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Week 3

I can't believe how fast time is flying by, today is the end of week three. I had an amazing and busy week full of new experiences. It all started on Monday. We went to eat to Roti with my boss Lisa and Pat as well as the CAMP and Dale Ride interns. After we ate dinner we walked to the Kennedy center to watch *A Salute to the 2015 US Presidential Scholars*. My boss Lisa gave us tickets for this amazing event. I have never seen anything like it. There were students dancing, singing, reading and playing instruments. They were so skilled. I could see the hard work they put in because everything was so perfect. I admired their dedication and love for their job. While watching the show I felt a mixed of emotions. Some songs made me sad, others happy and it made me really reflect about life. I was speechless after the concert because there are not words to describe how beautiful, emotional, and wonderful the show was. I was really happy that the other CAMP interns got to meet the Dale Ride interns because we all got along really well.



Tuesday was an unforgettable day for me. My coworkers were going to watch the Nationals vs Braves baseball game. I really wanted to go and I made this comment to some of the people that were going. Around 5:30 p.m. I received a call from Lisa Ramirez asking me if I wanted to go. At the time I was working out, but as soon as she said that I run out of the gym to get ready. I was so excited since I had never seen a baseball game. I honestly don't know much about baseball, but I knew just being there would be an amazing experience. I headed to the metro station to take the metro to Foggy Bottom, unfortunately something was wrong with the metro and I was stuck inside the metro for 40 minutes. I



I was so anxious to get out of the metro because I wanted to get ready to go to the game. Finally after waiting for a long time I got to Foggy Bottom and ran to my dorm. Fifteen minutes after that I was ready running to the metro station. It was raining so hard, but I was not going to let anything stop me from going to the game. When I got to my final destination, I got a call from Tara my supervisor and she told me that the rain was really bad and I should reconsider going to the game. I was so excited to go that nothing stopped me from going to the game. I headed to the exit of the metro station, bought a poncho and opened my umbrella. As soon as I got out of the metro station I could feel how the wind and rain wanted to flip my



umbrella, but I kept on walking. I could see the stadium and I felt nothing but excitement. Tara came to find me to the entrance of the station and I finally got inside the stadium. I felt like it was a dream. It was raining so bad that the game started 2 hours late, but I waited patiently. I got to see the game for almost one hour before I had to leave because the metro stops running at 11 and I need to be home before that. I want to thank Edward and his wife Jennifer for explaining the game. Also I want to thank Celeste, Tara, Pat, and Lisa Gillette for inviting me as well as my boss Lisa Ramirez for giving me the ticket.

Since I got to Washington D.C. I have been trying to learn as much as I can because I want to go back and help my community. On Wednesday we met with Arturo Rodriguez, the president of United Farm Workers. I admired him so much because he has done so many great things for farm workers. He explained us his journey and the stuff he has done for agricultural workers. I was very inspired by him because he has been so brave and as changed the life of many workers. I asked him if I could receive training about the rights of agricultural workers so I could go back to my community and educate the agricultural workers about their rights. He said yes and in two weeks the CAMP interns and I will receive training. I am extremely excited for this because I know I can make a change and I am very excited to go back and start making a difference by things I am planning to do to improve the life of many migrant and agricultural workers. I am so thankful for this internship and I know I have the obligation to learn as much as I can and take everything back to my people.



On Thursday I had the pleasure to go with Lisa Ramirez, Tara and Lisa Gillette to a meeting with the IMEC members. It was amazing to see them talk to the directors. They are doing so many things for immigrant students and giving them opportunities to improve their education. I love how the directors were so interested on all the information that they were receiving. I am excited for all the migrant students like myself because change is happening every day. I am very lucky to see how hard the whole department of education works every day for programs like CAMP, HEP and MEP. All the work is worth it because I first hand have been beneficial of MEP and CAMP and I can truly say my success has been thanks to these programs.

On Friday CHCI took us to the Newseum. I have to say that this is my favorite place in D.C. We liked so much that we decided to go back on Saturday. They have a special edition of the 9/11 event as well as the investigation details. This was my favorite part of the museum. I was in Mexico when this happened and once I got to America on 2011, I learned a little bit about it. To me it was a sad history and nothing else. Now, that I got to see with my eyes parts of the air plane and many pictures, it hurts me because I do love America. Mexico will always be special to me, but America is my country now. Whatever happened and will happen matters to me because this country has given me so much. I realized that I am eager to learn more about the American



history and I want to be part of the history made every day in this country. I will always remember the Newseum with special love because it helped me find something inside me that I didn't know I had.

Lastly, today Sunday we decided to go to the American history museum. It's a beautiful museum we only got to see the west side and we will be going back to see the rest. My favorite part of the museum was Price of Freedom because they have many items, stories and information about the wars and everything America had to go through to be a free place. I am extremely grateful for all the people that gave their life to make this happen. We also went to the Peru festival. We got to see people sewing rope to make a bridge, dancers and singers. It was amazing to see the passion and enthusiasm of the people showing their culture and who they are. The thing that impacted me the most was a piece that a man from Peru was painting. It said "libertad" which means freedom. It was a very inspiring day and I am so grateful to live in a country where freedom is a right to all the individuals.



I wish that time could go slower because I am not ready to go home. I know I still have so much to learn and I can't wait for week four to start. I am ready to learn, work and make a change.