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Congresswoman Michelle Lujan Grisham

Day Thirty-Six: Saturday, July 15th



Day thirty-six was a day spent building relationships. I hung out with an intern from the office who I am so fortunate to meet not only because she's enriched my experience D.C. but also because she helped me see through a different perspective. She and I come from different social classes, ethnicities and backgrounds and through her, I was able learn how to connect with people that different than myself. I learned that rather than focusing on differences, we should focus on our similarities. I also had dinner

with some of the CHCI interns and we all shared a bit about our upbringing. It was amazing to hear from everyone and understand how diverse and different the Latino community is.

Day Thirty-Seven: Sunday, July 16th



I had the amazing opportunity to volunteer for the Wild Life Refuge System during D.C.'s Latino Conservation Week. During the event we handed out flyers, participated in yoga, arts and even took pictures. It was very nice getting to know the Latinx community here and learn of their presence here in the nation's capital. I am always so pleased to meet people from different areas. As I mentioned in a previous blog, I am not used to meeting Latinx from other ethnic backgrounds as my hometown is predominantly of Mexican

descent. I am immensely proud for where I come from and I am always excited to meet others from other parts of the world and sharing and learning about each other.

Day Thirty-Eight: Monday, July 17th



Oh, what a Monday! I felt like it was a very eventful day at work as I numerous new tasks. I also had the opportunity to attend a briefing titled “Immigration that Works”. I agreed with many of the remarks the speakers made, however was a little surprised when the presentation mainly because it appear as if the individuals asking questions afterwards hadn’t listened to those who presented. I say this because they asked questions that I feel were answered throughout the presentation and I feel their intentions were to prove the

presenters wrong. This bothered me because I know someday they will become representative leaders for our communities and if they aren’t willing to listen, things might not change for the better. On the other hand, this really motivated me to want to run for office one day. I truly believe that our nation’s leaders must accurately represent the needs of people like myself and all those others I have met during this internship.

Day Thirty-Nine: Tuesday, July 18th



Another busy day! I love it! We were rather busy because Congress was in session and had a lot constituent calls. It really makes me happy that people take an interest in how things are going in the country and want to reach out to their representative. I personally really enjoy answering the phone because when constituents call and voice their opinion it encourages me to do the same. I wish more unrepresented communities were aware of who their representatives are and what actions they can take to assure they are heard. I have plans to spread awareness on how to do so and for sure plan on calling my representative on issues that matter to me and my community.

Day Forty: Wednesday, July 19th



Fortunately, Congresswoman Michelle Lujan Grisham is the chair for CHC (Congressional Hispanic Caucus) and the staff work in the same office as I do. This morning I was asked if I could sit in on a Telephonic briefing on behalf of one of the CHC staffers. It was a joy to learn more about the issue and to find out there are people and committees defending Undocumented students. This subject is very dear to me. I have family and friends who would be drastically affected by this. I really appreciated the consideration and approach the CHC took on the issue and wish other members in Congress would listen and understand that DACA students are part of our community.

Day Forty-One: Thursday, July 20th



During work, I told myself I'd go on a jog, play basketball or find something outdoorsy to do. To my surprise it began to rain and I ran into some men who doubted me because of my gender. I had gotten my hopes up, I even biked across town because I wanted to play a basketball pick-up game. Like them, the first thing I thought was "I am a girl". I've been in this situation plenty of times so I knew they weren't going to let me play. I had to insist, be persistent, confident and then prove them wrong. Finally, I was about to play when the facility closed.

I was so disappointed because I had been very patient while practically convincing them to let me play. Regardless, I found the courage to prove them wrong even if we didn't play and it is safe to say that I made new friends.

Day Forty-Two: Friday, July 21st

The U.S. State Department has a crazy security but I got to meet some spectacular panelist. The people on the panel were a Deputy Director, Deputy of Science and Technology, Adviser to the Secretary of State and the program officer. Really loved hearing about the things the U.S is currently engaging on regarding science and technology in the classroom.