

Alberto Aramburo

HEP/CAMP Intern Weekly Bio

Week 4, 6/30 – 7-6

6, July 2014



Work is very exciting because it is my first organized action that will be taking place. The United Farm Workers have been planning to protest several Republican offices for their party's inaction in regards of the immigration reform. On July 2nd, my group in Wenatchee, Washington and others across the country visited our congressman's district offices and red carded them for inactions, like a referee would in the FIFA World Cup Game's. We shared stories of how the US's broken immigration system has affected our communities. All the actions were successful and left a message to the offices, some got press coverage, and thanks to the Wenatchee group, which was

led by Maria Aramburo, I was able to set up a meeting with my Congressman Dave Reichert on July 9th.

Friday of this week was awesome for it was 4th of July weekend. We started off the day by going to the 4th of July parade. It started off with the various branches of the military. Then followed by a mix of high school marching bands, culture dances and a variety of nice cars. I know this is random, but if you ever watched the Disney movie "A Dinosaur Story", there is a part of the movie where they show a parade and it shows these huge balloons that are walked down the parade. What I'm



trying to say is that I always had this childhood desire to see these balloons in person and I got to see them here in DC. They had one of a dragon and I just thought it was an awesome experience. After the parade we went to 5 Guys, a burger joint that I have been wanting to try for years. If you were to know me you would know that I enjoy food and I love burgers. I have always heard a lot of hype about 5 guys and all I got to say



is that I'm not disappointed. We later went to go watch the fireworks down by the national monument, and it was packed with people. When I was walking through the park I felt like I was



part of an ant colony and the Washington Monument was the Nest. We sat in front of the World War Memorial, and got a front row seat to one of the most beautiful fire work shows I've seen. When I was watching the fireworks it hit me, I was at the nation's capital. I got to see fireworks over the same monuments I would see in pictures, and I am so thankful for the CAMP Program. For if it wasn't for this program, I wouldn't be able to get these lifelong memories, I wouldn't of met the amazing people I've met in DC, including Lisa Ramirez, who has been like family to me by opening her home to me, believing in me and showing me that it's because of my past struggles that I am here in DC. I need to embrace them, the CAMP interns: Gabriel, Ariana, Samantha, Vianney, Elizabeth, who have been nothing but great people and amazing friends.

Saturday I got the chance to volunteer at the Folk life festival where I was helping with the recycle and compost areas. During this I learned that plastic can be plant based, so it is compostable. I also got to wonder around and observe the Chinese and Kenyan culture. Every week just keeps getting better. Never in my wildest dreams would I have thought last year that I would be in DC working. Just that statement alone is mind blowing to me that I am working in Washington DC.

