



A Private Foundation Supporting Programs that Welcome People to Judaism



The National Center to Encourage Judaism offers grants to Jewish groups offering programs geared primarily to those who do not identify as Jewish that seek to educate, engage, and connect people to Judaism.

Examples of Initiatives We Have Funded:

- ✓ Holiday how-to workshops
- ✓ Ask-a-clergy pop-ups
- ✓ Judaism 101
- ✓ Conversion classes
- ✓ Taste of Jewish life
- ✓ Family to family ambassadors
- ✓ Building a Jewish home
- ✓ Journey to Judaism

We Support Programs For People Interested in Exploring Judaism:

We fund programs for anyone interested in exploring Judaism, including interfaith families and individuals considering conversion.

Programs Can be Any Length:

We give grants for both multi-session classes (such as Taste of Judaism) and 1-session events, such as holiday workshops and family programs.

We Fund Programs With an Educational Component:

In addition to funding traditional classes, we also support innovative approaches that connect newcomers to Judaism.

We are Interested in Broad-Based Outreach and Conversion Efforts

(Marketed to the Community at Large):

We believe that by casting a wide net we increase the chances of growing the number of Jews by choice, and also increasing connections with Jewish groups.



We Reimburse for Advertising:

This includes social media/other online ads, print ads (in both the Jewish and mainstream press), postcards and brochures, and other types of marketing. We want to help you attract more people to your programs.



We Give Grants to Synagogues, Federations, and Other Jewish Nonprofits:

Some of our newest grantees have been federations from cities such as Indianapolis, Charleston and Buffalo.

We Give Grants to All Branches of Judaism as well as Independent Synagogues:

Congregations of any size are encouraged to apply.

We Fund Internationally, Nationally, and Locally:

We've funded programs in central and eastern Europe as well as across the US.

We Welcome Inquiries Via Phone or Email:

If you're not sure if an idea meets our funding guidelines, just ask.

Contact Us: 301-802-4254 | ellen@ncejudaism.org

Help Your Community Explore Judaism with an NCEJ Grant

"Because of NCEJ's generosity, we were able to advertise our classes... We are proud to have had NCEJ as our partner in doing such vital work."

—Rabbi Aaron Benson, North Shore Jewish Center



"No amount of words can express how wonderful our Hanukkah celebration was and the impact that NCEJ has made in our lives."

—Rabbi Patrick Beaulier, Kehillah, Richmond, VA





Examples of Programs We've Funded



International / Canada: *Reinvigorating Judaism around the world*

Congregation Beth Israel, Vancouver: received a grant for its conversion classes.



Program Example: "Shabbat at the Shul"

The congregation provides 3 Shabbat dinners for conversion students.

Joint Distribution Committee: received a grant to support Jewish renewal in Poland and Latvia.



Program Example: "Sababa Dads Club"

This club enables fathers to meet other dads who are raising Jewish children and share experiences.

Local: *synagogues and consortiums*

Temple of Aaron, St Paul received funding to enable the expansion of a multi-session program for families.



Program Example: "5 Senses of Judaism"

This is a hands-on child-centered program focused on one holiday each session. Families are invited to discover, play and learn about Jewish customs and traditions through their five senses.

Temple Beth El in Charlotte, NC has received numerous grants to promote its beginning and conversion classes.



Program Example: "Elements of Judaism"

Elements of Judaism is an introductory course to Jewish thought, belief, and practice.

Temple Aliyah, MA received funds for a 3-part cooking series that combines learning and an appealing activity.



Program Example: "Exploring the Joys of Passover through the Lens of Jewish Food"

The program was widely promoted, including to local Intro classes.

National: *Grants to large groups serving people nationwide*

Jewish Federations of North America used NCEJ funding for outreach initiatives geared towards non-Jews, such as programs targeting interfaith couples/families, participants in PJ Library, and similar programs.



Program Example: "Interfaith Connectors"

Peers will be trained as "connectors" and will reach out to Jewish/non-Jewish new families to create playgroups, parent meetings and holiday events.

The Union for Reform Judaism received grants to market Introduction to Judaism and Taste classes.



Program Example: "Introduction to Judaism"

This program is perfect for interfaith couples, those raising Jewish children and individuals considering conversion.

The Jewish Theological Seminary received funds to publicize a conference for rabbis that focused on engaging interfaith families in synagogue life.



Program Example: "Beyond the Chuppah"

This conference provided a forum for Conservative rabbis to discuss the challenges that arise when interacting with interfaith families.

Regional: *Individual Federations and JCCs*

Jewish Federation of Cleveland received a grant for its interfaith initiative, JHUB.



Program Example: "Kid's Menorah Building Workshops"

Funds are used to support marketing and advertising for programs introducing Jewish practices, values, and traditions to the Cleveland community.

Have questions? Or an idea for a program we might fund? Contact Us

301-802-4254 • ellen@ncejudaism.org • www.ncejudaism.org