

Hello everyone! My name is Lian Swissa, I am 18 years old and I am from Kiryat Gat which is a small city located at the northern Negev of Israel. I come from a very big and musical family - I have five brothers and one sister and each one of us either plays an instrument or sings, so my house is never quiet and always full of music and joy.

My hobbies include singing, listening to music, having fun with my friends and I am also involved in my city. For the last three years I have participated in the student council of my high school and have been the youth counsellor of Kiryat Gat. As part of these positions, throughout the years I have been working with teenagers in order to create social projects that will improve the conditions and quality of life for teenagers mainly, but also for adults and children.

I have also taken part in three different programs facilitated by the Jewish Agency, which included delegations to Chicago. In these programs I have learned about myself, about my Jewish and Israeli identity and I was given the opportunity to be exposed to many different opinions and lifestyles. These programs' pillars and key values are: Judaism and Jewish identity, Israel, Tikkun Olam (repairing the world), leadership, pluralism, and many more. I believe these values have really turned into part of my personality. This year I am counseling the next cohort of "Diller Teen Fellows", which is also one of the Jewish Agency programs. I have spent a year as a fellow, and this year, as the counsellor I have the responsibility for 20 hanichim (participants). Throughout the year I am teaching my hanichim, helping them and supporting them emotionally, I am creating activities and I am responsible for solving problems. This year is very challenging, but also full of satisfaction.

I am very excited and looking forward to the next year with you in Canada, and I can't wait to meet you all! I hope we will have a meaningful experience together!

See you in couple of months ☺
Lian.