

# **Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence**

## **Congregational Outreach and Engagement Grants**

The sustainability of local Jewish organizations is a Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence funding priority. JHFE supports strengthening synagogues through funding outreach and engagement programs. These grants support activities intended to increase current member participation and attract new members.

Congregational outreach and engagement grants will be accepted once per calendar year. Only one request will be considered per institution. Each request should outline a comprehensive approach to outreach and engagement. The request may consist of several programs targeting diverse groups, and in such cases, priorities should be indicated.

Eligible outreach/engagement programs include:

- Events encouraging synagogue participation, including Sabbath dinner programs
- Programs intended to reach interfaith families
- Jewish celebrations, including holiday dinners
- Educational holiday workshops
- Programs targeting young adults
- Jewish programs that take place outside of synagogues in an effort to reach the unaffiliated

**Public lectures, author forums and ongoing adult education classes (Melton, Temple Scholars) are not included.**

Application guidelines:

- Program goals and anticipated outcomes should be clearly stated.
- A detailed budget must be provided for each programmatic element in addition to an overall budget.
- Applications may include innovative programs, replication of successful national programs, and continuation of successful programs.
- The application must include a plan for evaluation. The evaluation plan should include both qualitative and quantitative data and describe how the information will be collected.

Required reporting:

Grantees are required to complete and submit a JHFE project evaluation and expense report. In the grant evaluation, be prepared to demonstrate that the successful programs either: 1) attracted individuals who have little or no affiliation with a synagogue or 2) increased the Jewish identity of participants. If the program was not successful in achieving one of those two goals, we will ask that you share what you learned from the unsuccessful program. Project evaluations will be considered when reviewing future requests.