



Tikkun Olam Committee

*"Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much."*

- Helen Keller



HIGHLIGHT OF THE MONTH

Tikkun Olam Collections Committee

The Tikkun Olam Committee is in the process of forming a new Collections Committee (soon to be renamed) comprised of DJ Collins, Ellen Harrison, Lynn Karpay, Heidi Moskowitz, Valerie Schwartz and Bobbie Willens. Arlynn Joffe, who has spearheaded the TOC Collections single-handedly for the past 10 years or so, will act in an advisory capacity until the committee gets off the ground. The initial meeting on July 28 was met with lots of enthusiasm, creative ideas and various ways to reach out to other community organizations as well as programs within TBA. Information will be forthcoming as this new committee moves forward. The next collection, already in the works, will be for backpacks and school supplies for South Lake Elementary School and Identity, Inc. (an organization that supports youths living in high poverty areas in Montgomery County).



COLLECTIONS CORNER

Over the summer we will be collecting school supplies for both South Lake Elementary School and Identity -- an organization that supports 10,000 youths living in high poverty areas in our county. See below to help fill their backpacks and fulfill their promise.

South Lake Elementary School

When: July 1 - August 10

How: [Amazon Link](#)

For monetary donations:

- Go to [ShulCloud](#).
- Complete the form.
- Email [Amy Weinberg](#) to let her know your donation is for South Lake ES.

Identity

When: July 1 - July 22

How: [Amazon Link](#)

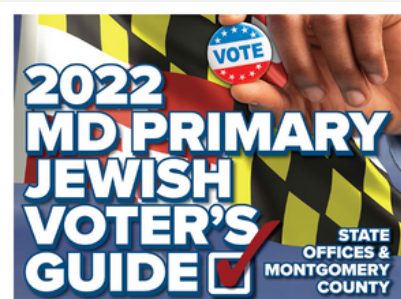
For monetary donations:

- Go to: identity-youth.org/donate

Help Fill Their Backpacks ♦ Help Fulfill Their Promise

RESPONDING TO CURRENT EVENTS

- The Jewish Federation of North America (JFNA) issued a Jewish communal letter to Congress in support of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act concerning gun safety. Temple Beth Ami joined other congregations in signing this letter.
- The Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) of the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford (Connecticut) has released a statement on the U.S. Supreme Court ruling overturning Roe v. Wade.
- The JCRC of Greater Washington has issued a Jewish voter's guide for the Maryland Primary Election on July 19. Please read and share with your friends and communities.



HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Please review these volunteer opportunities and click on the contact's name to send an email to volunteer or get more information.

ROSH HASHANAH BASKETS DELIVERY

This is an annual project to deliver "baskets" of Rosh Hashanah necessities to the neediest in our Jewish Community. The baskets are reusable grocery bags filled with everything one would need for Rosh Hashanah -- a freshly baked challah, honey, apples, wine, yahrzeit candles, candy and more. This activity is an amazing mitzvah for you and your family.

We will pick up and deliver 70 Rosh Hashanah baskets on the Sunday before Rosh Hashanah (September 18, 2022). Each person/family is assigned 3-5 baskets for delivery in the same location/building for easy access. Pick up the baskets at the TBA entrance between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. on September 18. The baskets can be delivered any time up to 2:00 p.m. that day.

Volunteers are encouraged to take safety precautions by wearing a mask, washing their hands often and not going inside the apartments of the residents.

For information or **to volunteer**, please contact [Tina Levine](#) or [Monya Cohen](#).

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MAKOM (FORMERLY JEWISH FOUNDATION FOR GROUP HOMES)



Volunteers for July and August are needed to prepare small goody bags for 12 ladies from Makom; the TOC will distribute the bags to the group homes.

Craft projects with the ladies will resume at TBA in September. **We need volunteers to organize and lead a craft project, and others to help our guests with the projects/activities.** The craft projects are held every other month on a Sunday afternoon. You can work on as many projects as you like! The volunteer leader/organizer for each project helps select the date.

