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SNUCMAA Scholarship Progress Report

This semester, my SNUCMAA scholarship award went towards tuition and paying for textbooks. I am now entering my last semester as a senior at Georgetown University, and paying for tuition every term has been daunting since I became a student here nearly four years ago. My parents and I work hard to pay for tuition, however it is still difficult to cover the cost of my education. I am extremely grateful to SNUCMAA for lightening this load for my family and I this semester. The money also was used to cover the cost of textbooks; I was able to purchase my Cell Biology of Cancer textbook, written by Robert A. Weinberg, which is one of the best cancer biology textbooks around today. This was very important to me, as I want to be a pediatric oncologist in the future. Not only did I use it for a course I took this past fall, but I plan to continue to read and use it throughout this semester and into medical school. I am currently working in a cancer research lab at the Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center, and resources such as this one, which I am able to afford thanks to the support of SNUCMAA, help me to become a better informed student and more knowledgeable researcher.

After medical school, I aim to become a pediatric oncologist. I am very passionate about cancer – both research to find a cure, and the actual treatment of patients. I one day hope to see the research I am currently doing make a real impact in other people's lives, and treat my future patients with effective new medications and therapies, knowing the hard work and dedication that went into developing these advancements in research labs. I am especially passionate about helping children. I have always loved working with kids and want to incorporate this into my future career. I feel that I am called to care for and cure the future generations, especially those

who suffer from such a terrible, debilitating, life-threatening disease as cancer. Childhood cancer is, in my opinion, one of the greatest tragedies, and I want to dedicate my life to ending it.

One of the main reasons I chose to pursue medicine was to go on medical missions and provide medical care to those living in poverty in developing countries all over the world. I have witnessed the terrible living conditions, starvation, and physical pain of those in countries such as Haiti and Mexico who do not have access to proper health care and medical attention. As a firm believer that medical care is a right that everyone should have, I want to dedicate a portion of my career as a doctor to traveling to these countries and caring for the poor and neglected. I want to offer a healing hand and to show them that they are cared for.

I strongly believe that everyone on this earth has something they can contribute to make this world a better place. I want to be the best doctor that I can be so that I can change the lives of people young and old, healthy and sick. I want to give people a chance at a better life. I am extremely appreciative of the financial and academic support that SNUCMAA gives me to achieve my dreams as a medical doctor. Thank you very, very much for believing in me and making my dream possible!