



honor your Self

“THERE’S A BIG WORLD OUT THERE WITH MANY OPTIONS. STAY FOCUSED AND WORK HARD AND YOU’LL GET THERE.”



Lauren Corcoran, PharmD 24
Chippewa-Cree
Rocky Boy High School
University of Montana
Pharmacist

When Lauren Corcoran thinks of one place in the world she would love to be, it would be at her grandmother’s house on the Rocky Boy’s Reservation. It is her favorite place; it is where she feels at home. “It has always been the place for Sunday coffee, sharing stories, family gatherings and celebrating the holidays.” Lauren comes from a very large, close-knit family. “They are my biggest supporters,” she says, “and now they put a lot of faith in me to answer their questions regarding their prescriptions.” That’s important to Lauren and, as a pharmacist, she is glad to be able to help them.

Lauren is now one of the faces behind the pharmacy counter. As a pharmacist, Lauren has found that she is more accessible than a doctor at times. “Patients call the pharmacy for help regarding their medications but also inquire about other health-related information,” she says. Lauren works at a clinic with a patient population of 11,000 and fills an average of 350 prescriptions a day. “It is a big

responsibility. Many people do not understand the process pharmacists go through when filling prescriptions. Pharmacists look at so many things, including dosing, potential allergies and interactions to other medications a patient may be taking.” Lauren enjoys her work as a pharmacist and eventually would like to do more clinical pharmacy work so that she can help build clinical programs that help manage chronic diseases.

One of Lauren’s biggest obstacles has always been herself. Lauren believes that “anything is attainable and you cannot let any excuse keep you from your goal. In the end, you are going to be affected by the choices that you make. You are going to have to do the work but you will find that you will be your own worst enemy. If you push through the issues that come up, both internally and externally, then you can make it. Nobody can do the work for you; the bottom line is you have to want it and you have to be willing to work hard for it.”

“YOU DON’T HAVE A LOT OF OPTIONS WHEN YOU DROP OUT OF SCHOOL. PEOPLE ARE ALWAYS WAITING FOR SOMETHING BIG TO HAPPEN THAT WILL CHANGE THEIR LIVES. BUT IT’S A SLOW PROCESS TO GET TO THAT HAPPY PLACE WHERE YOU WANT TO BE. SCHOOL IS A STAIR STEP THAT WILL HELP GET YOU THERE.”