

Aniessa Martinez

During the pandemic I have been fortunate to still have my job at the VA in Palo Alto, still be able to provide for myself, and have been healthy and safe. At the beginning of the shelter-in-place my sister and I were not ready or prepared because we didn't think the shelter-in-place would really go through. Once the lockdown was confirmed we tried to stock up but there were very limited things we ate to stock up on. For the most part we don't eat foods that are canned so we were able to make do with what we had available. I think during this time one thing this has helped me realize is all the hard work all essential workers do is not recognized on the daily like it should be. If it wasn't for the grocery store workers we wouldn't be able to survive. The work that they do is very critical to our lives and should be recognized more. One thing that has been "hard" for me is seeing all my friends and classmates go home to spend time with their families during this time while I have been in the Bay Area still working. I am SO very thankful I still have my job so I would never complain. Thankfully I was able to go home for a couple weeks during this time and spend it with my family but the time is never long enough. This is such a weird and crazy time we are living in right now but when this is all done we can look back at history and see how far we've come in hopes this pandemic doesn't completely take over our lives. Our lives will forever be changed but living in fear is not good and I hope we all can move past this and get back to living life.