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Honors Enrichment Fund Report
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This summer, I did a study abroad program for Community Health and Education in Zambia through CSU. I spent 3 weeks in Livingstone, Zambia, volunteering as a math teacher for 5-7th graders. With the help of the Honors scholarship I received, I was able to go on this trip and have this amazing experience.

This trip was my first time ever traveling abroad, and was definitely a learning experience for me. To get to Zambia took 2 full days from the Denver airport, full of layovers, taxi rides, meeting new people, and crossing borders. Being able to spend my first time traveling internationally with a group from CSU was a great way to expose myself to international travel while in a safe environment. I learned simple things like how to check a bag, to more challenging concepts such as how to navigate a large international airport in a foreign country. Because of this experience, I will now be more confident and prepared when traveling in the future, whether it is for employment, educational, or personal reasons.

The reason I applied for this educational abroad experience is because I am interested in doing educational volunteer work and wanted to test out if it is something I want to pursue. I am currently majoring in Wildlife Biology, but am also interested in community outreach and education in developing countries. This experience gave me the opportunity to see if education is something I really want to pursue. Getting to interact with students every day for 3 weeks in Zambia as I taught them math, I learned about myself. This experience taught me that I do want to pursue volunteer work after college.

Along with this program helping me learn about myself, it taught me countless lessons that will contribute to my education. First off, I am walking away with a greatly expanded worldview, allowing me to see concepts I am learning from a different perspective. I also learned the importance of gratitude and positivity, and how the ability to receive an education is a privilege. This has caused me to treat my studies at college more seriously and with more respect that I have the opportunity to go to college.

Most importantly to me, I learned how to become a better teacher, which I will use in the future if I continue to do volunteer work. Teaching in Livingstone, I worked with a wonderful local teacher, Mr. Pratty, who served as a role model to me, showing me how to successfully engage a classroom of 50 to 60 students. Because of him, I now have successful tactics to keep children engaged in a classroom, and am more confident in myself and my ability to teach in different environments.

Overall, this was a wonderful and life changing experience for me. It took me out of my comfort zone, engaging me in a completely different culture and way of life. I am walking away a more confident and knowledgeable version of myself, and am so grateful to have had this experience and for the help I received from the honors enrichment fund.

Pictures from the school I was teaching at

