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When my family came to the United States from Egypt, we had many difficulties getting help; specifically, we struggled getting medical help for my mother. I remember going to her optometrist appointments and hating the doctors because they could never help my mother, and it hurt me seeing her suffer so much. The language barrier made it difficult for my mother to get the treatment she needed. As I grew older, I realized that becoming a doctor would provide the opportunity to help my mother and give her relief. In witnessing her struggles, I was able to figure out that other people have similar issues. That was when I realized I wanted to be someone who helps people like my mother.

My dream is to become an orthopedic surgeon, and I am determined to accomplish this goal. I had the opportunity to work towards this dream my freshman year. I joined a club at my high school, "Dream Makers," that specializes in helping students learn more about health professions. I became fascinated with what surgeons, physicians, and pediatricians do on a daily basis, making me truly love medicine. My sponsor teacher encouraged me to apply for a program called the "Perry Initiative Program," a competitive program focusing on young women who are interested in entering the fields of orthopedic surgery and biomedical engineering. Participating in this program I learned how to fix a broken femur, make an arm cast, and observed a cadaver arm in order to learn about the human body.

After these two programs, I knew that medicine was my path. I knew that if I was serious about being in the medical field, then I would have to start now. During my junior year I decided to start volunteering at the Presbyterian Hospital Pediatric Urgent Care and Emergency Department, which made me realize how many people truly need help. It touched my heart that even though I was only a volunteer, I could still significantly impact these patients. Again, my thirst for more experiences in the medical field continued to grow stronger, so the summer before my senior year, I took on a job shadow experience at New Mexico Orthopedics with an orthopedic surgeon. This experience made me more interested in orthopedic surgery because it made me realize that no matter how many ways our bodies can be injured; there are also many ways that our body can be healed.

These experiences have definitely helped me choose a career path that will be challenging yet engaging. My plans for college are to attend a research university and major in biomedical engineering. After this I will apply for medical school and become a doctor. I can see my future self putting my scrubs on, walking into the operating room, and performing a procedure that will save someone's life. I want to become someone that makes a difference in people's lives; someone who makes a positive change in the community.