

CONGREGATION SHAARIE TORAH

ANNUAL MEETING
JUNE 28, 2020

A Musical Start



Cantor Aaron Vitells

Agenda

1. D'var Torah and President's Message
2. The Year in Review: COVID-19 Edition
3. Congregational Status
4. Education Update
5. Financial Update
6. CST's Future

I. D'VAR TORAH & PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



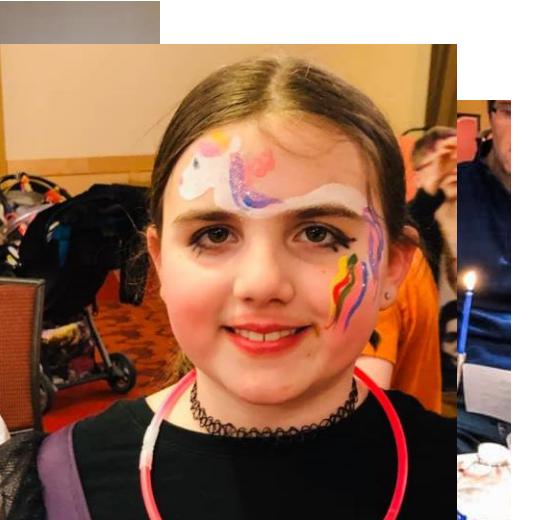


II. THE YEAR IN REVIEW

COVID-19 Edition

The year started like any other

- Shabbats in the Park
- Morning Minyan
- Shabbat and Holiday Services
- Twice-monthly Torah Study
- High Holy Day preparation
- Family Sukkot Fun
- Young Adults Shabbat
- Latke making & Chanukah party
- What's the Big Idea speaker series
- Gates of Light Kabbalah class at MJCC
- Tu B'Shevat tree planting with OBR
- Annual Hamentaschen project
- Purim party



And then this happened...



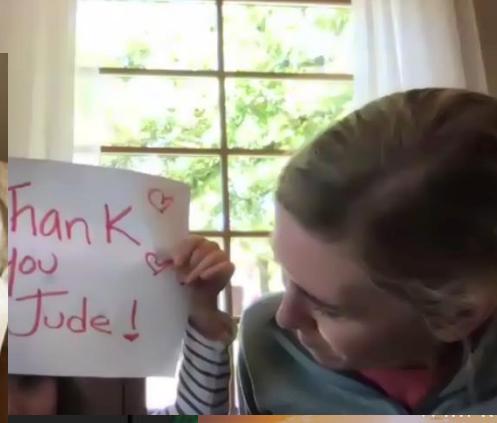
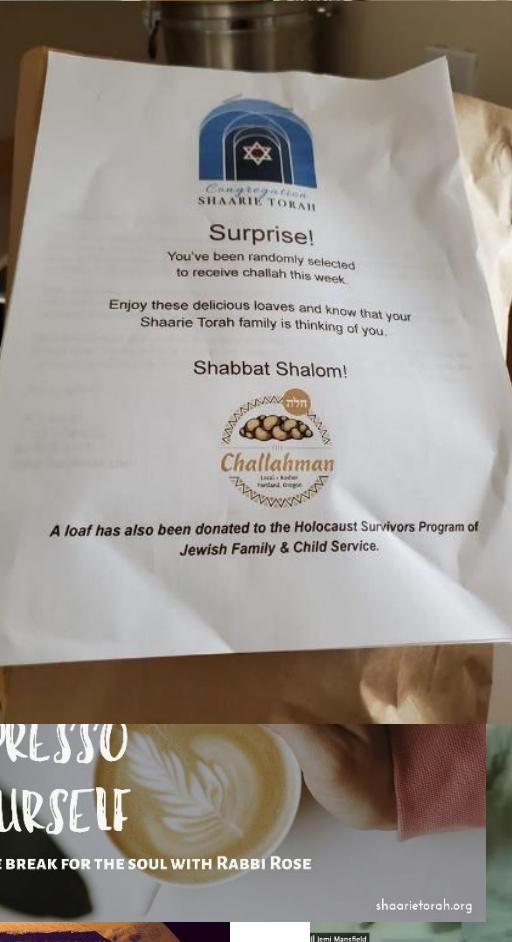
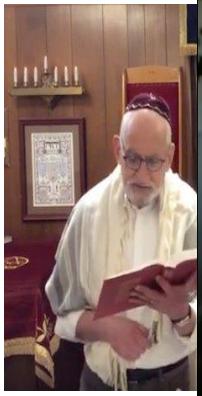
**CORONAVIRUS
PANDEMIC**

So we pivoted to a virtual shul...

