

#### Why did you want to be an RA?

I was nervous about entering college during my freshman year, especially due to my first semester being impacted by covid. My RA, however, helped my transition to Loyola be less daunting! She held programs that helped me create meaningful friendships with other residents, who are now my best friends on campus! Because of my RA, I was motivated to do the same and be a resource for first-year students so I can help ease their concerns about college and create an atmosphere of support.

## What has been your favorite part of being an RA?

My favorite part of being an RA is being able to create community among my residents and help them find where they belong at Loyola! When I come home to my dorm after classes, I love being greeted by my residents who are hanging out in the lounge and hearing updates about an exam they did well in, a program they are excited about, or what they are cooking for dinner. It is so exciting to watch my residents develop in their friendships and academics throughout the school year, and it is gratifying to be a part of that process.

### How has the RA role supported your future goals?

The RA role has supported my future goals of becoming a Clinical Psychologist through the opportunity of gaining clinical experience! Much of the skills I have gained through my experience as an RA, such as active listening, forging meaningful relationships, and responding to mental health concerns, are skills that are essential to my future profession.

### A favorite program you have planned and implemented?

One of my favorite programs that I have planned and implemented was a Murder Mystery Party with my co-RA, Jameson! The idea of the program came from our residents, and so it meant a lot to them that their suggestion was taken into account! It was so much fun because the residents really embodied their characters and they worked together to solve the mystery!

# Why do you think others should be an RA?

I think others should be an RA because it is a wonderful opportunity to get to know the resources that Loyola offers, gain skills that apply to every career and immerse themselves in the Loyola experience.