Africa Board Approval

June 11-June 25, 2024 – Team leader; Eric Rajah

Purpose of the Trip:

As four young people aiming to widen their perspective on humanitarian and leadership efforts, Anna Flores, Teresa Bruce, Elijah O'Sullivan Amaya, and Kyle Bacalso have been selected to go on a trip to Kenya to learn what it means to start and run a Non-Profit Organization.

Some things that they will be doing are meeting with project managers on the mission sites, meeting government officials, teaching and meeting with the students and teachers at various schools, building connections with families in the community, and learning more about what it takes and means to help others.

Attendee List:

1. Anna Flores – 4th Year Business Administration, Major in Accounting
2. Teresa Bruce – 2nd Year Science, Nursing Track
3. Elijah O'Sullivan Amaya – 2nd Year International Studies, Major in Law and International Affairs
4. Kyle Bacalso – 2nd Year Science, Major in Biology (Bio-Medical)



(From left to right – Teresa Bruce, Kyle Bacalso, Elijah O'Sullivan Amaya, and Anna Flores)

Information about Attendees:

These four Burman University students were selected for this trip because of their passion for leadership, helping others, and making new connections. Each of these students participated for 2 years (4 sessions total) in the Saruk Center for Leadership Development. They were able to build various skills including learning how to work in effective teams, how to obtain awareness and sensitivity to other cultures and people, how to set goals, how to establish enduring and productive relationships with mentors, and more.

Each of these students show deep interest for this trip and have taken it upon themselves to start fundraising to aid with the funds needed to go. These students are also very involved within the Burman community (both academically and through extra-curriculars), including being a part of the Burman University Student Association (Anna as the past President (2021-22) and Elijah being the current Social Vice President and now incoming President), being a part of the executive team for the Nursing & Running Club (Teresa and Kyle), and all of them currently being a part of the Saruk team for starting a project from start to end.

Going forward, each of these students have high achieving goals for their future, including working for the Auditor General of Alberta as a full-time auditor and student for the CPA Program (Anna), working as an intern at the White House (Elijah), going to medical school to become a doctor (Kyle), and going to Kettering to become a nurse (Teresa). Each of them has personal and collective reasons as to why this trip to Africa will be an asset to both them and those that they will build connections with on the trip.

