On September 1st, 2016 I job shadowed Dr. Joel Ramirez. Although he is a sports medicine doctor and I’m not going for that exact medical career I still wanted to job shadow him because I wanted to get a sense of what it’s like to be in the medical field. I also chose him because he is from Lindsay and graduated from LHS. It’s inspiring to me because regardless of what town you come from you can still be successful. My job shadow took place at Living Water Clinic here in Lindsay where he is partnered up with 2 other doctors and is his own boss. It was a fun experience which got me excited for my future.

When I arrived at the clinic I went into his office and we talked for a bit. I then asked him all the questions that I needed to ask him. Right away one of the nurses came in to tell Dr. Ramirez which patients were in which rooms and their reason for visiting. Right away we went with one patient. At first I didn’t want to go into the room because I didn’t want to make the patient feel uncomfortable but I had no choice. Plus, Dr. Ramirez has a medical student who follows him around so I felt it would be too much.

While we are in the room, Dr. Ramirez examines the patient then explains to him/her what might be the problem. It fascinates me that he knows what’s wrong with just a few things the patient is telling him. After he’s done we went back to his office and he writes on the patients chart. A couple minutes would pass and we’d go onto the next patient. I only went into see 3 patients because I felt some were too personal.

Not only did I see patients but I also talked to Nicole who is a nurse practitioner. I didn’t really know what I wanted to be but I knew for sure I wanted a career in the medical field. After I talked to Nicole I learned a lot and now have a better understanding of what I want to do and what I have to do to get there. She was such a wonderful woman and she gave me great advice.

I also learned from Dr. Ramirez that in order to be a doctor you have to be excellent at multi-tasking. I saw him reading and typing insanely fast while other doctors would be talking to him about a patient and he’d understand perfectly. One of the questions I asked him was “What advice do you have for a person aspiring to enter your career field?” and he answered that it’s not easy but if you’re truly passionate about it then it can be accomplished. So I learned that I need to be really determined if I want to enter the medical field.

My job shadow lasted 3 and a half hours and I liked every second of it. It was interesting to see how Dr. Ramirez deals with his patients. How he goes from patient to patient and each is completely different. I also think it’s so cool how he memorizes all the muscles in the body, medications and their side effects and so much more. There isn’t anything I disliked about my job shadow.

Dr. Ramirez is an outstanding doctor who gave me an incredible experience. I am still very much interested in reaching my goal of getting a career in the medical field. Dr. Ramirez said the most rewarding part of his job is helping others and making a difference in their lives and that is exactly what I want to do. He also told me “If I can do it, you can do it.” I cannot wait.