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My Involvement through Community Engagement & Service

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MY INVOLVEMENT THROUGH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & SERVICE



MARICAR VALDEZ

INTRODUCTION

NAME: MARICAR VALDEZ
HOMETOWN: SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
MAJOR: FINANCE
MINOR: ECONOMICS

ENGAGEMENTS OUTSIDE OF THE CLASSROOM

- FIRST CLAS PARTICIPANT (FALL 2015)
- ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK PARTICIPANT (SPRING 2016, TACOMA, WA)
- ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK ASST. LEADER (SPRING 2017 – VANCOUVER, WA)
- FIRST CLAS LEADER (FALL 2018)
- CHANGE CORPS DIRECTOR OF ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK (SY 2018 – 2019)

HOW DID THIS EXPERIENCE CONNECT YOU TO LINFIELD IN MORE MEANINGFUL WAYS?

- AS A FIRST CLAS PARTICIPANT, I GAINED KNOWLEDGE OF THE DIFFERENT RESOURCES AVAILABLE HERE AT LINFIELD. AS A FIRST GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENT THIS INFORMATION HAS HELPED ME WITH MY TRANSITION FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO COLLEGE.
- THROUGH FIRST CLAS, I MOVED IN A WEEK EARLIER THAN OTHER FIRST YEAR STUDENTS AND WAS ABLE TO ADJUST TO THE NEW ENVIRONMENT.
- BEING FAR AWAY FROM HOME, I WAS ABLE TO FIND MY SECOND FAMILY HERE AT LINFIELD. I FOUND A COMMUNITY THAT SUPPORTS ME EMOTIONALLY AND ACADEMICALLY.



MY FIRST CLAS GROUP IN 2015 (ALSO MY FIRST FAMILY HERE AT LINFIELD)

HOW HAS YOUR CHOSEN EXPERIENCE(S) IMPACTED YOU

- BEING A PART OF FIRST CLAS INTRODUCED ME TO THE OTHER PROGRAMS OFFERED BY CES. I PARTICIPATED IN AN ASB PROGRAM IN 2016, WHERE I LEARNED ABOUT THE ISSUES OF HUNGER & HOMELESSNESS AND WORKED WITH HABITAT FOR HUMANITY.



TACOMA, WA – HUNGER & HOMELESSNESS ASB 2016

- WORKING WITH A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION SUCH AS HABITAT FOR HUMANITY INSPIRES ME TO BE AN ENGAGED CITIZEN AND TO GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE.
- I HAD A GREAT LEARNING EXPERIENCE IN MY ASB TRIP AND WANTED TO SHARE THAT EXPERIENCE WITH THE STUDENTS OF LINFIELD. I WENT ON THE HUNGER & HOMELESSNESS TRIP IN SPRING 2017, BUT THIS TIME AS AN ASST. LEADER.



VANCOUVER, WA – HUNGER & HOMELESSNESS ASB 2017

- AS ASST. LEADER, I STRENGTHENED MY COMMUNICATION SKILLS AND ORGANIZATION SKILLS BY HOSTING WEEKLY MEETINGS AND COMMUNICATING WITH BOTH THE PARTICIPANTS AND OUR SERVICE TRIP PARTNER.

- BEING A FIRST CLAS PARTICIPANT HELPED ME PREPARE FOR MY FIRST YEAR AT LINFIELD. MY LEADERS PROVIDED ME WITH RESOURCES AND COLLEGE TIPS THAT WOULD HELP ME SUCCEED IN COLLEGE AND ALSO SERVED AS MY MENTORS/FRIENDS.
- I BECAME A FIRST CLAS LEADER SO THAT I COULD SERVE AS A RESOURCE FOR THE INCOMING STUDENTS AND HELP THEM WITH THEIR COLLEGE TRANSITION.



MY FIRST CLAS GROUP IN 2018

HOW HAS YOUR CHOSEN EXPERIENCE(S) IMPACTED YOUR LONG-TERM CAREER OR LIFE GOALS?

- AS DIRECTOR OF ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK, I'VE IMPROVED MY COMMUNICATION, TIME MANAGEMENT, LEADERSHIP & ORGANIZATION SKILLS BY HOLDING WEEKLY MEETINGS, ORGANIZING FUNDRAISERS, AND KEEPING IN CONTACT WITH THE PARTICIPANTS.
- AS AN ASPIRING FINANCIAL ANALYST, THESE SKILLS WILL HELP ME AS I PURSUE MY MS IN FINANCE. AS A FINANCIAL ANALYST MY JOB WOULD BE TO ASSESS THE FINANCIAL CONDITION OF A BUSINESS.
- I'LL HAVE THE TOOLS TO WORK IN A WIDE VARIETY OF POSITIONS OR ENVIRONMENTS.

AREAS OF DEMONSTRATED COMPETENCIES

- I DEVELOPED POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH MY SUPERVISOR AND COLLEAGUES AND WORKED WELL WITH OTHERS IN THE TEAM.



CHANGE CORPS TEAM 2018-2019

- I ATTENDED LEADERSHIP WORKSHOPS TO BETTER PREPARE MYSELF AS A LEADER. THIS IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE IN ORDER TO BE AN EFFECTIVE LEADER, I MUST HAVE THE NECESSARY TOOLS AND SKILLS TO INSPIRE AND IMPACT OTHERS.
- I PARTICIPATED IN SERVICE/VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES AND GAINED AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE IMPORTANCE OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT.
- BEING A LEADER IN ASB AND FIRST CLAS HAS TAUGHT ME THAT A LEADER IS A ROLE MODEL AND ONE WHO INSPIRES OTHERS. IN MY CASE MY GOAL AS A LEADER WAS TO INSPIRE OTHERS TO BE ACTIVE IN THEIR COMMUNITY.
- I HAVE WORKED IN TEAMS AND IN MULTICULTURAL SETTINGS. AS A LEADER ONE OF MY GOALS WAS TO ENSURE THAT EVERYONE FELT INCLUDED AND RESPECT AND UNDERSTANDING WERE PRESENT IN THE GROUP.