Farm Kid to Doctor - Debt & Access to Medicine Transcript

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Rural upbringing and family support

I'll just give an example for me, I'm an Idaho farm kid. I grew up in a single wide trailer house. We had plenty, we never felt like we were poor. we felt we had all the things we needed, but we'd never went anywhere unless we're staying with family and we drove, We have a big toolkit in the car every time we travel because you know the cars probably gonna break down and that was okay that's the life that my parents chose and We're happy to live it.

And I never felt deprived once as a child.

How financial background shapes medical school access

There were plenty of things that I wished we could have done with some little experience, but I really grew up in a wonderful, loving home. That being said, I would have never been able to say, yep, i'm going to sign up and go to medical school and take on $200,000 worth of debt and to take this risk without all those things to back me up.

But reflected across thousands of people across the United States of America, there's similar stories all the way through. And the funding of that education becomes one of the crucial pieces to say who enters medicine.

If it's only the people that come from million dollar, $10 million net worth households, you will lose out on people who are like me, who grew up in a more rural setting or just grew in the setting where they didn't have a lot of money.

So I think it is a really important conversation.