

Rachel

I was contemplating writing a thank you note to everyone who so kindly and generously welcomed me into their communities and allowed me the experience of a lifetime two months ago in Havana, Cuba, but I've decided to take a different route and not only do that, but also write a thank you note to J-Teen Leadership: an organization that has helped shape me into the person I am today and has granted me so many incredibly gratifying opportunities. Thank you for the memories...

Thank you...for including me on what turned out to be a truly inspirational and fabulous trip! I've been on a number of service trips throughout these past few years, from the Gulf Coast, to Far Rockaway, Oklahoma, and Detroit, but after going to Cuba, I can most definitely say that I have a number one favorite for so many reasons! Not many people have the chance to go off and do such meaningful service work in another country and especially in a place like Cuba that only grants a limited number of visas each year. I will be eternally grateful for this trip and will remember it for the rest of my life.

Thank you...for allowing me to participate in such a meaningful Shabbat service at the Patronato on Friday night. I certainly did not anticipate being up on the bimah with my fellow J-Teeners singing Shabbat songs with the teens in Cuba. That was most definitely an