

Shadowing at NYC Medics

During the month of January, I worked at Roosevelt Hospital with Kevin Hu, another student from Oberlin College and Nick Nobel Weiss, the director of NYC Medics. The main goal for this project is to develop greater understanding of the humanitarian aid sector including but not limited to non- government organizations, institutional and organizational challenges, and humanitarian philosophies and principles. Moreover the goal of the program was to help us developed an organizational, humanitarian aid skills such as communication, meeting agenda design, and grant proposal writing. Throughout the experience in New York City, I was doing research about the humanitarian aid and research humanitarian issues while interacting with and learning from those who work in the field. My topic of concentration was food and nutrition in Kansugu, Malawi. Finally, I gathered all the information and turned it into a grant proposal. I did most of my research at my apartment, and we scheduled meeting to discuss our progress. Nick also helped us.

Besides researching, I also shadowed Marcelle Hopkins at the United Nations. It was one of the best experiences I had in New York City. I saw many art pieces from countries such as Thailand, China, Cuba, and Japan. These were some of the amazing art pieces such as the Japanese Peace Bell, a Chinese ivory carving, and a Venetian mosaic depicting Norman Rockwell. Moreover, I get to learned more about Al Jazeera, a television network that launched Arabic news. In one day, I become more familiar with United Nations and got a feel of what would a typical day of journalism is like. I thought it was really cool, because it is very important for Marcelle to pick the right news. That

was a very important part because she is the one who made the decision for what the audience in the Middle East can know about in the United States.

This month of January has brought me many challenges. Not only the challenges of the first internship, but also the challenges for being in a big city like New York. I have met many different kinds of people, learning how to manage my money, and at the same time learn how to find my ways around the city. Before I was really scared to ask people for directions; however, I depend on human sources for everything in New York City. One of the people that I will never forget is my supervisor, Nick. He has piqued my interest into humanitarian aids. I always wanted to become a doctor to help people who are poor and do not have an access to a doctor. Nick showed me that there are many opportunities as a doctor. I don't really have to stay in an office. It is more interesting to me to travel to different countries and apply my skills where appropriate.

After this experience, I hope to continue a more hands-on experience in the future related to my research. Overall, this internship only gave me a small feeling of what it's really like to work in a medical related field. However, this experience definitely helps me to understand more about my career and the skill to apply and view the skills that I have learned in the past. This internship provides me with a basic background. However, in the future, I would like to shadow a MD from a hospital. I really want more of a hands-on experience and more interaction with different people in the workplace.