

This letter was written by Lilly Bernard as a reflection on her time with Kennebec Telephone as a service-learning student. We have truly enjoyed getting to know her and deeply appreciate her dedication to KTC over the course of the last year.

Reflecting on the past year of my service-learning job at Kennebec Telephone Company, I am filled with a profound sense of gratitude and growth. This experience has been more than just a job, it has been a journey of self-discovery and personal development that has shaped my perspective on education, community, and my own potential.

Throughout the year, I have had the privilege of working alongside so many amazing educators and passionate coworkers, witnessing firsthand the day-to-day operations at KTC. From doing file work to prepping for career fairs, every task has been an opportunity to make a meaningful difference.

One of the most significant lessons I have learned during my time at Kennebec Telephone is the importance of empathy and compassion in building strong, supportive communities. Through service, I have learned to see beyond my own needs and to truly connect with others, understanding their challenges and celebrating their successes as if they were my own.

Moreover, this experience has taught me the value of perseverance and resilience in the face of adversity. Whether it was navigating logistical challenges or overcoming personal doubts, I have learned to approach every obstacle with determination and a positive mindset, knowing that each setback is an opportunity for growth.

As I look towards the future, I am confident that the lessons I have learned at KTC will continue to guide me in my academic and professional endeavors. I am inspired to pursue a career that allows me to make a positive impact on the world around me, leveraging the skills and values I have gained through service learning.

Above all, I am grateful for the friendships and memories I have made during my time at KTC. The connections I have formed with fellow students, teachers, and community members have enriched my life in ways I never imagined possible, and I will carry those relationships with me wherever I go.

In closing, I want to express my deepest appreciation to everyone at Kennebec Telephone who has supported and inspired me along this journey. You have helped shape me into the person I am today, and for that, I am forever grateful.

By: Lilly Bernard

Lyman High School Graduate Class of 2024

