



United For Sight Jordyn Ruiz, Medical Humanities, 2020

Leadership

SUMMARY

Unite For Sight is an international 501(c)3 non-profit organization that funds sight-restoring surgeries for patients in developing countries free of charge. I reestablished the chapter and served as President for the 2018-2019 academic year to raise awareness on the global health issue of preventable blindness. My goal was to encourage UTSA to be a part of the solution and inspire students to innovate, lead, and impact lives through intentional service. I helped coordinate the fundraising events and chapter activities while working closely with the headquarters in Connecticut to align our mission and involvement with UFS. I sought to develop my communication skills, team collaborative techniques, and outlets for cultivating a community of giving back.



SPICES

Coordinating the initiatives for the cause was only possible with the team that was created by my side and honoring everyone involved. Practicing leadership is providing others with the opportunity to walk in their creativity and lead too.

HERBS

The honorable task of funding vision restoration surgeries was a practice of benevolent service to humanity. I recognized the problem of preventable blindness as my problem too which enabled me to prioritize the projects supporting the medical care treatment.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

I learned the importance of team collaboration for effective results to occur. I learned the unique opportunity as President to consistently encourage and appreciate each member of the team for only then can results begin to multiply; when everyone on board feels valued a sense of belonging ensues that will increase the vision. I learned that leading is much more than attaining a desired goal, it is about helping others actualize their potential and fostering their personal development, simultaneously.



IMPACT

UFS funded 32 sight-restoring surgeries for patients at the Crystal Eye Clinic in Accra, Ghana. The chapter received the 2019 Global Health Society of the Year award at Yale University during the Global Health & Innovation Conference (GHIC) for the greatest impact in the UFS Global Health Programs. I found incredible meaning in my life through this experience by orienting myself towards selfless altruism and empathetic consideration of others reality. In addition, I learned that a united team is the foundation for success.

ADVICE

Be bold! Take a chance on your ideas and yourself even if you aren't comfortable at first. I was terrified of public speaking and the chance of failure, but your potential has no upper limit and everything you'll need is already inside you waiting to be unlocked.