

I had the privilege of living in the Monterey County for over two years. Throughout the time I was able to spend here I was lucky enough to encounter opportunities that allowed me to explore numerous areas to the county. Growing up in San Jose, California, I never really knew what the rural communities were like. I was incredibly fortunate to be able to visit numerous groups and organizations that the community provided for their people. Most of my contact to these organizations was due to friends in the area and to the Service Learning Student Leadership and their many partnerships. Along my time living in Monterey County, I became so in love with the area and the community and it's marvelous sights. Soon it became my second home.

Watsonville:

I had the awesome opportunity to aid my friend as she helped translate the California Driver's Exam from English to Spanish for the Latino community in Watsonville. I was amazed and was happy to help in any way that I could. The Spanish Driver's exam classes took place in a church every other Sunday evening. Many of the adults that came to these classes had children coming with them. I organized and created activities for the children to do while their parents studies. I was such an awesome experience to have.

Salinas:

Salinas provided me with such warm and adventurous experiences. I had the opportunity to work at a Middle school in East Salinas for two years and I loved every minute of it. I was able to visit numerous places with the AVID and Science classes and talk about the effects that the changes in our environment made on their community. We went to Moss Landing Beach so that they can learn about the way our trash reach the oceans. It was an astonishing feeling to watch the way these students took their experiences to reflect about the way they used trash and

come up with solutions to stop trash in the oceans. I was able to mentor these students and talk to them about higher education. I had the opportunity to organize a field trip for the seventh grade students to visit CSU Monterey Bay. It was such a difficult event to plan but it turned out to be extremely successful. They were able to talk to College students and professors.