

Three Brothers, One Dream: Guzman Graduates

Daniel, Rogelio, and Jose Guzman, three brothers from Immokalee FL, recently fulfilled one of their many life dreams. They became the first in their family to earn college degrees, and remarkably, all on the same day!

Daniel and Jose were part of the CAMP Program during their freshman year at USF.

“CAMP is the ONLY reason why I came to USF, because I am the first one in my entire family lineage to go to college”, said Daniel, “I had no clue where I wanted to go to college or how I was going to be successful in college. Having the academic and mentoring support from CAMP made me feel comfortable and excited about going to college”.

Both Daniel and Jose participated in the SAF (Student Action with Farmworkers) summer internship their freshman year. They earned their place among the 20 exceptional students from across the country that SAF selects to work directly with farmworkers and their families. Throughout their college years, the brothers served as CAMP Ambassadors giving campus tours to prospective USF students. They also participated on student panels at CAMP conferences and school visits.

Further, the brothers all participated in opportunities related to their majors, and were recognized for their achievements by their colleges. Daniel interned with USF Patel College of Global Sustainability, Walmart, and General Electric. Jose and Rogelio earned the Sunripe and Tomato Exchange Scholarships through the College of Education.

.... story continued on page 2



Daniel (left) and Larry A. Griffith (right) Vice President of the Gates Millennium Scholars Program

Gates Millennium Scholars conference



Rogelio (left) Daniel (middle) and Jose (right) Guzman-Ramos

2017 USF Graduation



Jose Guzman-Ramos

SAF march for farmworkers in Durham, North Carolina

USF is a high-impact, global research university dedicated to student success.

HEP (High School Equivalency Program) (PR#S141A140020) and CAMP (College Assistance Migrant Program) (PR#S149A140017) are federally funded grants through the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Migrant Education. They are administered through the Center for Migrant Education in the College of Education at USF. They are designed to assist eligible participants from migrant and seasonal farmworker backgrounds.

THIS ISSUE

- Guzman Graduates P. 2
- HEP Alumni Profile P. 5
- CAMP Spotlight P. 8
- Internship Opportunities P. 11

...continued Guzman Brothers

The brothers are thankful for the scholarships and the financial help they provided.

“If it wasn’t for the migrant scholarships, I probably wouldn’t have stayed at USF,” said Jose.

The Guzman brothers have graduated and realized one of their biggest dreams; however, they say this is just the beginning. Rogelio has been accepted to the USF School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitative Science to pursue a doctor of physical therapy degree. Jose is working as a fitness instructor in Tampa and plans to apply to the master’s program in sports nutrition at USF within the next year. Daniel is currently living in Washington D.C. and works for Accenture as a technology consultant analyst. Daniel’s biggest goal in life is to become a motivational speaker one day and help empower people from different backgrounds.



The Guzman brothers (second and third on the left) along with Sunripe scholarship recipients are pictured above with members of the Esformes family, sponsors of the Sunripe scholarship, and Dr. Cranston Gingras.

Over all, by earning their college degrees, the three brothers hope to inspire other students, especially those who come from low-income migrant backgrounds like themselves, and to show them that it’s possible to make something of yourself despite where you come from. *“I want to motivate them that there is more in life than being in the fields”*, said Jose.

We wish them the best and can’t wait to hear what they achieve next!

2016 - 2017 CAMP Students



Left to Right: Irasema Rodriguez, Medelina Charles, Kevin Anglade, Marisela Gutierrez, Esmeralda Carranza, Nancy Garcia, Jennifer Cervantes, Natali Delpilar, Jenna Zarate, Justin McMahan, Adela Lopez, Ivan Ibarra, Jennifer Carrasco, Zurisadai Rodriguez, Leonor Perez, Brunard Octavius, David Francisco, Sofia Gallegos, Abigail Nunez, Karina Sandoval, Marisela Acedo, Liliana Carranza, Mayra Espinoza, Yesica Boxtha, Karen Sanchez, Odalis Garcia

Not Pictured: Mayra Diaz, Vivianna Maldonado

Collier

Eugenio Contreras
Alexis Gomez
Mariano Gonzales
Christopher Ledezma
David Rangel
Brayam Ortiz
Valeria Soto
Elvie Velasco

De Soto

David Cruz
Leonardo Resendiz

Hardee

Sebastian Juarez
Jacob Lazo

Highlands

Kelly Acuna
Zaida Garcia

Hillsborough

Guadalupe Aguirre
Manuel Arellano
Luis Arredondo
Dulce Casarrubias
Luis Chavez
Brayan Cruz
Anai Galarza
Juana Garcia
Luis Garcia
Osvaldo Garcia
Estefania Hernandez
Gustavo Morales
Jose Paz
Florentina Ramos
Marisela Ramos
Marylou Reyes
Noelee Longoria
Bobby Hernandez
Andy Espinoza
Marcos Vaquera
Elver Ventura
Cesar Villanueva

