

## Heather Merrigan, Puerto Rico

Recently I was given the opportunity to travel to volunteer in Puerto Rico with Gov. Cuomo's Stand up for Puerto Rico Program. I went with a group of 15 other Cuny students to work on fixing homes and farms that were destroyed in hurricane Maria and Irma. The group that directed us was called Neechama. My group worked on roofs and planting on farmland. I learned so much from this experience about the culture and island of Puerto Rico. We ventured out on our off days to spend time at the beach and explore the city of San Juan. I made friends with my group quickly. Everyone was so nice. Our meetings and requirements for the course were keeping a journal and writing a final paper on our experience. We were offered 3 credits for service learning abroad. I would highly recommend volunteering abroad to help the people in need and experience a way of life in another country. Big thanks to Prof. Darren Petronella (study abroad coordinator at NCC) for planning my trip and helping me transfer my credits from Monroe College to Nassau. I attached a picture of my volunteer group. I am the one in with my fingers up.

1Attached Images

