

Ava Wampold (Mercer Island – Achayot BBG)

Vision Statement

My vision for the 2019-2020 programming year is to help find the Jewish identities of teens across EGR. This difference between Jews of the past and those of today creates a disconnect. While many EGR teens feel culturally Jewish, most don't feel spiritually connected. I want to show EGR that there are SO MANY ways to be Jewish outside of synagogue. By exploring our connection with Israel, nature, art, food, dance, prayer, and meditation with a Jewish lense, teens will find Jewish meaning in aspects of their life that they already love and participate in. I will do this by coordinating Jewish leaders for chapter, city, and regional events to lead programs about one of these topics and how they can embody Jewish values. I will also help coordinate a city bo and sweetheart camping trip. We will create programming that connects classic camping activities with Jewish values. This trip will be an incredible way to combine a region-wide love of nature with Judaism. Along with these ideas I will also enhance the Shabbat experience at conventions. We will bring song, dance, and excitement back into traditional BBYO Shabbats. The Jewish people have always persisted through testing times however today our challenge isn't as violent or physical as blatant persecution. Our challenge is to overcome assimilation and loss of our ancient roots. The counterattack on assimilation starts here, in EGR. My hope is that every EGR teens leaves this upcoming year with a sense of Jewish self, purpose, and meaning.

Mission Statement

I will stay in constant communication with my CO, counterparts, and other Regional board members to make sure I always have my goals in mind. Counterpart communication will be the most important this year because I will make sure each chapter is receiving unique and engaging Judaic programming.