Lee

Andy Martinez

Manatee

David Consuegra
Nicole Garza
Marina Jimenez
Diani Sanchez

Okeechobee

Yvonne Bucio
Jenny Hernandez

Polk

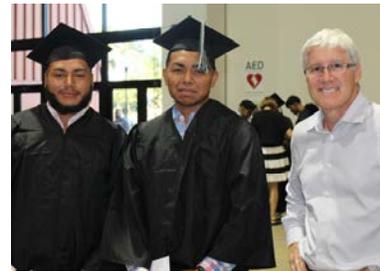
Ana Alvarez
Enrique Cardoso
Juvenal Cruz
Valentin DeJesus
Victor Guzman
Angelica Ramirez
Mario Rivera
Diana Uribe

Putnam

Maria Felipe

St. Lucie

Darlene Tamariz



2016 - 2017 HEP Graduates to Date

CAMP Alumni Profile: Omar Garcia

Omar Garcia is a CAMP graduate and former CAMP mentor who recently received a Masters of Education degree in College Student Affairs (CSA) Curriculum and Instruction. He was hired as operations coordinator for the Marshall Student Center.

My undergraduate career was not the easiest. I am a “first generation student” and many times I felt lost trying to balance personal, professional, and academic life. I am thankful for the enormous amount of support and guidance, not only from CAMP, but from the Student Affairs professionals who worked in the Student Center. I realized I wanted to have the same impact on other students who may be having trouble balancing their lives as college students.

A master’s degree for anyone is a big accomplishment. My parents didn’t have the privilege of a full education, so I am humbled to be the first in my family to go to college and make it this far. I did it for them, for my siblings, and for all the students who come from migrant farmworker backgrounds. That hard work we learn in the fields is the same one we need to exert to educate and advance ourselves.

There were many challenges along the way during my graduate school process, but that’s life. We get knocked down, and we can stay down or we can get back up. Some advice to anyone in pursuit of their goals is to take it a step at a time. It will not always be easy. You will have things and people challenge you, but that is part of being a lifelong learner. Rest if you must, but don’t quit because in the end, it’s all worth it.

I want to thank my parents for taking a chance and coming to the United States with nothing, so that my sibling and I could have everything. I also want to thank the amazing CAMP team who goes above and beyond in the work they do. Without their dedication, knowledge and resources many of us would not be able to make our dreams a reality. Thank you for doing your best to show us the way; it is not taken for granted. Last I want to thank all the student affairs professionals that had an impact on my life and motivated me to join the field. Special shout out to Jen Hernandez and Dwayne Isaacs for being some of the biggest influences on my life; their lessons have molded me into the professional I am and strive to be.

By Omar Garcia



Omar Garcia

“As the operations coordinator at the Marshall Student Center, the most rewarding part of earning my current job is that I started from the bottom as a student set up crewmember and worked my way up to administration. I hold this place dear, because it gave me so much. I feel like I have only commenced to do my part in giving back to the Marshall Center and the USF community.”

University Transition: Learning New Skills

Leonor Perez recently completed her freshman year at USF as a CAMP student. She shares her first year experience transitioning from high school to university life.



Leonor Perez

Many first year students who start at a university as big as USF will often feel that it is hard to fit in. Like other freshmen, I struggled transitioning from high school to college and figuring out my new place, but being part of the College Assistance Migrant Program truly helped me. Thanks to CAMP, I developed my communication and time management skills and, overall, I became more comfortable in such a big school. I had the support of my fellow CAMP classmates, my mentor and facilitators, and all the advisors in the CAMP office. CAMP students helped each other out, and, since some of us had classes together, we also studied as a group. My mentor, Jessica, helped me get out of my comfort zone as we participated in activities together such as CAMP socials and USF events. Furthermore, Jessica and Virginia helped me out with time management, a crucial skill to perform well in college. In short, everyone at the CAMP office cared about my well-being and helped me

achieve academic success. Looking back at my first year, I can say that I came out of my shell. I used to be very shy and quiet, but, by the end, I was talking to most of the CAMP students. Above all, I had turned into a more responsible student, and I had learned valuable skills and lessons. Being a part of CAMP my first year in college has really helped me grow as a person, and I am most grateful for the opportunity to be a part of this amazing group.

By Leonor Perez



Yadira Luviano (middle) with HEP Teachers

Former HEP student Yadira Luviano was selected as one of the winners of the HEP CAMP Scholarship and as the winner of the Rotary Club Scholarship. HEP was honored to recommend her for these awards because of her strong academic performance and commitment to furthering her education. Yadira is an intelligent, serious, and hardworking young woman. We were delighted to know that she wanted to pursue the medical assistant program at Erwin Technical College. In her scholarship essay, she wrote, “My family has taught me not to let any situation stop me from reaching the goals and dreams I have set up for myself.” Not surprisingly, Yadira has done an excellent job in college and will graduate next September. Yadira is the first member of her family to earn a high school diploma and continue with postsecondary education. We are extremely proud of her!

