I can honestly say that my time spent as a Marketing and Communications Intern at Mercy Multiplied was one of the most growth-filled seasons of my life. Working with the Marketing and Communications department at Mercy's corporate office gave me unique experiences and taught me lessons that I will forever carry.

Every day was new at Mercy. From the moment I walked through the doors, I was presented with new challenges and tasks that required me to learn on my feet and think outside the box. I had the opportunity to collaborate with Mercy staff on numerous projects, and I got hands-on experience in bringing visions, events, and stories to life. From



2017 Spring Intern, Gabriel, with Mercy's Marketing and Communications Team

creating social media material and guest blogging, to data collecting and communicating with donors, I had the chance to practice and participate in all the elements needed to keep a nonprofit running.

Throughout my semester there, I learned how much footwork is required to be the hands and feet of Jesus at a nonprofit organization such as Mercy Multiplied. The researching, spreadsheets, and emails may not be glamorous, but it paves the way for a bigger purpose. Behind each email is a soul that could be reached. Because of each tweet a heart could be encouraged. And because of each event, a life can be transformed.

Some of my most memorable days at Mercy Multiplied were when I was able to see our work come to life. I loved collecting stories and testimonies to compose feature stories for our website. Hearing the impact that Mercy Multiplied's mission has had on guest speakers, teachers, and public figures was humbling and encouraging. When making phone calls to donors, I was amazed at how invested, excited, and prayerful our donors are. I was able to see how the work I did behind the scenes set the stage for God to work through Mercy.

What made my experience truly impactful was the staff of Mercy Multiplied. They recognized their mission in everything they did and cultivated an environment of joy, determination, and purpose. I learned that even in high-stress seasons of life, it is possible to find joy in the Lord, and He will provide energy and strength! I was amazed at witnessing the patience, professionalism, and work ethic that sustained them from the Keys to Freedom Launch all the way to the Run for Mercy 5K. Most of all, each of them went through the day mission-minded and drew every menial task back to the big picture of expanding God's Kingdom and transforming lives.

My internship was a success, and I am so thankful for the opportunities I had to learn practical skills, teamwork, and discipline in such a loving environment. I will take away a newfound confidence, a stronger work ethic, and connections that will last a lifetime, and I could not be more grateful!

Gabriel Poe Mercy Multiplied Intern Lipscomb University Junior