

The Union for Reform Judaism website is a FANTASTIC resource and will be a great help for you!



**These are directions to tap into
a major source of ideas:**

Union for Reform Judaism:

1. Log on to www.urj.org.org/communicate.
2. Here you will be able to choose from a drop down list of keywords.
3. Choose a topic that interests you, click on the search button.
4. You will be directed to a page loaded with information related to your chosen project. At the bottom of these pages, there are contact sources that you can reach by phone or by email with any questions you may have.
5. You may also use the 'advanced search' to the right of the keyword search to make your project more local. Just select a keyword like the other page and fill out the other information bars.

Notes/Great Ideas:

Volunteer
and
Bar/Bat Mitzvah Projects

2010

Jewish Family & Children's Service of Monmouth County

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Opportunities To Teach Children Tzedakah

To Do List For Organizing a Drive

- ❑ Choose a Project from the list below or think of one on your own. Keep in mind the population that you are advocating for. For Example: *If you decide the population you want to reach is the homeless, keep in mind the kind of food that people who don't have a refrigerator or cooking facilities will need. That is where your research comes in.*
- ❑ Do some research on-line to find out more about the problems and needs of the population that you are advocating for. Talk about what you learned to your family, friends and teachers. For example: *Most clothing drives don't include under garments since that is something that cannot be re-used. New under garments is a luxury to the needy. Therefore, choosing this particular drive would meet a need that is so often overlooked.*
- ❑ Think up a "catchy name for your drive." For Example: If you were going to do chores to collect funds for cleaning for the frail elderly, you could name your drive "Clean Sweep" or "Cleaning is Caring." Make up a letter, flyer, posters, etc. explaining what you are trying to accomplish asking for help (get your class or your friends involved) Indicate the dates you need to receive the items by and arrange a drop off date with JF&CS.
- ❑ If you are collecting something, decorate boxes or cans to put in your school, synagogue, home, offices or stores describing the charity and what you are collecting and why. Include the date that you need to pick up the donated items.
- ❑ Go to local stores with a flyer explaining your project and ask for donations or to put a box, can or flyers there.
- ❑ Get your family involved (ask your grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins for donations or to put out flyers for you).
- ❑ When you have completed collecting the items, sort them. If they are food, separate the types of food into different boxes or bags. Make arrangements to drop them off at JF&CS Asbury Park Office. If possible, stock the items in the pantry room.

Ideas for Children's Drives and Bar & Bat Mitzvah Projects:

Adopt a Grandparent Program (Excellent Bar/Bat Mitzvah Program)

Visit an elderly person in their home. Play cards and games and share information with them.

- **Goal:** Relieve the loneliness and isolation of the homebound elderly by utilizing the enthusiasm, energy and curiosity of young teenagers. The exchange of ideas and experience will create a positive socialization experience for both groups.
- **Eligibility:** Any teen (including pre Bar/Bat Mitzvah) or those currently enrolled in a synagogue Bar/Bat Mitzvah or confirmation class may participate.
- **Requirements:** The teen volunteer and parent have to be interviewed and approved by the (JF&CS) volunteer coordinator. An application form must be completed by the teen and signed by the parent. The parent must be present at the interview.

Commitment: *(minimum of 10 hours for visiting and parent must be present)*

Kids Shabbat Dinner for the Homebound Elderly:

JF&CS receives cash donations to provide a Shabbat Dinner for an elderly shut-in. Parent's can teach their children Tzedakah by guiding them through the process of helping those who

cannot help themselves. You and your child will be provided with a gift card to a grocery store to purchase the food for an elderly shut-in.

- Your child can plan the meal
- Together you can shop for food (can be a pre-cooked roasted chicken or deli)
- Then deliver it to the client

Some Suggested Fall and Winter Projects

- **Holiday Food:** Kosher for Passover Food in late winter (or adopt a family and make up one food package)
- **Holiday Food:** Kosher Thanksgiving food in early Fall (or adopt a family and make up one food package)
- **Food Drive:** Kosher and non-kosher, non perishable items such as cereal, crackers, peanut butter, tuna, canned soups, fruit, powdered milk and drinks, spaghetti sauce, granola bars, snack packs of cheese and crackers, peanut butter crackers, etc.
- **Food Pantry Drive:** Kosher and non-Kosher, non perishable items such as cereal, crackers, peanut butter, jelly, mayo, canned fruit, chicken, tuna, soups, pasta (ravioli, spaghetti with meatballs, etc.), powdered milk and drinks, spaghetti sauce, individual granola bars, snack packs of cheese and crackers, peanut butter crackers, etc. (Note: smaller packages and jars rather than super sized are preferred since it can be distributed to more people. Also, items that don't need cooking or refrigeration are needed for the homeless, such as the individual packages of one serving combo tuna, mayo, crackers.
- **Hanukah:** Make homemade Hanukah gifts, and cards for seniors. Either deliver to our KMOW clients or visit a local nursing home and sing Hanukah Songs and distribute gifts to the patients.
- **Clothes Drive:** hat, scarf, gloves, socks, underwear, Clothes: Sweatpants & sweatshirt
- **Coat Drive:** Coats and jackets, hooded sweatshirts, that are washable only as the indigent do not have the means to dry clean
- **Toy Drive:** Any toys, games, balls, etc.
- **Toiletries:** Bathroom tissue, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, deodorant, disposable razors and sanitary products
- **Laundry:** Quarters, detergent, laundry basket or bags
- **Pajama Drive:** New or gently used pajamas
- **Book Drive:** New or gently used books

Some Suggested Spring and Summer Projects

- **Beverage Drive:** Powdered milk, drink mixes, iced tea, Koolaid, Crystal Light, juice boxes
- **Game Drive:** Board Games or card games
- **Balls:** Playground balls, basketball, volley balls, etc.
- **School supplies:** Backpacks, pens, pencils, notebooks, crayons, loose leaf paper
- **Clothes Drive:** Sweatpants, sweatshirts, tee shirts, socks, underwear
- **Purim:** Make up Shalach Manos packages for the JF&CS elderly clients
- **Funds to Clean for the Elderly:** Do chores for family and friends and donate the money to our fund which pays for 3 hours of cleaning for the frail elderly who cannot afford it
- **Laundry:** Quarters, detergent, laundry basket or bags

All suggestions for Volunteer Projects are welcome