Congratulations

As part of a grant from the National Science Foundation, the USF Department of Computer Science and Engineering received \$1.5 million in student scholarships designed to remove financial barriers to student success. Marisela Acevedo was one of the fortunate students to receive a scholarship.

“I didn’t hesitate to apply because I needed help to pay for my education. From the application process, I learned that everything is possible if you put yourself out there. Scholarships can be hard to get, but there are many available. I am so grateful to have had this opportunity, and I can honestly say my first year at USF has been very successful.”

Marisela Acevedo



Marisela Acevedo

HEP Alumni Profile: Claudia Ortega

Claudia Ortega joined HEP during our year 28 (2014-2015). We admired her resilience, determination, and work ethic. She worked extra-hard to overcome her academic challenges and balance work and family responsibilities. We were ecstatic to see her walk the Florida Fairgrounds stage once again, this time to receive her certificate in accounting operations from Erwin Technical College. Here is what Claudia had to say about HEP and her college experience:

Q: How did HEP help you achieve your goals?

A: HEP helped me by giving me great teachers who motivated me to keep going, especially during the hard times.

Q: What was your favorite part of HEP?

A: I got to meet new people.

Q: What would you say to HEP students who struggle preparing for or passing the GED test?

A: Take the time to ask all the questions you have, no matter how silly you think the questions are. If you are having trouble with one or more subjects on the GED, ask for more help and find ways to study more.

Let the teachers know you’re struggling, so they can help you. If you don't speak up, you won't be able to improve your skills.



Claudia Ortega

Q: What would you say to HEP students who face obstacles to go on to college?

A: After you pass your GED test, keep going! Don't stop there! You've made it this far, so why stop? I know many of you think money might hold you back, but don't let that stop you. You can find help out there. Don't be afraid to ask for it. Please keep going! You will feel great at the end! Yes, college can be scary because

of the costs and time involved, but you can get help to pay for it, and time will fly by quickly if you really like what you are going to school for.

Q: Is there anything else you would like to include in this story?

A: I want to say that I understand that obtaining a high school diploma and attending college may not feel important to some people right now, but later they will understand how wonderful it feels to accomplish their academic and career goals. It is hard, but no matter how hard it gets, I say: keep going! You will look back at all the things you did to get to where you are, and you will feel great. I'm very proud of myself. I thank HEP for giving me their support and helping me pass my GED... Also for helping me see how important following my career path is. Thank you!



Claudia (left) attending college graduation

Congratulations CAMP Graduates



*Angelica Sustaita
Hardee County*



*Juan Reyes with grandparents
Hillsborough County*



*Leonor Calderon with family
Palm Beach County*



*Pedro Zamora-Albor
Hardee County*



*Eduardo Salgado with family
Hillsborough County*



*Brenda Meza
Polk County*

2016 - 2017 CAMMP Graduates to Date



Rogelio (left) Daniel (middle) and Jose (right) Guzman-Ramos with family Collier County



Claudia Huapilla Major: Business Collier County



Maria Sandoval Major: Business Palm Beach County



Vanessa Andrade Highlands County



Leticia Mandujano with family Hillsborough County

- Nalini Addie**
Health Science
- Vanessa Andrade**
International Studies
- Andrea Barajas**
Business
- Leonor Calderon**
Psychology
- Amy S. Escamilla**
Business
- Daniel Guzman-Ramos**
Industrial Engineering
- Jose Guzman-Ramos**
Physical Education
- Marla Hernandez**
Elementary Education
- Claudia Huapilla**
Business
- Leticia Mandujano**
Health Science
- Marisela Marroquin**
Criminology
- Brenda Meza**
Business
- Darnell Octavius**
Political Science
- Juan D. Reyes**
Mathematics Education
- Aram Salazar**
Environ. Science & Policy
- Eduardo Salgado**
Business
- Maria G. Sandoval**
Business
- Angelica Sustaita**
Business
- Pedro Zamora-Albor**
Chemical Engineering

CAMP Spotlight

Pedro Zamora

Pedro Zamora is a CAMP graduate and former CAMP mentor who recently received a degree in Chemical Engineering.

This spring semester, I realized my dream of becoming a chemical engineer, and for those of you who are just starting with your academic journey, it is true what people say: enjoy your time in college, for it all happens in a blink of an eye. You shouldn't miss anything, but it is imperative to find a balance between fun and the growth needed to prepare you for your post-college journey. In my case, I found that balance getting involved in numerous activities during my time at USF.

