

TYRA QUICKSEY

Undergraduate, Speech-Language Pathology
IPDS Costa Rica | May/June 2024

MEMORIES

My favorite experiences were having breakfast with my host “mama tica” each morning and performing karaoke with her. I also really enjoyed volunteering with the older adults at the dayhab. They were so nice and patient with my Spanish skills!



Check Out Tyra's IPDS Blog:
<https://buffalostateipdscostarica.weebly.com/tyra>

CROSSROADS



My mother died right before we were to leave and I didn't want to go. It was my first trip without her on this earth and it felt too soon to do something for myself, especially knowing I couldn't call her to share my new experiences. But I'm a traveler at heart and knew she'd be with me. In the end, I didn't regret going because I met Stephany, the speech-pathologist at our partner school. She taught me my first lesson of what a speech-pathologist does in therapy, which helped me when I went on to graduate school. Stephany and I are friends to this day; she is someone I want to keep in my life, especially as I consider moving to Costa Rica to start my own practice for English-speaking children. The connections you make overseas are once-in-a-lifetime opportunities.

COMMUNICATION

I have been blessed to travel to several countries, so going to Costa Rica didn't change me a lot. But I loved being in the position of a language learner. I discovered how many hurdles children who come from another country - where English is not their primary language - must go through when attending school in the United States. The trip also taught me how to deal with different people, which is important for my career if I work in a school, hospital, or on interdisciplinary teams.. Communication with others is the most important tool in your toolbox.



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