

Jamie's Story

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Jamie Poslosky would never have imagined she'd be organizing Shabbat experiences for young Jewish professionals like herself. After all, she grew up as a reform Jew without a deep understanding of Jewish identity or connection to Israel. But Birthright Israel changed that. Jamie had many motivations for taking this free trip. As a 25-year-old D.C. public affairs professional, she hardly connected to the Jewish homeland as her own yet she was immensely compelled by the Jewish State, deeply drawn to its history, people and, especially, the rest and ritual of Shabbat. She departed with a curiosity about how Israelis observed their religion, what was Israeli life like in general and as an exploration of her own ties to Judaism and her Jewish identity.

Following her Birthright experience, Jamie says “I came away completely inspired to find out what made me feel so connected to Israel, to my religion and to part of my identity I didn't really know I could tap into before.”

As she set about doing that, The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington was there, reaching out to her after the trip and enabling her return visit to Israel on a leadership development trip for Birthright alumni. “I was in a place in my life where I was ready to explore what Judaism meant to me, and The Federation helped me map out a Jewish journey for myself that I am still on.”