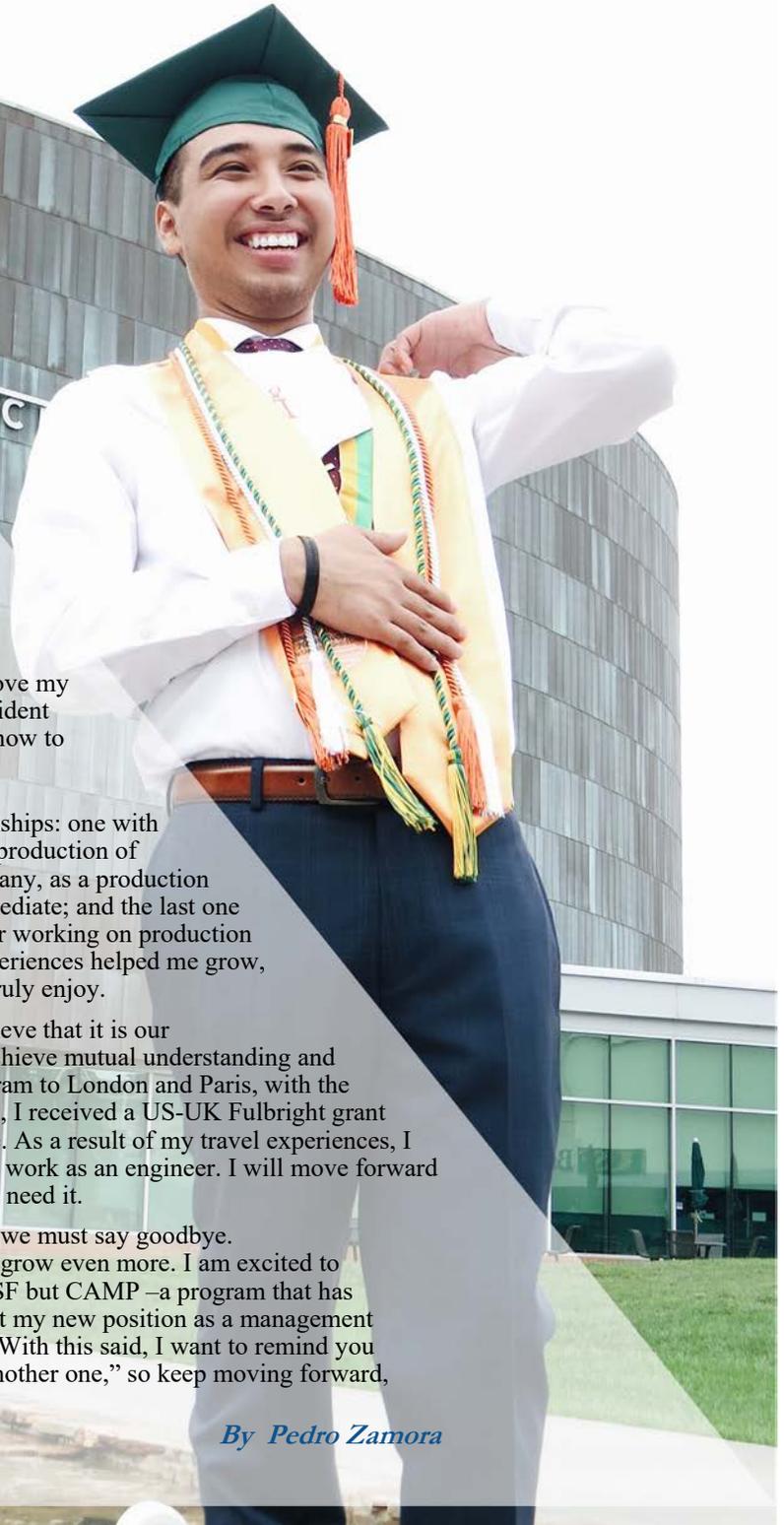
As a USF student, I gained valuable skills and experiences for my life and my work. I participated in undergraduate research and presented my findings at various conferences. Such presentations helped me improve my communication skills. Similarly, my experiences as a resident assistant offered me life-long friendships and taught me how to manage my time more effectively.

Furthermore, I was fortunate to participate in three internships: one with Johnson & Johnson, as process engineer working on the production of Listerine and Aveeno; another one with Monsanto Company, as a production engineer working on the production of glyphosate intermediate; and the last one with Perma-Liner Industries, as a manufacturing engineer working on production optimization initiatives. There is no doubt that these experiences helped me grow, primarily because I figured out the work environment I truly enjoy.

Moreover, we live in a global society, and, as such, I believe that it is our duty to explore and learn from each other's cultures to achieve mutual understanding and cooperation. I participated in the USF study abroad program to London and Paris, with the financial support from the Honor's College. Additionally, I received a US-UK Fulbright grant that allowed me to explore Scotland's history and culture. As a result of my travel experiences, I have developed a global perspective on the impact of my work as an engineer. I will move forward with the intention to deliver the best quality to those who need it.