- Morning Minyan
- Weekly Torah Study
- Live-streaming Shabbat and Holiday Services
- Twice-monthly Kabbalah Study
- Espresso Yourself
- Young Adults Shabbat and Happy Hour
- Zoom Gali Gali Shabbat for Young Children
- What's the Big Idea series: Crisis at the Border
- Hope and Resilience with Corey Pressman
- The Space Between Us: Rabbis in Dialogue
- Cooking demonstrations

That's not all...

- Feather and Candle: Prepping for Pesach
- Live Lag B'Omer Quarantine Haircuts
- Niggunim Singing Circles
- Yarn Crafting
- Community Yom HaShoah Commemoration
- Yoga on the Way to Sinai
- Community Tikkun Leil Shavuot
- Member-led Evening Minyan
- Good Morning Prayers
- Regular Check-in Calls from Chesed Volunteers
- Surprise Challah Delivery



Reaching more people

- Every Saturday there are an average of 60 to 100 views of our services on our website. Usually about 1/8 of viewers watch the recorded version on our website after it is live (but on facebook that number is higher). Sometimes we have up to 1,000+ views on Facebook throughout Saturday and Sunday. Facebook generally reaches many more people for our streaming services - with an average of 200+ views each week, and sometimes as high as 450 or 1,010 on holiday services!
- We've had over 250 unique viewers on our website for services throughout the time we have been streaming. Which includes people who tune in every week.
- Highest attendance at Shabbat & Yizkor Services during Shavuot and Passover. Comments indicate that viewers really appreciate being able to watch holiday services online.
- Most people watch from Oregon. In the US, viewers from 11 other states have tuned in. We've also been viewed in Israel, Mexico and Ireland.
- Most people watch for an average of 30-40 or more minutes when they tune in! Average of 5-10 comments every week where people let us know they are watching and where they are watching from! Super fun to see who is tuning in and that they are loving it!
- Morning minyans regularly attract 15+ participants from the start of service
- Classes (Torah Study, etc.) range from a dozen to 20 participants.
- The dialogue with Rabbi Fischer drew in over 70 participants, a mix between our congregation and the Kollel/Kesser community
- Most popular event was Lag b'Omer haircutting

On the road to reopening...slowly

- Ad-hoc taskforce convened and is meeting/talking regularly
- Multiple resources studied, including from collaborative nationwide conversations between USCJ and URJ
- Church Mutual, our insurance provider, has been invaluable in providing guidance and tools
- Strict adherence to all state and county guidelines during each phase
- Masks and hand sanitizers on back order (expected mid-July to early-August)
- Additional cleaning has been added to schedule
- Just because it is allowed doesn't mean we have to do it. The health and well-being of the community is our highest priority, and we will continue to exercise an over-abundance of caution

III. CONGREGATIONAL STATUS



Introductions: The Board

OFFICERS

Daniel Petcher, President
Sara Staggs, Vice-President
Raphael Rosenblatt, Secretary
Peter Lyman, Treasurer/
Immediate Past President

