

Spark: The Center for Jewish Service Learning at Jewish Funds for Justice

Inspiring Jews to integrate community service into their lives.

Ongoing Jewish service learning programs

deepen Jewish engagement through weekly or bi-weekly community service, education about issues, reflection, text study and personal encounters. Participants learn about their own communities, gain new perspectives on contemporary social and political issues and experience how service changes lives. The Spark Center supplies the necessary Jewish service learning resources, training, financial support, and ongoing coaching and consultation.

Service and learning travel programs

provide opportunities for teams of teens, college students, families, and adults to meet existing community needs through intensive and ongoing service across the United States. The Spark Center develops projects in partnership with local nonprofit organizations. Participants gain important skills while learning about and reflecting on relevant historical, social, and political issues through the lens of Jewish ethics and values.



Ongoing programs include:

- **HeartAction** involves teens in service to the elderly. Participants engage in a reciprocal relationship with seniors which helps to combat mutually-held stereotypes and works to deepen respect and appreciation for one another.
- **LiteracyAction** trains Jewish volunteers to become reading buddies to educationally at-risk elementary school children. Mentors help students develop a love of reading and improved literacy skills.

Travel programs include:

- **Nitzotz**, a partnership with BBYO, brings teens together for two weeks during the summer to build community through service.
- **Alternative Breaks** enable high school and college students to travel, participate in intensive service, meet new people, and create intentional Jewish community during their school breaks.
- **Adult and Family Programs** bring teams together to grapple with social and economic justice issues through hands-on service.



The Jewish Funds for Justice creates a just, fair, and compassionate America.

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