

Dear Friends,

Temple Sinai's 8th annual **Mitzvah Day** will take place on *Sunday, March 21, 2010*. Mitzvah Day is a terrific opportunity for our community to participate in the *mitzvah* of *Tikkun Olam*, repairing our world. This year we welcome new members to the Mitzvah Day Task Force and will engage in two exciting new projects to help the people of Haiti.

A schedule of Mitzvah Day activities and projects follows. We'll meet in Ehrenfried Hall at noon for orientation and lunch. Most activities will start around 1:00 PM and will continue for 2-3 hours. Some activities are appropriate for children or teenagers. Carpooling will be arranged for activities not within walking distance.

Sincerely,

The Mitzvah Day Task Force

### **MITZVAH DAY SCHEDULE**

- 12:00: Meet at Temple Sinai in Ehrenfried Hall for lunch, welcoming remarks by Rabbi Andy Vogel, and an introduction to the day's events.
- 12:45 - 1:00: Assemble into groups according to activity. The project coordinator will go over details specific to that activity.
- 1:00 - 4:00: Groups depart for their locations and take part in their Mitzvah Day projects.

### **MITZVAH DAY PROJECTS**

#### ***Projects 1 and 2: Help the People of Haiti***

*The mitzvah of V'ahavtah L'reyecha Kamocha (Love your neighbor as yourself)*

#### **1. Collaborate with St. Mary of the Assumption Church to Help Haiti**

Join us as we collaborate with Father Richard Butler and St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Brookline to help the people of Haiti. We will learn more about Haiti and partner together to raise funds to support those affected by the earthquake. This event is appropriate for adults and students grades 5 and above. It will take place at a location in Brookline tbd.

Project Coordinator: Sandi Intraub: (347) 804-1080; [familyeducator@sinaibrookline.org](mailto:familyeducator@sinaibrookline.org)

#### **2. Prepare for the Temple Sinai Book Sale to Benefit Haiti Relief Efforts**

We have collected tons of books for the book sale! Help organize and price the donated books, make posters for the book sale, and draft letters to accompany the checks to the selected organizations. The book sale will be Sunday, March 28th, from 9:00 – 1:00, staffed by student volunteers with adult assistance, and open to all. This event is appropriate for adults and students, grade 3 and above.

Project Coordinator: Amy Pitter: (617) 879-1962; [Amypitter@yahoo.com](mailto:Amypitter@yahoo.com)

#### **3. Visit and Cook with the Residents of Evans Park in Brookline**

*The mitzvah of Kibud Z'keinim (Honor our elders)*

Join us at this Brookline assisted living facility and celebrate with the residents as we make Jewish holiday treats. This event is appropriate for all ages.

Project Coordinator: Paul Rosenstrach: (617) 965-9420; [paul@draper.com](mailto:paul@draper.com)

#### **4. Prepare a Meal for the Ronald McDonald House**

*The mitzvah of "V'ahavtah L'reyecha Kamocha" (loving our neighbors)*

Congregants will prepare lasagna and salad in the Temple Sinai kitchen and deliver them to the Ronald McDonald House. Younger children will enjoy frosting and decorating cupcakes. We need between 10 and 12 volunteers for this activity.

Project Coordinator: Pamela Karmazine Farber: (617) 244-9529; [pam.far@comcast.net](mailto:pam.far@comcast.net)

**5. Create Music and Drama at Chestnut Park**

Decorate picture frames at the Temple and deliver them to the seniors of Chestnut Park at Cleveland Circle. Hear our Junior Choir perform, and participate in a multi-generational sing-a-long as well as some holiday dramatics.

Project Coordinator: Heidi Smith Hyde: (617) 277-5883; [school@sinaibrookline.org](mailto:school@sinaibrookline.org)

**6. Make Blankets and Cards for Children in Boston Who Need Our Help**

*The mitzvah of Matanot Le'evyonim (helping those who are less fortunate)*

Cradles to Crayons supplies children with the things they need to be safe, ready to learn, and feel valued. They give clothing, toys, and other necessities to at risk children in Boston. Join us as we assemble fleece blankets and create inspirational cards for children. These activities are appropriate for adults and children in grades K-3.

Project Coordinator: Jennifer Ford: (617) 739-1154; [jford@hsph.harvard.edu](mailto:jford@hsph.harvard.edu)

**7. Prepare a Meal for Residents at the Anna Bissonnette House**

*The mitzvah of "Ma'achil R'evim" (feeding the hungry)*

Anna Bissonnette House is a residence for formerly homeless seniors located near Boston University Medical Center in the South End. We'll prepare a lasagna dinner in their kitchen and serve it to the residents. This is a great activity for high school students. We will need up to 8 teenagers plus a few adults.

Project Coordinator: Ellen Blinder: (617) 232-5551; [ecblinder@aol.com](mailto:ecblinder@aol.com)

**8. Bring Toys and Supplies to the Animals at the MSPCA Shelter.**

*The mitzvah of "Tza'ar Ba'alei Chayim" (compassion for animals)*

We'll visit the MSPCA shelter in Jamaica Plain after spending about an hour at the temple making cat toys (material will be supplied). Also, please bring much-needed items such as towels (all sizes), dog toys, blankets, and cleaning supplies. Our group will be given a tour of the facility. This event is appropriate for all ages.

Project Coordinator: Susan Katz: (617) 277-1444; [susanpkatz@yahoo.com](mailto:susanpkatz@yahoo.com)

**9. Prepare Goody Bags for Birthday Wishes**

*The mitzvah of "Gemilut Chasadim" (deeds of lovingkindness)*

Birthday Wishes is a non-profit organization that creates goody bags to distribute at birthday parties for children in homeless shelters. In conjunction with the Birthday Wishes collection drive, participants will organize the various items that have been collected and create festive goody bags. This project is great for families with young children.

Project Coordinator: Sheila Shulman: (617) 965-5331; [sshulman@ssmh.org](mailto:sshulman@ssmh.org).

**THIS YEAR'S MITZVAH DAY DRIVES**

**At Temple Sinai, please contribute these items in the appropriate bins:**

1. Book Drive for Haiti Relief: Donate your gently used books (for both adults and children) to Temple Sinai.
2. Birthday Wishes: For Birthday Wishes goody bags, we are collecting: party favors, such as crayons, colorful erasers, small plastic animals, and other (new) small toys appropriate for a goody bag... no candy, please.
3. MSPCA: Towels and blankets to give to the animals at the animal shelter.

**Mitzvah Day Drives for each grade level in the religious school:**

Kindergarten: Birthday Wishes goody bags  
Grade One: Birthday Wishes goody bags  
Grade Two: Birthday Wishes goody bags  
Grade Three: Books for Haiti  
Grade Four: Books for Haiti  
Grade Five: Books for Haiti  
Grade Six: Towels/blankets for the MSPCA  
Grade Seven: Towels/blankets for the MSPCA

**MITZVAH DAY TASK FORCE**

Ellen Blinder  
Pam Karmazine Farber  
Jennifer Ford  
Heidi Smith Hyde  
Sandi Intraub  
Susan Katz  
Rose Mandelbaum  
Amy Pitter  
Paul Rosenstrach  
Sheila Shulman

*If you have a question about a specific project, please contact the appropriate project coordinator. For general questions, please contact Sandi Intraub, Family Educator, (347) 804-1080, or via email at [familyeducator@sinaibrookline.org](mailto:familyeducator@sinaibrookline.org)*