



# Council For Jews With Special Needs, Inc.

The Jewish Agency for Disability Resources

12701 N. Scottsdale Road, Suite 205 Scottsdale, Arizona 85254-5453

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Web site: [www.cjsn.org](http://www.cjsn.org) E-mail: [info@cjsn.org](mailto:info@cjsn.org)

December 2008

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**A CONSTITUENT AGENCY  
OF THE  
JEWISH FEDERATION  
OF GREATER PHOENIX**

Every non-profit organization is feeling the financial pinch of our current economic crisis, and you will probably receive many letters asking you to make a donation. Charitable donations may be disappearing, but the need to help our children and adults with disabilities has not gone away. We are asking you to choose the Council For Jews With Special Needs for your donation so that the necessary services we provide to children and adults with disabilities do not cease to exist.

Let there be no doubt in your mind: the funds we raise go directly into providing essential support for our clients. Your gift of \$500 allows our staff to continue providing special education resources in our Jewish schools. \$250 provides 10 hours of supervision for children with disabilities who go to our Jewish summer camps, while \$50 pays for two hours of sign language interpreters for our Deaf clients. Your financial support has an immediate impact on the lives of our clients. Without it, we could regress to a time when children with disabilities did not attend Jewish schools and camps, when a Deaf adult sat in complete isolation at Jewish activities, and people with disabilities *just stopped participating in the Jewish community*. We pray we never return to those days.

Please complete the attached form and return it with your tax-deductible charitable donation. Whatever fears you have about the uncertainties of this economy, those fears are felt many times over by individuals who struggle with disabilities. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Best wishes for good health in the New Year,

*Gail A. Obstfeld*

Gail Obstfeld, Board President

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Becca Hornstein, Executive Director



**COUNCIL FOR JEWS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS  
2008 Year End Contribution**



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ \$180 \_\_\_\_\_ \$500  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ \$250 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ CHECK \_\_\_\_\_ VISA \_\_\_\_\_ Mastercard \_\_\_\_\_ American Express

CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_  
EXPIRATION \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

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## THANK YOU!!

Volunteers from National Charity League  
 Helen Locke  
 Harriet Kriegsfeld  
 Ellen Rosenbaum



For your help with the "Honey For The Holidays" project.



The Council extends sympathy to the family of  
 Irv Shuman

### To Send a Council Tribute Card

Mail this form and your donation to:  
 Council For Jews With Special Needs  
 12701 N. Scottsdale Rd., Suite 205 \* Scottsdale, AZ 85254-5453  
 call 480-629-5343 or fax 480-629-5365

**FROM :** Name \_\_\_\_\_ **TO :** Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**MESSAGE :**  
 \_\_\_\_\_ In Honor Of \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ In Memory Of \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to designate an established fund, please indicate here:

- |   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| ----- Camp Inclusion Morris Asher Memorial Fund                     | ----- Shalom House Fund           |
| ----- Special Education Esther Sattler Memorial Fund                | ----- Simcha House Fund           |
| ----- Community Education Maurice and Suzanne Sandler Memorial Fund | ----- Keshet Social Group Fund    |
| ----- Jewish Group Homes Program                                    | ----- Yad B'Yad Social Group Fund |
| ----- Keshet House Fund   | ----- Founders Fund               |
|   | ----- General Donations           |

## ***SIMCHAT SHABBAT SERVICES WIN THE BELLE LATCHMAN COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD***

On Wednesday evening, January 14, 2009 the Jewish Federation of Greater Phoenix will present their Latchman Community Service Award to the Council For Jews With Special Needs for the creation of a unique Shabbat morning service designed for children and adults who have moderate to severe disabilities. The Council began to develop the special Sabbath service in collaboration with the clergy and religious school principal at Congregation Beth Israel in the fall of 2007.

In the past year since the project began, the 40 minute service and companion *siddurim* have been refined to meet the special needs of the participants. The service includes ability-appropriate explanations preceding the reading of the Torah portion. The 18 page *siddur* has prayers printed in a large font size, written in Hebrew, English transliteration and translation, and accompanied by colorful pictures for non-readers. Printed on sturdy cardstock and firmly bound, the prayerbooks offer a visual “road map” for individuals with cognitive and attention difficulties.