Contact [Charlotte Zuckman](#) for more details or to volunteer.

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AFGHAN REFUGEE PROGRAM NEEDS

Tikkun Olam member Ron Lobel serves as Lead Job Assistance Volunteer in helping dozens of recently arrived Afghan refugees. **Volunteers are needed to help Afghan ally refugees** with resume reviews, practice interviews, online job search assistance and networking. For more information or to volunteer, please contact [Ron Lobel](#).

HOW CAN YOU HELP? (Cont.)

JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL (JCRC)

JCRC, along with the JCC and New Neighbors Interfaith Alliance (NNIA), is sponsoring an Afghan Family Fun Day at the Rockville JCC on Sunday, July 24, from 3-5 p.m. This activity is for newly settled Afghan families and their sponsors/people currently working with them. **Volunteers are needed to help hand out food, make balloon animals and supervise other children's activities.** If you are interested in volunteering, please contact [Lauren Dworkin](#).

Congregations in JCRC's Maryland Social Action Network are participating in the second annual backpack and supply drive for [Identity, Inc.](#) In addition to buying items through an Amazon wishlist, you can participate by:

- Writing notes of encouragement that will be put into children's backpacks.
- Packing backpacks.
- Distributing backpacks in August.

If you are interested in any of these activities, please contact [Gail Kaplan-Wassell](#).

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INTERFAITH WORKS WOMEN'S CENTERS (IWWC)

The IWWC, located in Rockville and Derwood, are emergency shelters for adult women, with each center serving up to 35 women. IWWC provides three meals a day, case management, vocational services, and other basic needs to address homelessness and provide stability through generous support of volunteers and donors. Temple Beth Ami will be providing breakfasts and dinners for the Women's Center located in Derwood on Crabbs Branch Way from **July 31 - August 4. Volunteers are needed to help prepare and drop off food for the women staying at IWWC** during this week.

Watch for an online sign-up link, available shortly, to volunteer to purchase, prepare and drop off food items at the Interfaith Works Women's Center (enough to feed 10 guests). Food should be dropped off at the front desk of IWWC before 6 p.m. each day that week.

Please save the date and keep an eye out for the sign-up link to help with this worthwhile cause! Any questions or want to add your name to the list of volunteers? Please contact [Elizabeth Joseloff](#). Thank you!

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

AFGHAN ALLY REFUGEES UPDATE

Temple Beth Ami continues to provide volunteer job assistance support to Afghan ally refugees who were evacuated by the US government last summer. This volunteer assistance includes resume reviews, practice interviews, online search assistance and networking.

To date, volunteer job assistance has been provided to over 50 Afghan Refugees (more than 200 family members) in the area. Several dozen refugees have obtained jobs, mostly in the areas of their education and prior work experience. These include positions in organizations such as National Children's Hospital, Amazon, Save the Children non-profit, Solutions in Hometown Connections non-profit, the US State Department and USAID.

WHAT ELSE?

NEXT TOC MEETING

Tuesday, September 20, 7:30 p.m., via Zoom

All are welcome!

Log in at 7:15 p.m. to schmooze before the meeting if you'd like.

Zoom Meeting ID: 899-5691-5463 Passcode: 368794

[Zoom Here](#)

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GET INVOLVED

This monthly newsletter lets you know of upcoming events and volunteer opportunities, and highlights programs and projects supported by the Tikkun Olam Committee.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

You do not need to be a member of the TOC to get involved! Give as few or as many hours as you can toward a variety of one-time, occasional or ongoing volunteer opportunities.

If you have questions and/or want to be added to our email list, feel free to contact any member of the

Tikkun Olam Leadership Team:

[Joanne Brodsky](#)

[Arlynn Joffe](#)

[Gail Kaplan-Wassell](#)

[Amy Weinberg](#)

