

**What goals do you have as Social Action VP for the 2018-2019 year?**

If elected to be your SAVP, I will work to make social action programs that contain both education and action so we can use our creative minds to bring about tangible change. Also, I will create a variety of hands on programs and simulations and bring in guest speakers in order to see how various social action issues have influenced people's lives and to form stronger connections to the issues discussed. In addition, I will create a social action program bank that everyone can use for program ideas. Moreover, I will work closely with the SAVP Network to have monthly social action study themes and have calls with the region discussing those issues and ways we can take action outside of NFTY-STR events. In order to take action outside of kallot, I will create a comprehensive calendar of subregional social action events to encourage NFTY-STRites to join in taking action. Furthermore, I will have video calls explaining the Camp Jenny application process and I will work to foster year-round support for Camp Jenny through action projects in the region and in TYGs. We have the power to improve the world, and it would be a privilege to help foster that development with all of you.

**Why have you chosen to run for Social Action VP?**

Ever since I was little I have participated in my temple's Mitzvah Day and Miles-for-Smiles Walkathon for Camp Jenny; however, I did not understand the magnitude of my actions until I experienced social action programming at NFTY-STR kallot. NFTY has shown me how we, as a group of over three hundred Jewish teens, can change the world through *tikkun olam* (repair of the world). The idea that I can make a difference in the world excited me and inspired my passion for social action. I want to be your SAVP to help you discover your passion for social action and to encourage you, my fellow NFTY-STRites, to take action, because "action is the foundational key to all success" (Pablo Picasso).

**List what experiences make you qualified to be Social Action VP.**

As Ninth Grade Representative (2015-2016) and SAVP (2016-2017) of my TYG TiBToFTY, I organized fundraisers for Camp Jenny, led social action programs, and launched a school supply drive for a school with mainly abused and foster children. I am also a current member of the Jewish Women's Foundation's "No

Small Change” program in which we fundraise for non-profit organizations. As a Camp Jenny counselor (2017), I gained firsthand experience of this amazing event and how it encourages the campers to strive to be the best person they can be. Additionally, I was a seven-year camper at URJ Camp Coleman (2010-2016), where we often engaged in social action style programming. I was also a summer camp counselor (2017), where we had our very own “Camp Jenny” with the Boys and Girls Club. As an IB student, an active member of the Thirst Project Club and National Honor Society at my school, and a teacher’s assistant at my temple, I learned the valuable skill of time management and how to diligently and effectively work with others.

**What is your experience with Camp Jenny?**

I had the privilege to be a counselor in the juniors unit at Camp Jenny in 2017. Seeing my campers’ glee when they made it to the top of the rock climbing wall and listening to their infectious laughter while they soaked my co-counselors and I at water play made my heart soar. Although the activities were amazing, one experience over the weekend showed me why these children need Camp Jenny in their lives. One of my campers, Aniya, had immense trouble falling asleep one night, requiring our unit advocate to come in and help us. As a result, her mattress was put on the floor to make her feel more at home. I then realized that the campers have Camp Jenny as a source of comfort and relaxation to distract them from the fears of poverty and crime that await them outside the gates of URJ Camp Coleman. Camp Jenny has opened my eyes to the world we live in and I would be honored to give these children the best weekend of their lives as a co-director.

**Name one Social Action initiative you would like to bring to NFTY and explain how you would implement it.**

For many NFTY-STRites, TYG events and kallot are the only avenues to explore issues people are facing all around the world. In order to increase education and action in response to these issues, I believe that a social action study theme should be implemented. This theme will vary each month and there will be a monthly call for anyone to discuss the issue at hand and ways we can take action. This study theme allows for NFTY-STRites to engage in social action outside of NFTY events, as well as giving everyone an opportunity to collaborate with one another and create a change in our communities.