Families that had given up on attending Shabbat services because the family member who has a disability could not sit still through an entire service without fidgeting, making noise or otherwise disturbing others are now celebrating Shabbat in a “no-shush” service that encourages every possible expression of prayer. The clergy have commented on the pleasure they take in the abundant joy and energy throughout the service.

Everyone in the Jewish community is invited to join us for these joyous Shabbat services at Congregation Beth Israel at noon on January 10, February 7, March 7, April 18 and May 9. During the summer, the services are hosted by Temple Emanuel of Tempe. Support for this program comes from the Jewish Community Foundation and private donors.



### **SECOND JEWISH GROUP HOME FOR ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES PREPARING TO OPEN**

The Council proudly announces the purchase of a second residence for three adult men with moderate to severe disabilities. Keshet House will be a fully staffed supervised residence that offers the men the opportunity to live in a home filled with the joys of Jewish values, traditions, rituals and holidays. Renovations are currently underway to accommodate one resident who uses a wheelchair. We look forward to announcing the official opening in early 2009.



### **Plan Now For Summer Camp!**



**You may be wrapping Chanukah gifts right now,  
but the Council is already looking ahead to summer camp.**

Attending a Jewish camp is often one of the best memories we carry into adulthood. For children who have special needs, participating in the full range of activities in a camp setting can be challenging. Because of the constant high-energy level, frequent transitions between activities and physical demands of a typical camp program, the camper with a disabling condition requires modifications to the daily activities. The Council For Jews With Special Needs will help parents of children who have disabling conditions evaluate the local Jewish camps, determine what supports would be necessary for their child’s participation, and train the camp staff to make the necessary accommodations for inclusion. Our Camp Inclusion Specialist can help parents determine the most appropriate summer program for their child. The Jewish Community Foundation generously supports the camp inclusion program.

**Parents should contact CJSN at (480) 629-5343 or [info@cjsn.org](mailto:info@cjsn.org) to make an appointment with our Camp Inclusion Specialist as soon as possible.**

Thank you to all of our supporters who made our 2008 annual fundraiser so successful

## Catskills Comedy Comes To The Desert

*With heartfelt appreciation to our chairpersons  
Rhonda Jacobs and Laurie Shapiro*

### Thank you to our Sponsors:

Anonymous, Bregman Burt Feldman, Attorneys, Mr. and Mrs. Sol Crandell, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Chareton, Mr. and Mrs. Steve Geringer, Ms. Judi Glass, Harold & Jean Grossman Foundation, HCS, L.L.C., Mr. and Mrs. John Jacobs, Mr. and Mrs. Len Katzenstein, Mr. and Mrs. David Metz, North Mountain Dermatology, Northern Trust Bank of Arizona, Optical Expressions, Mr. and Mrs. Jay Polk, Mr. and Mrs. Al Sachs, Jess and Sheila Schwartz Family Foundation, Irving Shuman\*, Mr. Wayne Stutzer, Mr. and Mrs. Barry Zemel

\* of blessed memory

### Thank you to our Underwriters:

Joel and Candy Arthur, Howard and Susan Beckman, Freidel Family Foundation, Adam and Jack Gilburne, Eli and Lesley Hammer, Barry and Becca Hornstein, Robert and Sue Karatz, David and Bernice Kazan Fund, Randy and Joyce Lippincott, Jan and Laurie Person, Daniel and Evelyn Simon, Jack and Maggie Stein, Marcy Strauss, The Jewish News of Greater Phoenix

**Thank you to our raffle prize donors:** GGGems and Innovative Wine Cellar Designs

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers from National Charity League

**Thank you to our generous auction donors**

## Purchase Colorful Cards Created by Council Clients



### "Partners in the work of Creation" created by Keshet Group

Young adults who have a variety of disabilities applied their unique skills to create these colorful cards. A rainbow of multi-colored fabrics, ribbons, lace and trims remind us that the world is composed of individuals who each, in their own way, reflect a vibrant spectrum of abilities.

### "The Stories of Genesis" created by Yad B'Yad Group

Adults with disabilities have illustrated several stories of the Bible, including Adam and Eve, Noah's Ark, The Tower of Babel, Abraham and Sarah, and Lot's Wife.