Closing a chapter isn't always easy, particularly because we must say goodbye. However, starting a new one offers us the opportunity to grow even more. I am excited to continue growing, learning, and representing not only USF but CAMP—a program that has supported me and believed in me since day one—as I start my new position as a management consultant with Accenture, in San Francisco, California. With this said, I want to remind you all that, "Today was good; today was fun; tomorrow is another one," so keep moving forward, for our potential is endless.

By Pedro Zamora



From Resident To U.S. Citizen

Medelina Charles recently completed her freshman year at USF as a CAMP student. She was a permanent resident and became a U.S. citizen in her first year of college.

I, Medelina Charles, became a naturalized citizen of the United States of America on March 29th, 2017. The one thing left for me to do was to attend a ceremony where I swore the oath of loyalty to the United States of America. Now, my mom, my grandmother, and I are all American citizens. Once citizens of Haiti, now proud citizens of the United States.



Medelina Charles

From the Classroom To The Polls: HEP Student's First Vote



Yvonne Bucio

During the first semester of 2016-17, various activities relating to the upcoming presidential elections were integrated into HEP Social Studies instruction.

In addition to reviewing newspaper articles and analyzing political cartoons, students in session one had the opportunity to meet Mickie Castor from the League of Women Voters who shared information about the history of voting rights in the United States, and the importance of participating in the democratic process by exercising the right to vote.

Session two students did an issue analysis exercise comparing viewpoints of four popular presidential candidates relating to immigration, health care, gun control, etc. The candidates were not identified and it was interesting to note that the person whose views were closest to those of the majority of HEP students, was not a Democrat or Republican.

HEP graduate, Yvonne Bucio (Okeechobee County) voted for the first time while she was at USF. She initially registered to vote while obtaining her driver's license. Prior to voting, Yvonne reviewed the sample ballot she received in the mail. Classroom discussions helped Yvonne understand which candidates she could vote for. When recently asked if she thought her vote had counted in the federal elections of November, 2016, Yvonne responded, "Well, yes and no. My vote added to the popular count which was in favor of the candidate I selected. Nevertheless, in the end a different candidate became president because he won the Electoral College." She added, "If more people had registered and voted, I think we would have had a different president in the White House today."

Navigating Your Professional Network

The "Navigating Your Professional Network" event is an event held by the office of Career Services at USF. Its purpose is to teach students how to identify potential networking opportunities and practice networking skills with local employers.

CAMP student, Sofia Gallegos, shares her experience attending the event.

The "Navigating Your Professional Network" event really gave me valuable experience that I will be able to use throughout my life, especially when it comes to seeking a job. One of the most interesting lessons it taught me was that in the business world, there is something called the "Platinum Rule." The "Platinum Rule" means: treat others how *they* want to be treated. This is an important principle to follow in any career, as we must take into consideration how others feel and want to be regarded. When I graduate, I want to become a teacher. As a teacher, I need to know my students: how they learn, what motivates them, and their likes and dislikes. By using the Platinum Rule and understanding what drives them, I can develop effective ways to keep them engaged in the classroom when starting the day or a lesson.

At the networking event there were also a few employers from local businesses. Students were able to speak with them as they shared what they look for in individuals when hiring for a job. This was also when the business cards CAMP provided came in handy. The networking event was a fun learning experience, and I would definitely recommend it to others.

By Sofia Gallegos



*CAMP Students:
(Top) David Francisco (left), Sofia Gallegos (middle), & Jennifer Carrasco (right)
(Bottom) Zurisadai Rodriguez (left) & Leonor Perez (right)*

Life as a Bull : Campus Opportunities

USF Lecture Series: John Quiñones



John Quiñones

The University Lecture Series (ULS) is a student-supported program at USF designed to present information on a variety of community issues relevant to students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members.

CAMP student, Zurisadai Rodriguez, shares her experience attending the event.

John Quiñones's was the first USF lecture I attended. I have always been a big fan of his show "What Would You Do?", so I was ecstatic when I learned that he was coming to campus.

John Quiñones spoke about his journey from migrant farmworker to news correspondent and journalist, and he gave us specific pieces of advice to help us in our career goals. Some of us were able to meet him personally, and I got the opportunity to tell him that, like his parents, my parents also taught me the value of an education by taking me along to the agricultural fields.

I enjoyed hearing that his career is something Quiñones loves and has changed people's lives. Perhaps my favorite part of this event was Quiñones's decision to give everyone an autograph. This wasn't planned as part of his lecture, so I think it showed the kind of person he is: someone kind and humble who is invested in making a difference in peoples' lives. Yet, I was nervous to meet a person I had seen only on TV! He is, indeed, larger than life!

