



My final week here was very bittersweet. I felt like I was barely getting into the swing of things at the office and to know that it was my last week there only made me want to do so much more. Some of the Department of Education interns had the opportunity to have a special “going away party” lunch to celebrate and talk about the impact our internships have provided us with. Speaking for myself, I quite honestly never envisioned myself being an intern in Washington, D.C. at such a young age. I was constantly amazed at all the interactions I had with different types of people out here. I cherished every moment I found myself being molded by different experiences, but also different perspectives I was introduced to by the individuals I encountered on a day-to-day basis. Throughout my experience here, I was happily delighted to find out that some of the people we often put on a pedestal because of their status, like political public figures, are just humans like us. This reminded me to continue treating others humbly and with kindness no matter who they are. That golden rule of treating others the way you would want to be treated often becomes a second thought, but I found it to be very appreciated here since it’s often an overlooked trait.



I am so grateful to the Office of Migrant Education team who taught me to work gracefully and supported me in throughout my eight weeks here. Lisa, Pat, Maria, Lindsay, Jennifer, Cassandra, Steve, Ed, Carla, Preeti, Sarah, and Michelle thank you for all the advice you offered me and unconditional kindness you showed me. Thank you for being the best work family I could have asked for.

My last big adventure to really have a dramatic close to my 2018 HEP/CAMP Association Internship was to take a sporadic one-day trip to New York! I planned a jam-packed itinerary to take on as much of Manhattan as I possibly could. This last hurrah reminded me of what this internship has allowed me to do. It has allowed me to develop as a leader, self-starter and overall person. Before this internship, I had not experienced being in a city where no one had a clue of who I was without the guidance of my parents or a mentor behind me. It was both terrifying and refreshing to see what kind of impact I had on others solely based on my personality and work ethic. Within

these things and other factors, I was able to take advantage of more opportunities and, in turn, meet new people. I am so grateful for everyone who has intentionally, and unintentionally, had an impact on my life to get me to where I am today. I hope to continuously make an impact not only for myself, but for the community I represent, wherever the next opportunity lies.