Their "special needs" bring a special perspective to these colorful greeting cards.



Each set of 12 greeting cards includes two each of six designs and envelopes. The cards measure 4" x 5" (folded), printed on glossy paper and are blank inside.

The back of the card includes a description of the project.

View the cards on the CJSN website: [www.cjsn.org](http://www.cjsn.org)

**Each set of 12 cards is available for a \$20.00 donation.  
To purchase, please contact the Council office at (480) 629-5343.**

## **Your Donation to the Council For Jews With Special Needs Makes a Direct Impact on the Lives of Many**

### **Students with Learning Problems Have Support in Jewish Preschools, Day Schools and Congregational Schools.**

Children as young as toddlers in preschool and as old as seniors in high school benefit from the assistance of the Council's special education consultants who (when requested) observe individual students, develop strategies to accommodate their unique learning needs in a regular classroom, and work with the teachers to modify their teaching methods. The principles of special education offer techniques that benefit all students in a classroom. In addition, "typical" students gain valuable lessons in respect, tolerance and compassion as they study alongside students who struggle with learning difficulties. To learn more, contact the Council office at 480-629-5343. Special Education Inclusion Consultants: Arlene Russo, Ricki Light, Andrea Russo, Jamie Sunenshine and Shana Hornstein

### **Children with Disabilities Want to Attend Jewish Summer Camp**

The opportunity to attend a Jewish day camp can be challenging for children who have a variety of disabilities. For 23 years, the Council camp inclusion consultants have met with potential campers to determine their needs, trained the regular camp staff to modify camp activities to accommodate campers who are able to participate safely and observed them while camp is in session. Parents may be required to arrange for one-on-one camp assistants for some children who require extra assistance throughout the day. To meet with a camp consultant, contact the Council office at 480-629-5343 no later than March 2009. Camp Inclusion Consultants: Andrea Russo and Shana Hornstein

### **Families Need Support, Too**

The Council offers support to the families that include a child or adult with a disability through individual consultations, community educational programs, grandparents support groups, sibling programs and more. The Council staff offers information and referral to local and national Jewish resources. Children and adults with special needs gather each year for games, crafts and music as well as a quiet room for parents at Family Fun Day. Contact Laurie Person at [info@cjsn.org](mailto:info@cjsn.org) or phone 480-629-5343

### **Sign Language Interpreters Enable Deaf Jews to Participate**

Since 1985, the Council has arranged for interpreters at High Holiday services, Jewish Community events, religious schools, camps and social groups. This service is offered specifically to Jewish clients in Jewish settings. If an interpreter is needed for private gatherings such as a bar mitzvah, wedding or funeral, the Council will assist families in arranging for an interpreter at their own cost. Send an e-mail to [info@cjsn.org](mailto:info@cjsn.org) for more information. Interpreters: Robin Eichner, Shawn Rex, Pat Franklin-Jung

### **Social Groups and Continuing Jewish Studies for Teens and Adults Keep Them Connected to their Judaism**

For teens and adults with moderate to severe disabilities, having their own social group with activities tailored to their interests and abilities provides friendships and recreational fun. The Council's continuing Jewish Studies programs engage these individuals in the study of prayer, tradition, history and ritual in ways that are meaningful to them. Yad B'Yad and Keshet groups meet twice monthly, and community volunteers are encouraged to participate. For information, call 480-629-5343. Jewish Studies and Social Group leaders: Robin Eichner, Karen Adwin, and Elisa Snader

### **Increase Your Awareness about Disabilities with A Workshop from the Council**

February 2009 has been designated "Jewish Disability Awareness Month" with the support of many national Jewish organizations. Are you doing everything possible to welcome individuals who have special needs into your congregation, school, camp or agency? The Council staff can provide a speaker, a workshop or classroom activities at any time during the year. Jewish groups are encouraged to perform an accessibility survey of their facilities and create an Inclusion Committee as part of their Board structure. To get help with these projects, contact the Council office at 480-629-5343

**Visit our website at [www.cjsn.org](http://www.cjsn.org) to learn more about all of the Council's programs and services.  
Thank you for supporting our efforts to include *everyone* in the Jewish community.**