



The National Center to Encourage Judaism (NCEJ) is a Private Foundation Funding Efforts Worldwide to Welcome New People to Judaism

For over 45 years NCEJ has given grants for programs that educate, engage, and connect new people to Judaism – including interfaith families, people interested in conversion, Jewish-adjacent individuals, and others who want to explore becoming part of the Jewish community. Our primary objective is to help Judaism grow by encouraging conversion and helping those in interfaith marriages see the benefits of raising their children as Jews.

NCEJ provides grants to established Jewish organizations, including synagogues, JCCs/ Federations, regional consortiums, and national networks for programs that help individuals and families establish a Jewish identity, such as Judaism 101, conversion classes, and similar courses. Additionally, we want to increase connections to local Jewish communities and give people the tools to help them build vibrant Jewish homes. We encourage our grantees to promote their programs using a variety of methods to widen their audience and bring in new people. We give grants to synagogues of all denominations - Orthodox, Reform, Conservative, Jewish renewal, and Reconstruction.



Featured NCEJ Grantees from Around the World

INTERNATIONAL

NCEJ began funding programs outside the United States in 2017. We now fund programs in over a dozen countries, including Israel, Germany, Poland, Canada, Brazil, Jamaica and Ukraine. NCEJ has funded translations in Spanish, French, Portuguese, and Ukrainian.

EUROPE:

- **European Union for Progressive Judaism** – “Basic Judaism, Interfaith Engagement, and Jewish Renewal”

Great Britain:

- **Finchley Progressive Synagogue**, London – “Experiencing Jewish Festivals and Shabbat: An Invitation to Discover”
- **New London Synagogue**, London – “L’Hayim Conversion Programme at NLS”

Germany:

- **Fraenkelufer Synagogue**, Berlin – “From Shavuot to the High Holidays: A Summer of Jewish Reconnection”

Poland:

- **Hillel Poland** – “ABCs of Judaism” holiday programming



Georgia:

- Progressive Judaism Center – Dor L’Dor, Tbilisi – Chanukah program

Ukraine:

- Hillel CASE, Ukraine – Interactive Passover Program

Spain:

- Bet Shalom Progressive Jewish Community, Barcelona – “Chanukah Through Music”

Estonia:

- Estonia Jewish Community /JCC Tallinn – “Family Passover: Your Own Seder Journey”



Hillel CASE Pesach Project



Estonia JCC Tallinn: Seder Family Passover Experience

AFRICA:

- Kulanu – “African Jewish Media Outreach Initiative”

SOUTH AMERICA:

Brazil:

- Congregação Israelita Paulista – “Introduction to Judaism”

ISRAEL:

- Israel Movement for Reform and Progressive Judaism – “Increasing Engagement of Russian/Ukrainian-Speaking Refugees and Olim with Judaism”

NORTH AMERICA:

Jamaica:

- Shaare Shalom Synagogue, Kingston – Jamaica Conversion Program

Canada:

- Temple Shalom Manitoba, Winnipeg – “Journey into Judaism”
- Congregation Beth Israel, Vancouver – BI Neighbourhoods / Jewish Play Kits



Shaare Shalom Synagogue, Jamaica: Gyr closing dinner



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NCEJ has given grants for programs in over 25 states, ranging from New York and California to Kansas, New Mexico and Maine. We fund a wide variety of Jewish organizations, including small independent synagogues and national nonprofit groups. We have given grants to JCCs and federations coast-to-coast, as well as groups such as the Rabbinical Association of Greater Kansas City and Hebrew College, MA.

Colorado:

- **JEWISHColorado**, Denver – “Nosh & Dessert Seder”

Louisiana:

- **Congregation Gemiluth Chassodim**, (The Jewish Temple) Alexandria - Introduction to Judaism/conversion class

New York:

- **Sutton Place Synagogue**, New York City – “Choosing Judaism – A Shavuot Panel and Dinner”

Illinois:

- **Mishkan Chicago** – “Blueprint: Exploring Judaism Class”

Vermont:

- **Ohavi Zedek Synagogue**, Burlington– “Learn to Read Hebrew”

Nevada:

- **Congregation Ner Tamid**, Las Vegas– “Taste of Judaism®”

Pennsylvania:

- **Congregation Keneseth Israel**, Allentown – “Introduction to Judaism” and “Taste® of Judaism”
- **Temple Brith Achim**, King of Prussia – “Once Upon a Shabbat” and “ShabbaTone”



PJ Library & JCC Syracuse

Apply now for funding for programming that connects new people to Judaism

NCEJ accepts applications throughout the year — apply anytime! Grantees may receive more than one grant per year. Apply now and hear back within 30 days. For more details see our website: ncejudaism.org

Have an idea for a program but not sure it meets our guidelines? Questions? Please contact Ellen Gerecht, Executive Director, at ellen@ncejudaism.org or call **301-802-4254**.

Check Out Our Resource Pages

Our program profile pages are chock-full of examples of recently-funded projects, ranging from Judaism 101 classes to holiday workshops for interfaith families. Scroll through for program ideas, marketing suggestions, and advice on what worked well. To get ideas that you can use in your community see our profile pages on our website: ncejudaism.org

Introduction to Jewish Traditions

*Fostering a Welcoming & Educational
Pathway to Judaism*

Holiday Programming

*Celebrating and Connecting
Newcomers to Jewish Life*

Interfaith/Intercultural Engagement

*Connecting Interfaith
Families to Judaism*