

**Mercedes Rodriguez**  
**Argentina Report #1**

The month of July was a month that I will never forget, it was an amazing experience that I am so glad I got to have. A little part of me was concerned about it because it was my third country choice. I wouldn't change my choice for the world. I was able to really get engaged in the culture with my family and it was a big eye opener, we are so fortunate with all that we have here in the states. Although it was a great time there were some slight issues that made me really question why I went; one being my host brother was in Wisconsin while I was there, so my host mom cried... A LOT! Just like any family there were some ups and downs but it was a great experience. Being as the whole group from the United States was in the same town we saw a lot of each other and I really think that helped me in the first week when I was overwhelmed with the culture and I had one day where I was really homesick and didn't think I could go the rest of the month. In Lincoln I had a really great time, but going to Iguazu Falls was AMAZING! The town was an eye opener as I did give money to a few boys who were in need. It has shown me a different side of the world and has made me realize how fortunate I am. In the Argentine airports I was really able to use all that I had learned throughout that month when I was able to help out in getting a wheelchair for another delegate. All-in-all my experience was amazing and really made me confident with the language, and I hope to return with my family again.

-Mercedes Rodriguez