

Programming Summary

April Springer

A program I would like to implement would be a program called **the People Puzzle**. The People Puzzle would be a blank, or white puzzle with around 200 pieces, or however many people there are attending the event. These puzzle pieces would be divided up into 10 groups. The program would begin by having everyone in the region be split off into these 10 groups, so that everyone can get instructions in a smoother, more understanding fashion. The group leaders will have been instructed beforehand to pass out markers, glitter glue, and other crafty materials to their participants. The participants would be instructed to make a design on their puzzle piece that truly represents them, whether it shows aspects of their Jewish life, their hobbies, or anything in general, as long as it represents who they are. Afterwards, everyone in the region would be gathered together. The participants would then be instructed to find someone with a piece that fits theirs and introduce themselves to each other. Then the region would have to work as a team to connect all of those pieces together in a giant puzzle on the floor. That way, not only are participants looking for people to connect their pieces with in the puzzle, but they are also meeting more people to connect with on a personal level. Once the puzzle is completed on the floor, the participants will be instructed to return to their original groups for a short discussion. The group leaders will lead the participants in discussion, asking them questions about the people that they have connected with throughout their NFTY experience, and the importance of MAR being such an inclusive and interconnected region. The purpose of this program is to demonstrate that every single person in the region is connected, and MAR cannot exist without the contributions and diversity that each of us bring. We each bring something new to our community, and that is incredibly important. Additionally, it allows MARites to form new connections with each other, while simultaneously celebrating old ones.