

Since I was a child, I've been asked one question numerous times: "What do you want to be when you grow up?" When I was four, I would answer "a police officer." However, as I grew older, my answer changed to "a doctor." Ever since 4th grade, I have not changed my mind. Even though these occupations are in different fields, they share one common theme: helping people. Helping people has always been a passion of mine - just the pure enjoyment of seeing others' joy because I helped them makes me feel complete and content.

In high school, I joined several extracurricular activities that aligned with my passion. One of the most important is Key Club, an international student-led community service organization. In this club, I learned to push out of my introverted shell and become a confident leader. From the many different positions I've held, I've had the honor *of* meeting lots of new people and have learned many valuable skills - the most important skill is enhancing my community by providing a helping hand.

Another significant club I'm a part of is FNL, an organization that engages students to be active leaders and promotes a drug, tobacco, and alcohol-free lifestyle. An important event I am proud of is speaking in front of the Benicia City Council to help successfully pass an ordinance that bans flavored tobacco flavors. I am also a part of the Solano Youth Coalition (FNL at the county level), in which I'm a member of the Tobacco Prevention Committee. From these activities, I learned how to advocate and voice my concerns with the public, standing up for those who are unaware or unable to.

Being a part of these groups (and more) has made a significant impact on my high school career and shaped my goals for my future. I realized I want to study Chemistry in college and become a physiatrist (physical medicine and rehabilitation doctor) with a specialty in sports injuries as it combines my passions of exercising and helping others. I'm able to help train athletes (and patients) to recover their functional well-being so they can live a happier, healthier, and more functional life. In the future, with my caring personality, dedication, and strong leadership qualities, I'll leave a positive impact on my community by continuing to do what I love - that is - helping others.

I'm applying for this scholarship because I want to ease the expenses of college for my parents. My parents have provided me with everything I need to succeed. I know how much they sacrificed to give me the life I have now. My parents have already provided me with so much, so in return, I want to do as much as I can to alleviate the cost of college. This scholarship will also allow me to attain higher education in order to set the foundation for my future success and career where I'll be able to help others and give back to my community.