In life, there are many opportunities, in which any one can participate to serve their community. However, for me, I had the chance to join, voluntarily, the Saudi Students Association at the University of District of Columbia UDC, as a Vice President Secretary. We started to organize meetings for us to discuss our first event we are going to held, which is going to be an opening ceremony of the association at UDC. After that we started to meet for rehousing and practicing of what we should do on the day of the event.

Our first meeting was about what everyone should do on the day of the event, and sign us up for specific role on that day, also giving suggestions of what we should present for our guests. At that meeting, the setting was great, we sat on a large rounded table facing each other. The atmosphere was completely Saudi because of two reasons, other than the fact that all members are already Saudis. First, there was a coble of female members who made a great deed, which was bringing Saudi coffee with dates for everyone. That made us really taste our culture, even though we are far away from it. Second, is the fact that in all the meeting, we were talking in Arabic. That made us discus more about our country, and get to know each other, like knowing our home towns and which side of Saudi Arabia are we, so everybody would feel fine to work together later on. So, the atmosphere in general was very friendly. During the meeting the President started to welcome everyone and thank them for attending, then he assigned everyone for a job to do it on the day of the event. Meanwhile, I choose to be a receptionist, who welcomes the guests at the front door and shows them the directions of where they should go and see what we are exhibiting to them, such as the western booth, eastern booth, or the booth of where female guests could get henna tattoo for free. In the end of that meeting we decided that our following meeting will be to rehearse our roles, but everyone should read more about their parts and their tasks.

When we were at the second meeting, I was excited to see how we are going to present our activities to the coming guests, especially the part where there will be a Saudi national dance. However, when we arrived, we started by deciding where our booths are going to be located, then how the responsible members, who were assigned for those booths, are going to present their materials to the guests. For example, how the members of western booth going to describe the west of Saudi Arabia, and what does that area have, like the way they dress, the food of that area, how the seasons weather of that said of the country, etc. And everyone seemed to acknowledge what their tasks require from them. Furthermore, we decided how the set of tables are going to be, by aligning them next to each other. Afterwards, the members who are going to perform the Saudi national dance started to rehearse in front of us, they all guys and some of them did not know how to do it in the beginning, but after practicing multiple times, they performed it well. It was really fun, we got to laugh and make jokes on each other. In other words, we enjoyed so much that we did not feel we were working.

In conclusion, for me, the idea of volunteering and devoting myself for the community became more vivid, and I shall continue working for my communities whether the Saudi or the American. Because it makes me feel happy and give back to community what I owe it. However, my experience with the Saudi Association was and will be great for my future preferences. By working there, I learned how I can a part of a team that works for a specific purpose, I learned how to be more responsible of the tasks that I am assigned for, and I learned that volunteering is a beneficial in terms of creating relationships. So, I will not stop making myself happy by joining organizations for volunteering.