If I had the chance, I would attend this lecture again; it was an experience that I will never forget. I believe John Quiñones's inspiring journey can give migrant students and others a genuine example of overcoming obstacles, something to help them carry on when they question their ability to thrive. I know it did for me... And I also would like to meet him again to show him the artwork that this event inspired.

By Zurisadai Rodriguez



*Drawing by
Zurisadai Rodriguez*

Real-World Experience:

CAMP students take internship opportunities

SAF Internship

My experience this past summer working with the Migrant Education Program and Student Action with Farmworkers was unforgettable. I loved helping migrant students and families who work in the fields. As an intern, my job was to work with the out-of-school farmworker youth. The majority of my students were 15 to 21 year-olds who came from Chiapas, Mexico or Guatemala: teens younger than me working six to seven days a week from sunrise till sunset, doing heavy labor work in the agricultural fields. I built great relationships with everyone there: my co-workers, my host family, my extraordinary students, and 21 interns from across the country that traveled to North Carolina for the same cause: to help farmworkers. In addition to my direct outreach work, I enjoyed participating in other activities such as lobbying and activism. I cannot say it was all roses because I saw first-hand the harsh living condition that these young farm workers face on a regular basis. But I am glad I was able to learn from this experience, and I am sure I will never forget what I learned.

By Blanca Flores



Blanca Flores

CAMP Washington D.C. Internship

Last summer I had the pleasure of interning for one the top senators in the country: the Honorable Charles Schumer. I buzzed around the Capitol completing small tasks for the office, and I diligently attended hearings and briefings for the legislative staff of Schumer. I met amazing people such as Senator Charles Schumer himself, Congressman Xavier Becerra, and Dr. Lisa Ramirez, Director of Migrant Education. In addition, I learned about the legislative process, about the formal and informal rules and norms of the professional congressional world, and about the history and culture of the U.S. What is more, the biggest lesson that I learned, the most significant discovery that I made while I was in Washington, was that I too am valuable and that I too can contribute to this country and to today's world. I saw myself in our leaders; I began to believe that I too can be like them one day. My dreams grew larger, and they also became more real. After my internship experience, I have this newfound sense of confidence in myself. I am no longer afraid of doing challenging things; I tackle challenges head-on. I regained the courage to be brave and bold in this polarizing world; I reclaimed the audacity to hope.

By Jose Flores



Jose Flores (right) with Sen. Charles Schumer (left)



Jose Flores (left) with CA Attorney General Xavier Becerra (right)

USF Morsani College of Medicine

I am a biomedical science major who plans to apply to medical school, so having experience and exposure to the medical field is a priority for me. Luckily, I was able to land a spot in a paid internship with the USF Morsani College of Medicine. The Pre-Health Student Program (PSP) is an intense six week program that covers subjects taught to first year medical students. In addition, the program allows students to explore different health related careers besides the usual medical school track. As interns, we learned from medical students finishing their first year. We also had the opportunity to perform cadaver dissections (my favorite part) and work on case studies. In the case studies, we were expected to discuss the signs, symptoms, diagnosis, and treatment of a disease. Furthermore, we learned valuable medical skills such as how to perform CPR, do tracheal intubations, take vitals, and assess patients based on the triage system. Additionally, I was able to network about future opportunities for shadowing, doing research, and volunteering. Without a doubt, this internship became an important part in my journey as it confirmed that I want to follow this career path.

By Justin Jimenez



CAMP Students: Justin Jimenez (bottom front & center), Yessica Chavez (far right), & Juliana Leon (far left)

Alternative Spring Breaks are volunteer missions that send students across the country to assist in humanitarian causes. Bulls Service Breaks (BSB) are USF's particular Alternative Spring Break program, led by the Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement (CLCE). Created to increase awareness of social injustices and encourage cultural exchange, Bulls Service Breaks are meant to highlight problems in the community, yet show students what can be done to improve their environment.

Volunteers are partnered with local, heavily involved organizations to get hands-on experience with social causes. Several of our own CAMP students earned a volunteer opportunity with Bulls Service Breaks this spring and have written pieces reflecting their experiences, as well as their reactions and realizations. Volunteers were sponsored by CAMP.

San Juan, Texas: Immigration



CAMP Students: Nancy Garcia (second from top left), Abigail Nunez (second from bottom left), Adela Lopez (third from top right), & Jose Flores (right)

During my spring break of 2017, I had quite an adventurous trip as my group and I volunteered to go to San Juan, Texas to learn more about immigration. This is a social issue that I hold so closely to my heart because of my immigrant roots. During this trip, I had the opportunity to meet immigrants, hear about their journey, and learn more about their rights through the organization L.U.P.E. Also, I was able to visit the border wall, the *colonias*, and the ministries that help immigrants who are detained. This trip helped build my faith as I heard many stories of people overcoming hardships and never letting any obstacle destroy or affect their hope and faith for a better future, for themselves and future generations to come. Moreover, this trip helped re-establish the importance of being grateful for what I have and the privileges I am given. I'm beyond grateful that CAMP gave me the opportunity to go out and learn more about my roots, and hopefully one day, I will make a huge impact on others as they have done for me.

