My experiences I have encountered while attending the Evergreen Tacoma campus have been the driving force behind my desire to pursue a graduate degree. I learned that major issues confronting this nation have their roots in policies put forward (or not) by local, state, and national governments. Wise policies, such as the Affordable Care Act, benefit millions of Americans, especially those in the margins.

At the Tacoma campus, I have received encouragement from faculty as well as my fellow scholars. Evergreen has demonstrated many ways of motivation. The speakers have been forthcoming with information about the MPA program.

While attending Evergreen this learning community has become my safe space. I enjoy researching and finding the solution to the assigned problem. I have become accustomed to researching any and everything. I understand that the MPA program requires writing and oral skills. I believe that I have acquired both skills at Evergreen. I also believe that attending Lyceum every Tuesday prepared me for the MPA program.

I have become accustomed to the seminar style of learning. I enjoyed hearing the perspective of graduates; the way they conveyed their story was inspiring. I loved hearing how and what motivated them to seek a higher education, such as graduate school. I particularly like how each graduate expressed how

the faculty helped them along their journey. I have developed the desire and need to further my education. I want to learn and retain as much information while being in the MPA program. Acquiring a MPA degree is absolutely necessary for myself; I want to help diverse individuals in the community. I have worked for a few different non-profit organizations in the past. I am aware of the requirements needed to work in this field. Being in those spaces helped develop my empathy and emotional intelligence for people in the community. I have acquired social skills and I have gained a sense of empowerment.

I enjoy helping and advocating for others. It is a great feeling to be of service to individuals while helping them navigate through their problems. I made a difference in these people's lives.

My MPA degree will help me address pervasive issues such as homelessness. This is a major issue that needs to be addressed in the community. The MPA will help me better understand this multi-dimensional challenge (and other challenges) and become part of the solution.

I also want to motivate and encourage individuals in to also to pursue a public administration job. These people must be passionate about helping people in their community. I ultimately want to help make the world a better place with the work I do in the future. Being a leader in my community is important. The

need to be a continuous learner has become a part of my journey. This will ensure innovation of processes for a more engaging meaningful experience.

I would like to play a role in building a productive positive workplace culture. I would like to craft strategies and guide execution while putting important things into perspective. Some of the key elements that drew me to the mission are as follows: having the space to think critically and creatively while helping others; leading people while working in a collaborative environment; embracing diversity in today's community; advocating for the community, especially those in the margins.

I am very optimistic; therefore, I can for see new possibilities to accomplish a positive change in the workplace and in our communities. I would like to reiterate by stating that I like the idea of learning collaboratively. Facilitating dialogue while engaging in a learning environment also drew me to the MPA degree. I am looking forward to developing my written communication and oral skills.

Attending the Evergreen Tacoma campus has prepared me for the seminar classes I will have in the future. The seminars that were held every Tuesday will make it easy for myself to adjust to this style of learning. Teamwork and collaborative learning have become extremely important to complete various learning projects. In the future I plan to take coherent and thoughtful positions on key public administration and policy issues. Having the opportunity to discuss a contemporary public issue with practitioners and faculty will be an absolute honor.

The mission has elements in it that are like how I conduct myself today. Working with diverse individuals has become more common in the workplace. I would like to gain the more information on how to use my words in a more empathetic and effective way. Conveying leadership skills will enhance my skills and

ability to work well with others. It is important to teach others who will come after me. I would like to share my success story while encouraging future scholars.

The MPA program is what I have been looking for all my life. I have always been the person to help others, while providing a safe space for them to express their feelings. Some are not as strong as others; I want to be the voice for those who are terrified to express their true intent. This world needs more people that

want to serve and help others. I am positive that my presence will be felt in the community. I believe that people that enter the MPA program genuinely want to eliminate the challenges that plague different communities. My different experiences I have had in the non-profit sector have been fulfilling. I highly enjoyed helping individuals in the community. I was able to give them a sense of hope, while treating them with respect.

I wanted people to know that they mattered, and no problem was too big to solve. The MPA program is a blessing that the community needs. If people continue to pursue a degree in public administration, the world will continue to change for the better. I am eager and elated to have a chance to help my community in a positive way. I want to inspire my three boys to pursue high educational goals. I would like to instill the importance of helping others while being a voice in the community.

I am proud to say that am still on my Evergreen journey. I believe that living on the Hilltop, I can give my perspective on issues that need more attention. I would like to address many issues and help people navigate through the challenges they face in their daily lives.