One year ago, I came on board to as an intern with ODE. My experience here has been influential and inspirational. The internship has taught me to be culturally aware and to practice cultural humility, not just within my work but as a part of everyday living. I have seen the struggles of grassroots work and I can say I am more appreciative of people who dedicate their lives to social justice and health equity for all. I have met many great people, which motivates me to achieve and implement the knowledge that they have instilled in me one day. As my internship is coming to an end, I like to think of this not as a means to an end, but a beginning to new journeys and opportunities. As Eleanor Roosevelt once said, “The future belongs to those who believe in

- Mitchell Xiong