By Abigail Nunez

Dayton, Tennessee: Environmental

I arrived in Dayton, Tennessee, a state full of mountains, trees, streams, and fresh air. Thanks to CAMP, I spent my first spring break on the Cumberland Trails, where I was a part of something bigger than myself. I helped build a sustainable trail that will be there for future generations. For a week, it was about keeping a positive energy while working, singing, pushing ourselves to do something out of the mundane, and just enjoying life. I got to get away and enjoy nature in its entirety while making new friends and living extraordinary experiences. We even got some snow—quite an event for all the Floridians! By the end of the trip, we had officially built a mile and a half of trail; then square danced the night off to celebrate! Fort Bluff has become a place of memories and hardships I will always remember, and I hope to come back to Tennessee one day and walk this trail with my family.

By Sofia Gallegos



New Orleans, Louisiana: Animal Welfare



I participated in the animal welfare cause. My experience was truly enjoyable as my love for animals is infinite. During the week, my group went to New Orleans to volunteer at an animal shelter called LASPCA. We helped with daily tasks such as cleaning, all while socializing with the dogs and cats. We also got the chance to tour the city, and I fell in love with the sights. New Orleans is alive with jazz music, and their love for art is evident. During this trip, I learned quite a few lessons. For example, I learned some facts about pit bulls: they are not naturally aggressive but rather loving and affectionate. This experience will be unforgettable, and it would not have been possible without CAMP's support. For that, I am thankful.

By Jennifer Cervantes

New Orleans, Louisiana: Public Health



CAMP Student: Jennifer Carrasco (third from the right)

Spring Break 2017 was probably the best week I've ever had. I participated in the alternative Bull Service Breaks (BSB) on the topic of Public Health with an emphasis in Disaster Management. Our location was New Orleans, Louisiana, where I had the opportunity to volunteer with the American Red Cross and Feeding America. My group also had the chance to see the office of Homeland Security of New Orleans. Besides volunteering, we explored the city of New Orleans. It was such an amazing experience to see and feel the culture and taste the amazing food! Furthermore, we visited certain areas affected by Hurricane Katrina, such as the Lower Ninth Ward, and we saw the rebuilding efforts and progress. That week was unforgettable; all of the volunteers bonded perfectly, and we consider each other like family. I would definitely do it all over again.

By Jennifer Carrasco

Lexington, Kentucky: Women's Empowerment

With the help from CAMP, I had the amazing opportunity to participate on the Women's Empowerment trip to Lexington, Kentucky. I volunteered to help the non-profit organization The Nest. The Nest has four main programs available and focuses on helping women, children, and families who have experienced domestic violence. While we were there, my group got split into smaller groups to help in every part of The Nest. We helped take care of the kids, paint a room, worked in crisis care, and did so much more. It was such an eye-opening experience that helped me learn and grow as a person. I learned a lot about domestic violence and how I can help someone in that situation. I grew and got inspired by all the women I met during my trip: they were remarkable in unimaginable ways.

By Marisela Gutierrez



CAMP Student: Marisela Gutierrez (top left)

San Juan, Texas: Immigration

I had the tremendous privilege of being a part of Bulls Service Break with the topic on Immigration. The day we arrived at McAllen, Mary, our facilitator, took us to see the border for our first time and told us her personal story as an immigrant of the United States. It was a very powerful moment. Throughout the week we went back and forth from L.U.P.E., the organization that hosted us, and the *colonias* where many immigrants reside. I felt very sad to know we were still in American territory because it didn't feel like it. It was sad to know that the only people helping out those families are the members of foundations like L.U.P.E. Overall, more than me making an impact in Texas, I truly feel like Texas made a bigger impact on me. I honestly did not want to come back to Florida because I felt like the week we spent there wasn't enough. We raised awareness on immigrants' rights, but I wanted to do more. I definitely recommend this trip to anyone who wants to participate in Bull Service Break. The experience will open your eyes and change you as a person.

