

Charlottenburg Workcamp Report

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The Charlottenburg Workcamp was the most incredible experience, better than I could have ever imagined. We learned so many important things, mostly about respecting and embracing other cultures. I loved seeing how everyone had different customs. I thought living together and having the same routine, since we had one shower for everyone and slept in the same area, would be difficult, but we handled it very well. We had the opportunity to get to know each other and the way everyone lives. I also taught them a lot about Brazil and they were always open to new perspectives.

Volunteering was fulfilling, the cemetery workers were always kind to us and we learned about all the history behind our work, it was amazing to be there, so far away from home, living in the place we all have learned about in high school. We were all hard workers, we had so much to do, such as, cleaning benches, putting moss on the soil, digging and adding gravel to it, among other chores. On the last day of work I looked at the work we did and I realized the great difference we had made in that space.

To experience all of that was extraordinary, the teamers took us to see historical monuments and to learn more about the country, it was incredible, so different from where I live. I will definitely come back to Germany someday, the city was beautiful and clean, hopefully I will be able to join another camp next year, and if I am not, I will be so happy for the ones chosen; everyone should live this at some point.

I would like to highlight the **Ecumenical Youth Services (EYS)** for organizing the exceptional program and thank the **Global Protestant Education Network (GPEN)** for giving me the opportunity to be there and let me have this unforgettable experience. Without their help I would never be able to afford to travel to Europe, it was the best first trip I could have ever had, it was the first time I got on a plane, but hopefully not the last. I came back as a different and a better person to Brazil and I will be forever thankful for that.

