

Philadelphia

The Philadelphia trip was a memorable experience for me because I was able to make new friends and have fun, in addition to helping others. Visiting Penn Hillel when we arrived on Friday was a cool experience because I was able to choose whichever type of Judaism I wanted to during prayers. Additionally, the alternative Shabbat morning was another new and exciting Jewish experience for me because it was so different from what I am used to. Learning about the murals in Philadelphia was very interesting especially because we were able to see them right after we had learned about them. My favorite Mural was the one in Chinatown where a random person walking down the street told explained to us. During our free time, I was able to try Philadelphian food in the Redding Terminal Market, while talking to friends, some of whom I had only met on the trip. That night, we did some work at Our Closet with a local service group. It was interesting to see the similarities and differences between Our Closet in Philadelphia and Kids Closet in Westchester. It also showed how Philadelphia and New York share some of the same problems. The next morning, we did service with the Jewish Relief Agency, which was probably the highlight of the trip for me. It was a great mixture of fun and helping others. Also, it was amazing to see how efficient the whole process was. And one of the best parts of it was delivering the food, which we helped package to people who needed it. Lastly, we went to the Boys and Girls Club, which a great way to end the trip. Doing service at the Boys and Girls Club was great because it plays an important role in the community there. All in all, the Philadelphia trip was a great experience.