By Adela Lopez



CAMP Student: Adela Lopez (fourth from top right)

New Orleans, Louisiana: Disability Awareness

When I applied to Bulls Service Break (BSB) I chose to work for Disability Awareness. My connection to Disability Awareness stems from my youngest brother, Diego, a fourth grader diagnosed with Down syndrome. Many people don't know how to interact with disabled children or adults, often choosing to avoid them rather than making an attempt to learn about their disability. I wanted to do my part, so I traveled with 10 other catalysts to spend time with residents at the Magnolia Community Center for adults with developmental disabilities in New Orleans, Louisiana. There, we met a diverse range of adults with different disabilities, but, most importantly, unique interests and personalities. Every day we were greeted with hugs and high-fives from the residents. After board games, arts and crafts, and lunch, we would say our goodbyes while being asked if we were returning the following day. After volunteering, my group toured the city and took in as much of the culture as possible. It was an unforgettable experience that taught me so much about compassion, humanity, and the social change that everyone is capable of making, one connection at a time.



By Viviana Maldonado

San Juan, Texas: Immigration



By Nancy Garcia

I traveled to San Juan, Texas to volunteer on immigration rights. During that time, we worked with the organization L.U.P.E.: *La Union del Pueblo Entero*. I learned about issues regarding immigration policies and visited *colonias* (poor neighborhoods) where many immigrant families reside, as well as different places around the Rio Grande Valley. Some of the most impactful moments of the trip were seeing the border wall up close, visiting a refugee respite center, and hearing some of the stories of people who have made the journey up north. Overall, I definitely enjoyed this trip and would encourage everyone to apply. It's a great way to serve and interact with new people. It's very eye-opening, and you experience firsthand some of the issues facing our country today. Personally, I was able to relate to the situations that my parents and family faced when they came to this country, and this made me value all of the sacrifices that they have made even more! What I have taken away from this trip are experiences and information that I can use to aid and understand the situations of my future students when I become a teacher.

HEP Graduate Becomes Deputy



Elder Salvador

Last May, former HEP student Elder Salvador became a new law enforcement deputy for the Highlands County Sheriff's Office. Since he was a young boy, Elder felt inclined to serve his community. After HEP, Elder joined the Criminal Justice Academy and successfully completed all his courses. In recognition for his efforts and achievements, Elder received the NASDME HEP Student Award in 2015. We are very proud of his new accomplishment.



Elder (left) and Elder's mother (right)



Swearing-In Ceremony

New Journeys: International Service Trips

CAMP students Jose Flores and Magali Salinas participated in volunteer organizations in South America. They worked alongside professionals and committee members in rural communities to help those in need.

Nicaragua

Last summer, I took part in a public health brigade to Nicaragua through Global Public Health Brigades, the largest student-led social responsibility movement on the planet. We worked on several projects, including the implementation of concrete floors, the construction of latrines and water *pilas*, and the education of the local community about the importance of public health. This was an eye-opening experience for me. I was inspired and humbled to see many people who live in extreme poverty, yet maintain a positive outlook on life. Despite their challenging living conditions, these people believed in a better future, one full of happiness and health. I thoroughly enjoyed serving these families and was inspired to run for president of the USF GPHB club. As president, I will lead a brigade this upcoming summer. I wish to share my passion for service with other students who also wish to serve those most in need.

By Jose Flores



Jose Flores (right) and volunteer (left)



Jose Flores (top left) with locals and the Global Public Health Brigade

Guatemala

During spring break, I went to San Pedro, La Laguna in Guatemala with Volunteers around the World (VAW). VAW's mission is to provide free medical care to those in need. We held free clinics for five days in towns near San Pedro with the help of three local doctors. Under a physician's guidance, I had the opportunity to see patients, take their vitals, write prescriptions, and hand out medications. I learned how to take blood pressure, sugar glucose, and even got CPR certified by the Red Cross. We saw over 100 patients each day and provided all of them with the necessary medications. I learned so much from the local doctors and gained hands on experience in the medical field. I want to attend medical school after graduation, so I value such an amazing opportunity and would love to volunteer again. I do plan to attend other trips in the coming year, hopefully to the Dominican Republic.

By Magali Salinas



Magali Salinas at the Indian Nose Mountain in San Pedro



Magali Salinas (left), local doctor Milgen Gonzalez (middle), and volunteer Faith Crowe (right)

Interested in Visiting the USF Campus?

Tours are available Monday through Friday and are approximately 90 minutes.

To schedule a campus visit, make a request at least 45 days in advance online: www.usf.edu/admissions/freshman/cve/groupvisit.aspx. Groups will be provided an informational session given by one of the admissions representatives. In the event that the slots are at capacity and additional tours cannot be accommodated, groups can request tours by CAMP Ambassadors. Contact Ruby Luis to schedule tours with CAMP Ambassadors.



HOW TO REACH THE CENTER FOR MIGRANT EDUCATION:

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Center for Migrant Education
4202 E Fowler Ave, EDU 105
Tampa, FL 33620

Phone: 813-974-5806

Fax: 813-974-0485

Web: www.coedu.usf.edu/cme

Visiting the campus:
Human Services/Architecture Building (HMS) 206



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