

Alberto Aramburo

HEP/CAMP Intern Weekly Bio

Week 8, 7/28 – 8/2

4, August 2014



I had to miss most of my day of work for I had to go for my second appointment with Dr. Marx and his assistant, Ema Franco, at Comprehensive Dental Care. Again when I walked in I was greeted by Robin the clerk who helped me get my first appointment with them. When Ema came to get me. She looked happy to see my like if I was a friend she hadn't seen in a while. The dentist then came in with a foot brace and told me he was getting

surgery tomorrow. It then truly showed that this was a good hearted man. He was going to fix my teeth for free while in pain. He then looked at the x-rays and decided he would do one side at a time. He did 7 fillings for free. Seven. I don't know how I can repay this man. Other than when



I'm in the position to help someone I will even if I have to go a little out of my way to do it. He then scheduled me to get my teeth cleaned for free. This guy was just awesome. I don't know what this man saw in me that made him want to help me. Till today I still ask myself, "Why did he help me?" Thanks to Dr. Marx, Ema Franco, Robin and the lady who cleaned my teeth I can smile and eat normally, but during all this I still didn't know who told Amas I had a damaged tooth.

All that week after work the interns and I had to attend CHCI events in the evening, but I didn't mind too much because they would feed us. On Tuesday we went to a networking event, but I left a little early. As I was going home I got a text from Lisa saying she was going to Pentagon City to go eat for Ruby's birthday, so I went straight there. I got to meet Ruby's family and they were extremely nice and humble. They were also really fun to be around. We went to a Mexican Restaurant which is rare in the DC area. Every chance I got to hang out with Lisa and her family I would. Something about being around them was so comforting. They are a family who genuinely want to help people. Their family values seemed to be around helping people. When I have a family I'm going to adopt these values, and show my kids the value of giving back like Lisa and Mike did with her kids.

The next day was CHCI Graduation day, and since CAMP Interns were also CHCI Interns we graduated with them. This day was kind of important to me for it was my first graduation. I would always hear my friends talk about their



High School Graduation, and how the intensity in the room would build up when they would call their name. I finally got to understand how that felt. Going up on stage and getting handed a certificate and getting your picture taken. Everyone in the room was smiling. It was an awesome experience.



On Thursday we got the awesome opportunity to tour the white house. It was gorgeous inside and out, but it was smaller than I expected. Right after Gabriel gave me an awesome tour of the Capitol. It was cool because he was my personal tour guide, but it was better than that because it was a friend who was showing me around not some random person.

Later that night it hit me. Lisa told Amas that I had a bad tooth. My first weekend in DC I got invited by Lisa to go on a bike ride and hang out with her and her family. We went on a bike ride, but Katlyn, Lisa's daughter, bike broke down so her and Lisa went back to their home to get the truck so they could pick us up later. Mike, Toby, and I kept biking for about 7 miles to this area with a Farris Wheel. During our bike ride I got to know Toby and this kid is an awesome kid. We started talking about higher



education and what our plans for the future were, and during our conversation I couldn't help but think man this kid has it together and is going places. I also got to speak with Mike for a while and he is the most relaxed guy I've met. I could talk to this guy for hours or just listen to what he has to say, because I would always get something out of it. We then met up with the girls and ate Potbelly and then went to a town in Virginia and just explored and sat next to the river it was then I got to know

Katlyn, and how she has explored the world, and her experiences there. I was so amazed that she was my age and has done all these awesome things. She inspired me to travel the world. As a kid I thought traveling around the world was an unachievable dream, but in 20 minutes Katlyn demolished those doubts. I then got to speak with Lisa next to the river and she made me

realize that I had an amazing opportunity and that I can't take it for granted. Everything Lisa told me that day just motivated me to continue my education, and that day Lisa told me about a girl who had never been to the dentist and how she helped her get her teeth



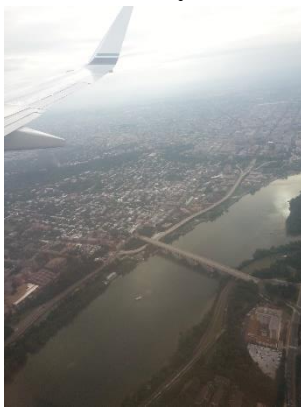
fixed. I then showed her my tooth. After remembering this, I was sure Lisa was the reason I had my tooth fixed. Lisa has been my guardian angel this summer. She opened my eyes in so many aspects in life. She made me feel like a part of her family. She always invited me places and always had me in her thoughts. I'm so thankful that God put Lisa in my path.

On our last day Friday, we went to our last CHCI Programming and said our final goodbyes to the CHCI Interns. All summer I felt kind of separated from them, but it wasn't till



this last week where we saw them on a daily basis that I felt like I could connect with them. Even though I didn't get to hang out with them as much I'm going to miss them. At the end of programming I was really sad to say goodbye, but I'm used to goodbyes. Right after we went to Lisa's house for one last time for Ruby's birthday and our Goodbye party. We had a BBQ, with some amazing ribs that Mike made, and we just hung

out and talked for a while and later in the evening we went downstairs and started to sing some karaoke and that turned into a jam session with John, Toby, and Mike. Then back to a karaoke to a Mexican style



dance it was the funnest night I've ever had. Till the end. Lisa put on the last song and it would say this is not goodbye and I almost cried. I was going miss everyone. In two months I made some incredible friends and shared some amazing memories. That night I told Lisa thank you for telling Amas and she just said, "I told you I'd take care of you." I can honestly say I have family in DC and their last name is Ramirez. When they dropped us off at the metro stop I cried a bit. I haven't cried in the longest time and saying my final goodbye to Lisa really got to

me. I don't know why, but I made sure no one noticed. Lisa has impacted my life in so many ways that I can't even explain. I made her a promise that night that I would go visit her if I ever go visit the east coast. She's like my mom in DC.

I pulled an all-nighter that night. For when I got to the dorms it was almost time to turn in my keys. Once I did I cleaned my room as much as a could packed the last of my things, said goodbyes to one of my new friends Gabriel and headed towards the airport with Elizabeth. We got on the plane and left DC. We couldn't believe we were leaving. Part of us didn't want to leave but the other couldn't wait to get home. Right when I got off the plane me and Elizabeth said our goodbyes, a friend who is like a brother to me and my girlfriend was there to pick me up. I am going to miss everyone, but with God's will I will see everyone later in the future.

