

What is your name and where are you from? My name is Dylan and I grew up in Colorado for most of my life!

What are you looking forward to learning during your year of service?

I am looking forward to making relationships with students during my year of service. Making meaningful relationships with adults in my elementary school allowed me to have a safe space and I am excited to give students that same opportunity and feeling!

What's a positive about serving elementary and Pre-K kids during a pandemic?

There are so many positives about serving elementary schools during a pandemic. The one

that sticks out to me the most is the fact that the entire world was swept out from under these kids feet a few months ago, and I have the opportunity to give them a sense of security, normalcy, and safety.

Who or what is inspiring you during your service term?

My fiancé is inspiring me during my service term; this is such a weird time in the world and through all of it my fiancé has been my rock. They are so strong and calm and know how to keep me, and everyone else around them, level-headed and positive.

What is a strategy you use to improve relationships with your students?

A strategy that I use to improve relationships with students is having a strong sense of empathy with kiddos that I'm working with. Right now these students are going through a groundbreaking time and most of them do not know how to react. There are still so many things that are up in the air and constantly changing, and I do my best to remember that when I am working with students that are struggling to communicate or are obviously distressed in any way.