

I am passionate about education because it gives me the opportunity to help young minds in becoming active, reflective, and transformative agents of social change. With our current educational infrastructure, a vast majority of our population, especially those living in lower socio-economic status conditions and diverse racial and ethnic identities, are left marginalized and oppressed. This is the demographic where critical pedagogy and social change needs to extend the furthest. The TEACH grant gives me the opportunity, as a practicing educator, to serve this population in a manner that affords me increased time and decreased financial burden. Without the TEACH grant, affecting change in marginalized communities would be financially and mentally straining. The TEACH grant allows me to maintain focus on what I consider to be the greatest task of my identity as an educator: empowering students to become agents of social change who aren't afraid to call in and fragment the power structures in our field and our society.