



BELIZE TRIP 2016 Tallia McCormick

Thanks to the Isaac Harvey Fund, I was able to make my 5th trip to Belize this spring to do what I love. (I've been going since I was in high school.) Traveling to Belize is something I look forward to every year, and the country has slowly but surely crept its way into my heart. The first two trips I was still a bit unsure about it, but over the years it's become something I am very passionate about, and want to share with everyone, and without the Isaac Harvey Fund I'm not sure I could have afforded to go each time, and without going I'm not sure I would be where I am today.

The experience each time is new, and different than the last time, but it has also led me to what I believe could be my Quakerly "calling." My degree is in Business Management, and my goal would be to someday be able to use my degree to branch out the Belize Friends Boy's School, to grow its programs, and develop better pathways for communication within their country, and our ministry here. I strongly believe in missionary work and not just donations. I think donations can get a project far, but without clear vision, dedication, and understanding, there's little effect the donations alone will have. A huge part of the ministry I am hoping to one day develop there would include incorporating more missionary groups to be involved in the city ministry and well as in the school. The city itself is stricken with poverty, and often times the people exemplify little hope, as you would expect in such dire situations, so to be able to bring in new people, with fresh outlooks who really care about initiating change could be a real benefit. Without the Isaac Harvey Fund I may have never realized that this is what I'm meant to do, and for that I am very grateful.

