

Aleysa Garcia

Week 9

7/18/2016 – 7/24/2016



Our last week in DC. Can you believe it? Two months have gone by. In a couple of days I will be back home. This week the Directors from CAMP and HEP will be coming to DC for their annual conference. While they are here, the CAMPEe interns get to help with whatever is needed. We also get the chance to visit staffers from our regions, tell our story, and keep gaining their support for future CAMP/HEP cohorts.

Outside of the ADM, we got to have a White House Self-guided Tour. All five of us got to go to the White House, while in the tour we noticed that there were more security officers than usual. Therefore, we asked if the President was in the WH, which he was! He was in the family dining room; he was so near yet so far.

On Thursday, we also met with Julie Rodriguez the Deputy Director for Public Engagement and Roberto Rodriguez the Deputy Assistant to the President for Education Policy. We had the opportunity to talk to them, and tell them about CAMP, the internship, and us. They are such humbling individuals, with great stories themselves.

Friday was a special day. The Hispanic Initiative took me with them to a meeting that they had at the CIA. All of the interns, staffers, and personnel from other agencies. It was amazing!



This experience has been eye opening. There are no words to describe the experience as a whole. From cooking together and eating together as a family to having adventures. We all learned from one another, from our journeys, work, and experiences. We learned to see the world from a new perspective. Each one of us have been blessed to have been put in this internship together, I could not have more wonderful people as a cohort. When I remember the summer of 2016, I will remember my work, the office, staff, and fellow interns. Nevertheless, something that will always come to my mind before anything else is the people. Monse getting us lost (even with GPS), Jose and his “serious” questions, Crystal with her snapchats, and Jasmin keeping us



on check. They have left a footprint in my heart. We are CAMPFamilia.

Thank you to everyone, for sponsoring this internship that otherwise I would not be able to experience, there will never be enough words for my gratitude to the individuals who helped me along the way. Special thanks to Greg and Amas, DC was magical and thanks to you, I opened a door to the unimaginable. To Dr. Lisa, thank you for letting us share your home. Pat, you are truly amazing, and all the wonderful people who are investing in the seeds that will harvest in the future.

Con Cariño,
Aleysa

