In Tarija, I completed rotations in several different health clinics in and around the city. While my medical expertise was limited, I was able to help the physicians with paperwork and conduct tests such as electrocardiograms and sonograms on patients.
The most rewarding aspect of my experience this summer was having the opportunity to interact directly with people from a very different culture while helping them overcome setbacks in their physical and mental health.
My work with CFHI opened my eyes to the lack of resources in a poor, rural environment even in a field as important as healthcare. It was important to see how physicians in Tarija were able to provide their patients with quality healthcare when faced with this adversity.
This wonderful experience enhanced my interest in the Global Health and Health Policy program here at Princeton and encouraged me to explore other areas of healthcare, such as epidemiology and immunology, that I had not considered before.
It was incredible to see the beauty of a foreign country from a more personal perspective. I was able to meet locals, stay with a host family, and visit parts of the community that other tourists were not aware of. Through this proximity, my grasp of the language and culture was magnified. I understand the elegance of this country and would love the opportunity to return in the future.