Regional Sh'licha Sarah Jean Eisenberg

VISION STATEMENT:

I want to increase focus on Judaic programming and services throughout the year, both regionally and in chapters. For my Sh'lichot counterparts, I want to help them achieve their goals, give them the best resources possible through the google drive folder, and to help them plan judaic programs and alternative services to appeal to more members. I plan to have more people involved in our J-Serve and stand-up cause by involving it at events year-round, and for our stand-up cause to be included at conventions. I hope to bring Shabbaton to our NSR for the first time and use it as an opportunity for NSR to dive into our Judaism together. Lastly and most importantly, I want the people of our region to be able to express their Judaism in whatever way they wish and for them to have the option to experience programs that can help them express their Judaism.

How do you plan to elevate J-Serve and community service programming next year?

In order to elevate our J-Serve and community service, I believe it needs to be more included towards the beginning of the year. If we create the committees for J-Serve and Stand-Up earlier in the year, we spread the word about the event earlier on, and also give members more planning time to make the event great. As mentioned in my vision statement, our stand-up can be elevated by being included at conventions and other events. This year J-Serve, originally, was reimagined by including many programs across the region, so next year I would like to continue that so more people have the ability to easily attend and participate.

Many chapters tend to steer away from implementing Judaic/ Shabbat programming out of fear that this will not be appealing to new members. How will you work with your counterparts to eliminate this mindset and strengthen Shabbat and Judaic programming among chapters?

The best way to strengthen Shabbat and Judaic programming without pushing away members is for chapters to have judaic programming that combines with other folds, and services that are interactive and interesting for members. Judaic programming includes social action, community service, and jewish heritage; these folds can be amazing on their own, but to appeal with members who aren't as interested, Sh'lichot can connect recreational or sisterhood activities with a judaic program or incorporate them into a shabbat or havdallah. I will be there to give my counterparts advice on how to make programs appealing to all, so members can enjoy Judaic events in the way most comfortable to them.