

Erika Ezenekwe  
Passions reflection

### Serving and Traveling

Serving others has always been something I've been passionate about since I was a young girl. I always loved helping others and knowing that I made an impact on someone's life. I especially love helping the poor and underprivileged. Those are the people who have to so hard and rough in life. The most amazing thing though is that they have some of the most amazing stories I've ever heard. Some of them are so inspiring and so interesting. I've learned that you can never know someone's story by just looking at them. It has always made me grateful afterwards to see how blessed I am with everything I have. I've realized the more I serve the more I learn and grow as a person.

Another interest I have is traveling. I absolutely love traveling. I absolutely love going all around the world and seeing new things and studying different cultures. I find them all so interesting and unique. We can learn so much from other, from how they treat one another to the way they go about tasks. Their history and culture shapes who they are and what they do and is so incredibly fascinating.

These passions are significant because I shaped my goals for my future and career off of them. I absolutely love serving and making an impact in people's lives so I chose to go into the medical field to become a physician. I also think science is so interesting and can see myself doing it for the rest of my life. The most important part of being a physician though, for me is having the compassion and desire to want to go out there and spend years of your life in school just to serve and help others when they are the most vulnerable and helpless. It's not for everyone, but a small handful and I'm so happy to be included in that group.

My passion of traveling has shaped my goal because I want to go out and see the world. One day I hope to visit every single country in the world. I love learning and seeing new things. As well as discovering cultures, I never knew existed and seeing its impact on the people in it. The best part is that I've found a way to combine both passions into one career path which I will be pursuing.

I've found a way to combine my passion with serving and traveling into a career called international medical missionary work. International medical missionary work is going out all around the world and doing medical work to underprivileged communities. People in the United States are so privileged. We have so many opportunities to do so much. We live in the wealthiest country in the world and our poverty is nothing compared to those in third world countries. Our poverty rate is living with 16 dollars a day while the world's poverty rate of living with 2 dollars a day. Our rate is 8 times as much as the world's poverty rate. That's unbelievable and only 14.8% of the population in the United States is at or under the poverty rate. Over 3 billion people in the world live in at the world's poverty rate. Most of these people cannot afford food to eat much less medical work. Working with organizations like Doctors Without Borders will give me an opportunity to go out and travel while serving others in the process. I would be able to give them free medical work and the necessary supplies that will help them recover and hopefully move forward. After I complete my bachelor's degree, I plan on going to medical school and from there on being a physician and doing medical work and serving others. There are so many different things you can do with a medical degree so as time goes on and as my passions grow it gives me the flexibility to slightly change what I'm doing at the time.