

Detroit Service Trip

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Coleman A. Young Academy

Coleman A. Young Academy is an elementary school in Detroit that we visited which is for pre-k to 5th grade.



At the academy we read to the children, performed/taught them a stepping routine and also led them in different fun activities for example basketball. I think that this part of the trip was my favorite. Seeing how much fun the children were having made me very happy, another thing that stood out to me was how excited they were about receiving the goody bags that we sorted out for them which contained some stationary and a snack.

A moment which stood out to me was when I was reading a book to two little boys, Dale-Sean and Ian. They loved the book and when it was over they each picked out a new book. Ian asked me if he could read his book. While he was reading Dale-Sean started crying and when I asked him why he said it was because he couldn't read, he asked if he could try though. He started reading but struggled a little so I joined in and so did Ian so we all read together. It was so nice to see how happy that made him and we all had a lot of fun.

Repair the World Detroit (The Noah Project)

Repair the world is a volunteer organization which inspires young people to get involved with community service in various different ways. The **Noah Project is a way to try and help the homeless and impoverished people of Detroit try and become self sufficient and generally help them out (**N**etworking **O**rganizing and **A**dvocating for the **H**omeless).**



When we arrived at Repair the World we first separated out different toiletries that we had brought as donations. These then got separated equally into two bags, one for the church and one for Project Noah. After separating the items we made sandwiches for the Noah Project. It felt really good to organize the donations and make sandwiches because I knew that the people who receive the items will be so thankful and I'm glad I got to be a part of that. Even though doing these things doesn't seem like a big deal it can have a huge impact on the person it helps and this is really amazing.

Weinberg Greenhouse - Elderly Home

The Weinberg Greenhouse is not a traditional elderly home. The facilities are new and aim to seem more like an apartment. It serves low income elders though affordable and independent assisted living and is in partnership with PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly).

We took a tour of the Weinberg Greenhouse when we first arrived and they gave us snacks after our long walk. As soon as we walked in I could tell that the environment was very welcoming and the carers were so friendly. The facilities were very nice and clean and overall it looked like such a nice place for elderly people to live which was really cool.

After touring we were able to spend some time with the elders. First we showed them the step routine and one woman even started dancing with us, she had so much energy and there was so much laughter and everyone was smiling. I played uno with some of the elders and friends which was really fun. Not only did my friends and I have so much fun playing but the elderly people also really enjoyed spending time with us.

Overall it was a really amazing experience. It made me so happy to see how much the elders enjoyed talking to us and playing with us. It was such an interesting experience.

Breakers Covenant Church

Breakers Covenant Church is not only a Church but it also aims to help the people around the community. They have an area for younger children and teenagers who don't have a place to go with beds and a lot of games and books.



First we went on a tour of the Church and it was so nice to see the area for children with no where to go to take a nap or read or just hang out. We then attended the Sunday service and taught the members our step routine. I thought it was so cool to watch people of different religions bond over music and dance and my friends and I could not stop smiling the whole time. It was a very heart warming experience.

After talking to some of the youth at the church we helped clean up some of the rooms in the building which had been ruined due to water damage. We helped to rearrange and bring furniture to the storage room and then helped clear up the trash from outside to make the whole area look nicer. Although the work was hard at times it really paid off and was worth it to see how much we accomplished. Something that made the whole experience more enjoyable was working with my friends and the youth at the church.

Overall the Detroit trip was so much fun and I had an awesome time with J-Teen. I think that I will definitely do another service trip in the future.