

Charleston Essay

Over the course of 3 days, I was able to join other Jewish teens to help improve life for residents of Charleston, SC. During this time, I helped sort items that we donated at a homeless shelter, worked on Habitat for Humanity project building a house, attended a service at the Church where there had been the shooting, learned about the Jewish community and connected with Jewish college students. This was particularly fulfilling as I had never built anything like a house before, and, it was exciting to help by building with my hands. We made a ton of progress building the house together, and made a difference for the residents. Doing this work made me realize how lucky and fortunate I am. In addition to helping others, it was fun to make new friends and share Jewish experiences with them and to be in Charleston was such a special experience.

Jake Singer