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There are many things that have spurred me towards a career in women's reproductive health: my passion for science, my love for serving others, or the plain fact that I'm a girl. But there's one driving force in particular that sticks out to me. One night, about a year ago, I fell down a rabbit hole of watching TED Talks which led me to a speech that has heavily impacted my goals since then. In her TED Talk, "Born in the wrong place", Khadija Gbla speaks on her horrifying experience with FGM (female genital mutilation) which is common in West Africa, where she was born, as well as Asia and the Middle East. This video exposed me to the taboos surrounding women's reproductive health in a multitude of third world countries. Then it all clicked. I already had the necessary interests in healthcare, science, and service, and now I'd found the drive! I want to help women with their obstetric health.

Since this breakthrough moment, I've known that I want to become an obstetrician-gynecologist. I've done extensive research on what I need to do to get there. I'm currently taking science classes like anatomy, chemistry, and medical terminology. I job shadow health professionals every chance I get and I volunteer at Billings Clinic over the summers—anything I can do to be better exposed to the field before I enter post-secondary education. That brings me to my next goal of college. I plan to complete my Bachelor of Science in Pre-Medicine at Montana State University. From there I will hopefully end up in medical school at the University of Washington. Once I complete my schooling and residency, I will officially be an OB-GYN.

But where will I go from there? Well, I will do common work at a hospital wherever I end up living in Montana, but my goals reach higher than that! I hope to eventually start a nonprofit organization to spread awareness for the lack of women's healthcare in the developing world. There are so many areas in which these places are lacking. Places like Nepal face abnormally high maternal mortality rates, many third world areas lack basic access to female sanitary products, there's a serious problem with female genital mutilation as I stated before, and that's not even to mention the extreme misinformation regarding female obstetrics in these places. My nonprofit will help solve these problems in many facets. My goal is to collect donations to provide proper products and information regarding toxicology for women in third world countries. I will also plan mission trips for myself and other female healthcare workers to travel to these developing areas and provide for the women who need it most.

I am exceedingly grateful to live in a place where I not only

have proper access to information and healthcare in this area, but also the opportunity to become a provider and help those who don't have these same privileges. Women without these opportunities constantly drive me toward dreams.