Briefly **(approximately one-half page, single-spaced)**discuss the significance to you of the school or summer activity in which you have been most involved.

Throughout my life, I was surrounded by doctors – my parents and almost all extended family members. In fact, I grew up in a hospital environment, watching everything that happened in it. I listened to meetings among surgeons about the best approach to treat kidney complications. I saw people crying over their loved ones’ death. I saw delighted parents looking over their newborn babies in the chamber. I understand the patient cycle inside out. So often that I became numb of the hospital scenes.

Until I found a medical NGO named DoctorShare early this year. I took part in some of their medical outreach in Jakarta. And in the summer, I flew 2000km away to Kei Island, Maluku, with the medical team to serve the local village there.

Once I got there, I was really sad to see how people suffer in all aspects, mostly healthcare. There was no hospital but only a small health center that was lacking medical facilities.

There was this man, Pak Andi, who was suffering in pain because of his hernia disease. He came in pain and asking for help from the DoctorShare team. I approached him and took care of all his registration, screening, and scheduling for his operation. I was also given the opportunity to assist the doctor who performed the surgery for him. After the operation was completed, he came to me with a drastic change on his face. The “in pain” expression suddenly changed into a happy face. He brought me a bunch of traditional food to share with the team. I was really touched by his action, especially when he said, “thank you”. Subconsciously, I smiled too.

I didn’t know that I could be so happy helping people. The rundown hostel, the dirty water, the buzzing mosquitos became nothing compared to the satisfaction from seeing the people’s grateful faces. Speaking to the senior doctors from the team, I found that those faces have been their driving force to work relentlessly, even at the most inaccessible areas and most inconvenient times. That summer opened my eyes about what it truly means to become a doctor.

My perspective changed. I used to think that becoming a doctor would lead you to a comfortable life as it is a well-paid job. But, in fact, a doctor is a person who helps people with a sincere heart without expecting anything in return. Sometimes, not even get paid. This summer, I developed my own values as an aspiring doctor. It’s about making sacrifices for the good of others.