

**UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON SCHOOL OF  
MEDICINE TRUST Program  
(Targeted Rural Underserved Track)  
Helena, MT ~ Summer 2010**



*Demetra and friends in Nakuru, Kenya*

Hello, I am Demetra Davis, and I will be shadowing Dr. William Snider of the Cooperative Health Center in Helena for two weeks this summer as part of the Montana WWAMI/TRUST Program with the University of Washington Medical School. In the fall I will attend MSU in Bozeman, the first year site for the MT WWAMI MD program.

I was born and raised in the rough and tumble town of Butte, MT, but please don't hold that against me! I'm proud of my Butte roots, and both my parents and grandparents still live there. In high school, I played basketball, soccer, and track, and graduated as valedictorian of my Butte High class in 2005. I attended Gonzaga University in Spokane for my undergraduate degree, graduating Magna cum Laude in 2009 with a major in Biology and minor in Philosophy.

While at Gonzaga, I wrote my senior honors thesis on promoting quality end-of-life care, which was based heavily off of my experiences as a hospice volunteer for two years and my shadowing experiences with an ethicist and palliative care physician. I also volunteered at Sacred Heart's ER and cancer patient care departments, taught English as a Second Language, organized and participated in numerous intramural sports, and served as a Relay for Life team captain.

Upon graduation from GU last year, I made the decision to take a year away from school, agreeing to serve abroad with the International Humanity Foundation, a non-religious, non-profit organization. I chose to perform this service prior to entering medical school so that I could experience completely foreign cultures, as well as to understand the true meaning of service to others. In the past year, I have served as director of an orphanage with 120 children in Nakuru, Kenya, with shorter but similar stints in Chiang Rai, Thailand, and Bali, Indonesia.

My year in Kenya was the most eye-opening experience, where I witnessed abject poverty, cultural clashes, educational inequalities, and government corruption; however, I also witnessed the absolute beauty of the landscape and the resiliency of the people. Kenya was one of the most challenging yet rewarding experiences in my life and one I will never forget. This past year has further reinforced my view that service to others is the highest calling in life; thus, I am honored to serve you and the Helena community as the first step of my medical school journey.

**Please welcome  
Demetra Davis**

~ ~  
**1st Year  
Medical  
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**University of  
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