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My Job Shadow Experience

I fortunately got to job shadow Dr. Joel Ramirez at Living Water Clinic in Porterville California on December 10, 2014. I heard about the doctor from my step-dad who had went to high school with him and had recently found out he was now working in his own office. I immediately got his information and knew he was who I wanted to shadow since he was a family doctor. I specifically wanted to shadow him because I, myself want to get into the medical field but have absolutely no idea what work I specifically want to do. I figured shadowing someone who was a doctor for people of all ages, would help me understand a bit more.

I got to the clinic at 11 a.m. and was greeted by an assistant that worked in the front. I mentioned to her that I was there to job shadow Dr. Joel Ramirez; she then led me to his office. I walked into his office and was immediately impressed because he had his very own room to himself. I thought that this was really neat and I right away complimented his office. After this, we talked a little bit about our backgrounds and interest. I learned that the clinic belonged to 3 doctors including Dr. Ramirez. They got the idea of having their own clinic in college and made it actually happen in a place that was familiar to all of them, Porterville California. I was really shocked that they made it happen and they each became their own boss which is what they were all striving for. Dr. Ramirez as well as the other two doctors agreed that they wanted the clinic to be a workplace for them, as well as a place for students in medical schools around the valley to work in as experience. I then asked Dr. Ramirez all of my ten questions and was completely satisfied with the answers I got. He answered all of my questions in a way that I understood. He was fully open to making sure I was getting my questions fully answered; I appreciated it. After my questions, he asked me what it was I was looking into becoming. I told him I had no idea. He said he could definitely relate to me because he was in the same situation when he was in high school. I found out that Dr. Ramirez did not know what kind of doctor he wanted to be until his sophomore year of college. It really caught my attention when he told me that he only knew of eight types of doctors before college, to then find out that there was way over fifty. This made me want to really look into all of the kinds of doctors so that I can decide what kind I would want to be if I was going to stick to a job in the medical field.

After all of the talking, a student that works at the clinic came into his office and asked the doctor if he can get a few things by him. After introducing me, Dr. Ramirez talked to the student. He asked him about prescribing a certain medication to a man. Joel answered the student’s questions and volunteered him and I to go into the room with the patient so I could see what it is like. We went into the room where I got to see Dr. Ramirez in action interacting with someone. It was nice to fully see how he interacts with patients that go into the clinic. At around three, Dr. Ramirez had his own appointment with a lady. Before she came into the clinic, he gave me her medical background, and told me what it was she was coming in for. I was excited to see him with his own patient. When the time came, we went into the room where the patient was waiting. I sat in the corner and observed him. He was extremely professional and polite to the lady. Dr. Ramirez explained everything so well and made sure she had no questions and understood everything he was talking about. I could tell that she was satisfied with her visit.

My visit with Dr. Joel Ramirez taught me so much. I felt like the visit really opened my eyes, resulting in me deciding that I officially want to get into the medical field. Dr. Ramirez briefly went over all of the schooling he did and all of the jobs he took on along the way. He was completely honest about everything and I really liked that. He admitted to it being a long, hard journey. However, he did not fail to mention that in the end, it is beyond worth it. He told me that he and his family are currently living comfortably and that is why he firmly believes that it is all worth it in the end. I liked how he broke everything down for me and explained things to me in a way that I understood. There was nothing I disliked about the trip and my time spent with Dr. Ramirez.

I am still so interested if not more interested in what Dr. Ramirez does. His specific job impacted me to look into the various jobs there are out there that have to do with helping people. Before going into the job shadow, working in the medical field was something I was not sure about. Now, I am almost certain that I will be looking into more jobs like Dr. Ramirez’s in the next few years. I am so astonished with how my job shadow went at the clinic in Porterville with Dr. Joel Ramirez. I cannot wait to see what jobs catch my attention and take the steps needed to make myself successful.