SkillsUSA links our classroom knowledge to the hands-on experience we need to excel. My first, and most favorite, experience in which I got to utilize my classroom knowledge in a real-life setting was when I spent my summer shadowing two doctors at their clinic. That summer I was able to apply in a real setting what I had only ever read in textbooks before. I grew in my professional development and I saw firsthand the benefits of CTE on preparing students for success in the workforce.

I believe that career and technical education (CTE), works alongside academic curriculum to effectively bridge the gap between knowledge learned in the classroom and the hands-on preparation needed for career-readiness in the workforce. When these two work in tandem, students are able to reach their set goals, regardless of their desired career field.

I plan on continuing my studies in health science with the ultimate goal of becoming a doctor. I also wish to join the Peace Corps for two years to help others while expanding my knowledge of other countries and cultures in order to best serve my patients. I feel prepared to accomplish these goals because of the career-readiness skills I have learned and practiced in SkillsUSA.