

Dear NFTY-NW,

My name is Zelda Fishman and I am running to be your Social Action Vice President (SAVP). I attend North Junior High as a Freshman and I have spent the last year holding the position of President at CABIT and the previous year as Financial Vice President.

Growing up Jewish in Boise Idaho is no easy task. As you might have guessed the population of Jewish teens is certainly not gratuitous. For 5 years, I relied on Camp Kalsman to bring me a larger Jewish community, to feel a sense of belonging. After joining nfty I can feel the shift coming here; I want to contribute to other people's sense of belonging in NFTY-NW.

Creating diversity is important under any circumstances but especially in NFTY. Advocating for more diversity whether that is socio-economically, racially, or for any other minority allows us to have a grander viewpoint in making decisions, big or small. To start executing this goal, **I would like to work with the FVP to make sure that there are scholarships available and accessible to those in less privileged communities.** My next move would be to immerse newcomers into NFTY-NW, then, to have a discussion and reflect on what's good and what needs improving, a social seder of sorts. Society is ever changing so we constantly need to look for new techniques to **engage, support, and advocate**, not just for those marginalized but for ourselves as well, as a group that has faced our share of hardship in the past.

Sustainability is something I consider to be very important, my parents always said to leave places better than you found them, and I think we should treat our Earth no differently. If elected, **I would plan to work with the future Financial Vice President in creating reusable nfty merch such as tote bags, water bottles, and more.** I want to expand my knowledge and grow into a more sustainable lifestyle with NFTY-NW, starting with simple deeds and expanding into more ambitious, community defining projects. To go along with this, **I plan to cut down waste at events and push for a compost system to emerge**, something I hope you all can appreciate.

I want to bring forth the element of fun to my Social Action programs. In the past many programs have done tremendous good for those in need but putting together gift bags is not exactly a teenager's idea of fun. I'm hoping that bringing these changes will create more engagement with Social Action, not only while people are at nfty events, but in their daily lives as well.

I want to recognize that I am relatively new to NFTY-NW. I am running for board this year because I want to make an impact. I assure you that despite my age I am certainly not lacking in experience or determination. I see NFTY being a part of my foreseeable future and I want to be able to have a role in such an amazing group of people who I share such a connection with, one stronger than state lines and telephone wires.

It would be an honor to serve as your Social Action Vice President for the 5781-5782 year.

Sincerely,

Zelda Fishman