

Cristina Zambrano

Born: Ecuador

Currently: Hunter College, New York, New York



I was born in Ecuador, but my family moved to Italy when I was 5. Just as I was about to finish middle school, we moved again, this time to the US. The transition was difficult - I wasn't that familiar with English and the education system was very different. At first, the only place I felt comfortable was in science class.

I've always been interested in studying human health. Both my mom and my sister were teenage moms, and my high school needed a daycare on site because so many students were having kids. So, I'm inspired to educate women in my community about their options, because so often teenage pregnancies are due to a lack of information.

After I finish my education, I will continue to help patients in the US, but I also want to work in Ecuador where the need for medical care is so acute.

My mom told me that "while I don't have much to give you material wise, I hope

to leave you with a legacy of a good education," so to honor her, I want to use my scientific education to help vulnerable people.