Member Spotlight for December 2021 – Chelsea Adler

Where do you work and what is your position?

I am currently a Senior Pricing Manager and Actuary at Root Inc., an InsurTech start-up based in Columbus, OH.

Why did you decide to become an actuary?

I was initially drawn to the actuarial profession because I love math and statistics. I wanted to use these skills to solve real world problems and help people. What really sold me on the profession is the collaboration and variety of work. No day is the same and I love getting to partner with people across an organization to accomplish shared goals.

What aspects of the field do you love?

The actuarial profession is so dynamic and exciting! There are constantly new problems to solve. I love that I am always learning and being challenged to develop creative solutions.

What is the best career advice you have ever received?

From a young age, my father instilled in me the importance of 360 degree leadership. To me, this means: 1) setting an example for others in the way that I work 2) boldly standing up for what I believe in and 3) confidently asking for what I want. I truly believe
a career is what you make it. You can’t always control what happens to you. However, you can control your perspective and what you do next.

Do you have any advice for those just starting out?

Get exposure to as much as possible early on! It’s hard to know what you like to work on until you try a bunch of different things. It’s a balance, but I would recommend saying “yes” to as many opportunities as you can, while also prioritizing exam studies.

What is your favorite CAS memory?

When I earned my Fellowship, I got to travel to Honolulu, HI to celebrate and be recognized. This was a really special trip, but since then, I’ve launched a blog to inspire future actuaries. I’m constantly building new favorite memories through connecting with and getting to know incredible actuaries from across the world.

What is a fun fact about yourself that many people don’t know about?

If you’ve read my blog, then you may know that I was a synchronized swimmer for 15 years. What you may not know is that I was accepted to attend Stanford University, but ended up declining the opportunity. I wanted a school with an actuarial science program and at the time, they didn’t have that specific focus available.