

Wilson's passion for healthcare increases

Written by Austin Benson
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Medical/dental program students bonded by interest in medicine

Dane Wilson learned about different cultures, ethnicities and passions for healthcare this summer.

A six-week Summer Medical and Dental Education Program (SMDEP) June 8 - July 19 at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, educated college freshman and sophomores who have an interest in the medical or dental profession.

Wilson, a 2011 graduate of Gothenburg High School, said his interest in the medical field sprang from his small-town upbringing and his family history with kidney problems.

“Those selected for the program came from underserved healthcare communities, low income status or culturally disadvantaged areas,” Wilson said.

He said 80 individuals were selected for the UNMC program that was designed to enhance student knowledge of the healthcare profession.

A two-essay application was required before acceptance into the program, Wilson said. He had to state why he wanted to be selected for the program and what he plans to bring to the future of healthcare.

As part of the activities, students toured Memorial Stadium and Henry Doorly Zoo and watched a game at the College World Series.

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He said they participated in an exercise day that ended with being certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

Wilson said he highly recommends applying for the SMDEP if people are interested in healthcare.

Despite coming from different places and backgrounds, he said the students bonded over a common goal to become successful healthcare providers.

Wilson is on track to attend medical school and will study for the Medical College Admissions Test next summer.

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