

Logan Fresh

Year in School: 10

Crimson Cliffs High School

Utah

Driven by Diabetes

When I was 13 years old, I got extremely sick. Almost to the point of death. My mom said I had come upstairs that morning looking “like death”.. She immediately said she was going to take me to the emergency room to see what was wrong with me, because she thought I could be dehydrated (a common side effect of type 1 diabetes). When we got to the hospital, I was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes and had to be life-flighted to another hospital because of the doctors not having the proper equipment and medications to treat me. I was life flighted to Las Vegas, Nevada, and luckily there they were able to get me back to full health.

Ever since that day, I have wanted to become an Endocrinologist for the St. George Utah hospital. I never want another kid to have to go on a 40-minute helicopter ride to another hospital just to have a chance to live. I want them to get care as soon as possible. In my story, I was blessed enough to make it out alive, but there have been, and will be children like, the last girl who came in like me who sadly passed away on the flight out. I can't help but think if that girl did not have to get life flighted, her life wouldn't have ended so soon. Right now, in the U.S, 1.6

million Americans have this diagnosis and nearly 200,000 of them are youth. By 2050, around 5 million people will have Type 1 Diabetes, and nearly 600,000 of those diagnosed will be youth. That number is insane. 5 million people having this terrible condition would be awful, especially if they can not get the proper care they need. I just hope I can help at least one of them get it under control and show them that it's not as bad as they might think.

Becoming an endocrinologist requires eight years of college, three years of residency, and two years of fellowship at a hospital of my choice. The first eight years would be split between four years at a regular college and four years at medical school. Most people when they hear this react with "*That's thirteen years!!*" Yes, they are right. That is 13 years, 13 years of learning how to become what I love most in life, which is caring for diabetes and people with diabetes.

Right now, I'm already starting college classes. I am working through something called concurrent enrollment which is a program where one takes college classes while still in high school. I am currently enrolled in English and Biology. Biology will help me a lot because to become an endocrinologist I will need to major in either biology or medicine, which biology sounds more fun to me since I have always been fascinated by it. This program is helping me achieve my present goals in biology and other subject areas. This scholarship would greatly assist me in achieving my future goal of becoming an Endocrinologist. The college I am looking to go to is around 6 thousand dollars a year which is pretty cheap considering the price of other colleges, however the medical school is not so cheap. Medical School is around 50 thousand dollars a year. The scholarship would help me pay for college which would put me one step ahead in becoming an endocrinologist.