

HEP/CAMP National Internship Program Week 4
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Monday started pretty bad. I woke up later than usual, so I wasn't able to look amazing or prepare my lunch. Other than my wardrobe disaster, Monday was a nice day at the office. We had a staff meeting and I just realized now that the staff at NVG, LLC. are lobbyists. When I found out, I was a little shocked and felt isolated because I was not an actual lobbyist. I knew that I was lobbying for a bill, but I did not know they would conducted this full-time. I was able to ask the staff what they do as lobbyists and if they had any tips to contact members of Congress. They gave me a bunch of tips and they also gave me tips about running a campaign, which will be useful in the future.



After work, the interns and I went with Lisa Ramirez to the U.S. Presidential Scholars Ceremony at the John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts. It was filled with performances from some of the scholars. Each performance was giving a message: Pride, Freedom, and Unity. The performers were "proud to be American" and many of the performances repeated that message. Americanism is a unique thing that everyone interprets in different ways. I interpret it through pride, freedom, and unity. I was really happy that Lisa invited us to this event.

On Tuesday, I organized the list of supporters for the bill I'm working on. The Fairness for Farm Workers Act was introduced to Congress on Monday, so now we have been working on getting more support from members of Congress. After work, I went to Union Station, a metro station filled with places to eat and shop. I looked around for souvenirs for my friends and family back home. I saw a lot of things I liked and decided to go back again before I left. In one of the shops, I saw a podium and decided to take a picture. (Unfortunately, Trump and Melania were in the back. I left Melania there because she wasn't the worst.) After seeing pictures of me standing at the podium, I pictured my dream of standing at the podium with the Presidential Seal about to give my Inaugural Speech in 2050.

Wednesday was a writing day, and everyone should know that writing is not my strongest skill. I was writing letters to members of Congress thanking them for the support of the Fairness for Farm Workers Act. Because I enjoyed the type of environment I was in, so I did not have any trouble writing the letters. If I was asked to write a legislative bill, I would have had no trouble because I enjoy writing legislative pieces. After work, I had



a relaxing day and was finally able to sleep early. I'm glad I did because I had a lot more phone calls to do on Thursday.

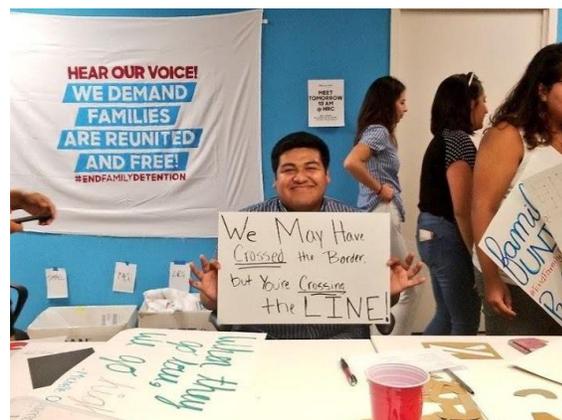
Thursday was a fast-paced day. I made phone calls to congressional offices about cosponsoring the Fairness for Farm Workers Act and phone calls to HEP/CAMP offices about the Annual Directors Meeting reservations. I took a break and went to a Supreme Court protest with Grace, another NVG office intern. It was very small, but impactful. We were voicing our concerns in front of the Supreme Court and I was glad everyone else had these concerns as well.

After work, I went to a networking event, "The DNC LGBTQ Caucus & Pride at Work." I went with one of the other CHCI interns and I had huge amounts of fun. The idea of networking is very scary for me, but I did not think of this as that type of event. I connected with a variety of people and I gave my business card to one Chief of Staff who works in a congressional office from Florida. He suggested we meet up one day so we can further discuss my goals in Congress. I was excited because I was just acting like myself at the event and I was able to connect with people.

Friday's CHCI programming was full of budgeting and financing, which made me happy. We went to the Office of the Comptroller and Denise and Glenda, financial specialists, gave us information about credit and student loans. It was beneficial for college students to be financially

healthy and stable in the future. After the programming, we went to Voto Latino

and made posters for the Immigration protest on Saturday. I enjoyed making posters because I was able to express my feelings for the protest. A lot of people liked what one of my posters said "We May Have Crossed the Border, but You're Crossing the LINE!"



After working at Starbucks Saturday morning, I was able to go to the protest at the White House and stand with the other people who are against family separation at the border.

Sunday was full of cleaning duties. I did my laundry and cleaned the entire apartment. I got a text message from the congressional staffer and we set up a day to have dinner and talk about a pathway to a career as a Congressman!

I enjoyed this week because I was able to meet more people and expand my circles. I hope I can expand my horizons even more before I leave D.C. I am still so glad I am here!

