

I am the I in HII.

Brooke Slade

Corporate Compliance Manager



Growing up in the Washington, D.C.-Maryland area, Brooke Slade learned the value of diversity whenever she left the house. It's a place where people from all over the world lived, where they practiced an array of religions and where their unique cultures intertwined.

Brooke tells her two boys that they should take pride in their heritage, because those links in history helped create them. And she brings that mindset to work, understanding that the best possible results are reached when people from different backgrounds and experiences are included.



It's where Brooke built a foundation of acceptance and understanding for people who didn't necessarily look like her. And it helped feed her curiosity later in life when she joined the Air Force and lived in Germany.

It was during that time living abroad that she took the opportunity to visit Amsterdam, Paris, Switzerland and Italy, and where she enjoyed the local culture and festivals.

Diversity, is also quite literally ingrained in Brooke's DNA.

"A few years ago, it was interesting to get those ancestry, DNA tests results back because my family doesn't talk a lot about our history necessarily or the different cultures meshed in our heritage," she said. "Getting those results back and seeing things like British or Irish and obviously African is very interesting to me because it does start to piece together that puzzle of how my family came to be."



"I was exposed early on to different people with different mindsets," Brooke says. "For me, how I've passed that on to my children is to be open to how people think differently and why they think differently and that's OK."

▶ Brooke's story continues, watch the video at www.hii-homeport.com/divein/iamthei.stm

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