew about myself, and some things that I didn't. Additionally, Jim sat down with my parents and, and we discussed potential career paths for me. I learned a lot more about myself thanks to Career Direct."

Thank you so much again! Happy new Year and All the best!!

Sincerely,

Alan & Eileen Lo

This is a testimony from Guy and Kem, parents of 3 (15-18-year olds) who all attended the STRIVE "Career Essentials Workshop" June 10, 2017 at San Diego Christian College and they each completed a Career Direct assessment and consultation with their parents present.

"As a father and step-father, I have been stunned by the "just do it" attitude that seems to surround advice and direction about college. Far from practical advice, my kids seem to hear only the brochure side of the college experience, with very little emphasis paid to the financial consequences of their higher education aspirations. While sitting through presentations on federal financial aid I was subjected to a great deal of information about how to fill out the FAFSA, but almost no information about the burden of the debt students might incur and how to manage life after college.

The STRIVE conference was a welcome change of perspective. Having taken the Career Direct Assessment, my kids came to the conference ready to apply what they had learned about themselves to both college and career. STRIVE's focus on the practical aspects of attending college and ways to avoid debt were extremely helpful. In addition, the application of Career Direct to getting a job was a great benefit for my kids, and started them thinking about how to market themselves for the workplace. Finally, the mock job interviews allowed all the students in attendance the opportunity to practice job seeking skills that would serve them throughout their lives. STRIVE provided practical support that will benefit my kids beyond their college experiences."

Guy and Kem

Gabriel's House is excited to be providing Career Direct assessments and consultations for as many residents as possible with funding received from granters who specify an interest in career planning projects. Our goal will be to have residents attend a quarter Strive workshop that will greatly enhance their job acquisition. Additionally, a career coach will meet with residents who have completed the assessment and/or Strive workshop to provide support and encouragement as well as accountability for their job or career progress. Gabriel's House encourages higher education and will aide residents in signing up for classes using the Career Direct evaluation material designed to help individuals measure opportunities per their personal assessment results.

We have applied to Union Bank for 5K as well as to a local woman's club called The Monday Club for 7.5K. Both organizations were very excited about our career program. Neither grant has been awarded to date but have given us indicators that it is highly likely that we will be awarded funding for our Career Direct and Strive workshop. We should know the results in the next few weeks.

Having taken multiple assessment and coaching training classes (and teaching a few) I have found the Career Direct Consultant training to be extremely comprehensive and well done. The videos of Career Direct Consultants doing real life consultations are an excellent tool to model the way consultations are performed. The abundance of supporting materials are invaluable to understanding the value of stewarding our unique design and strengths for the glory of the Kingdom of God.

Cindy Wilson, Executive Director

Gabriel's House

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Gabriel's House update 7/31/2018

Career Direct at Gabriel's House.

What a great start to the program! I've done 12 assessments with some really great results. All of the ladies who've taken the assessment and experienced the consultations were struck by how wonderful God has made them! Some are actually surprised because they've never experienced such validation in their lives. Many are taking classes but had no real direction and now have a better focus on what career would be the best fit.

Recently we've had a college graduate with a biology degree come to realize why her job as a sales manager for a pharmaceutical company burned her out to the point of needing therapy. Career direct showed her that she is best suited to compassionate work with individuals and companies who hold a higher value of integrity like herself. Best of all she found hope again—a hope for a future being who God has created her to be and doing what God has created her to do.

Cindy Wilson, Exec. Director