AUXILIARIES

Judy Freeman, Sisterhood President
Richard Cohen, Men's Club Representative

DIRECTORS

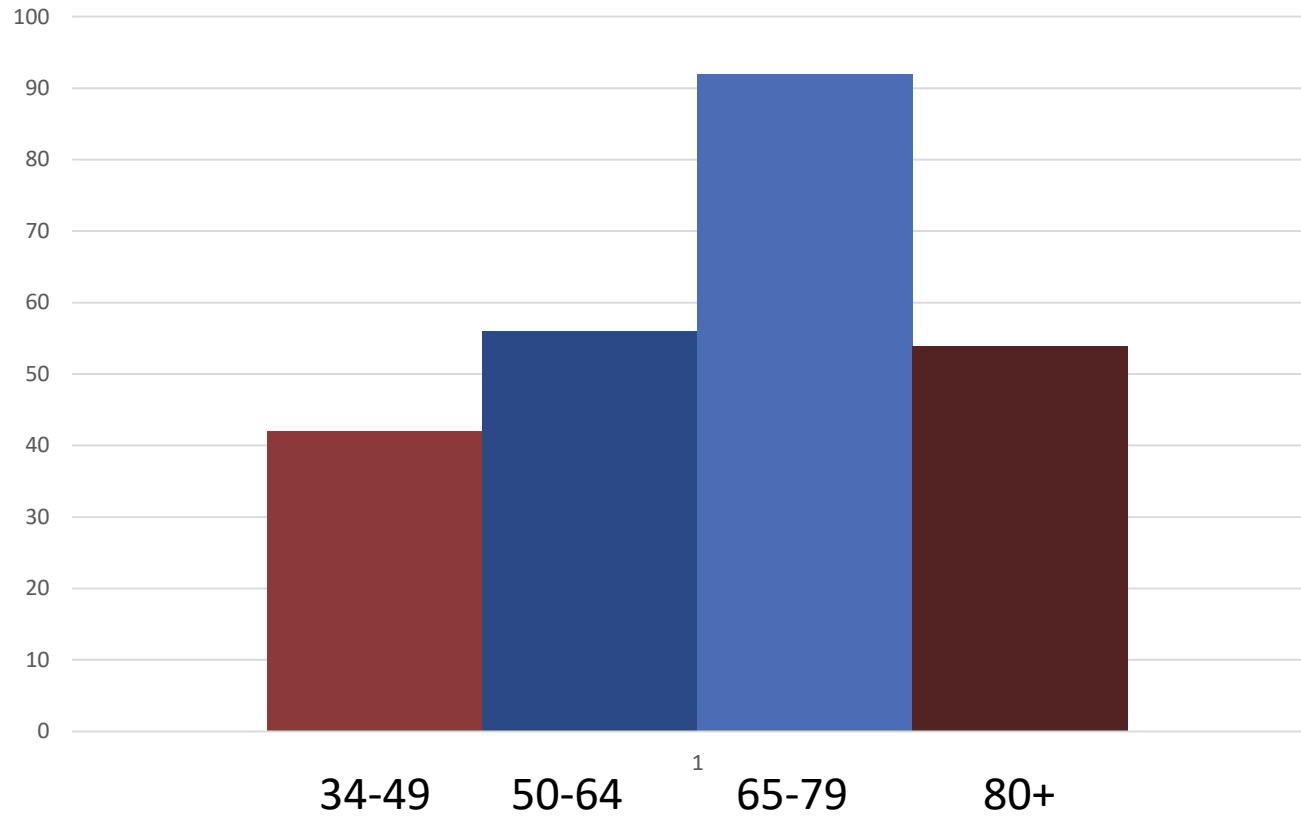
Melissa Cohen
Mitch Cohen
Tamir Heyman
Daron Horwitz
Linda Nemer Singer
Robert Sturtz

CHAIRS

Steph Kotkins, Cemetery Committee
Annette Demsey & Leslie Beard,
Chesed Committee
Sara Staggs, Education Committee
Peter Lyman, Finance Committee &
Nominating Committee
Rabbi Rose, Ritual Committee

By the Numbers in FY2019-20

DEMOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN BY AGE *(based on age of head-of-household):*



- **Our members care**, with a reliable, far-reaching core of active, dedicated congregants
- **Net loss of 4 members:**
 - 12 new; 4 deaths; 2 out-of-state moves; 3 to other congregations; 3 for no payment/communication; 5 for other
- **Regular participation** relative to the shul's size is higher percentage-wise than in larger congregations

IV. EDUCATION UPDATE

A photograph of three children sitting around a table, appearing to be playing a game where they are covering their eyes with their hands. The child on the left has blonde hair and is wearing a light blue long-sleeved shirt. The child in the center has dark hair with a yellow hair tie and is wearing a dark blue dress with white polka dots and a yellow belt. The child on the right has dark hair and is wearing a pink short-sleeved shirt and glasses. They are sitting at a white table with a colorful cloth, with a lit candle and a cup on the table. In the background, there are shelves with books and containers.

Youth Education in an age of COVID...

- A thorough and careful search process for a professional, full-time Educator was interrupted and ultimately ended with the outbreak of the pandemic
- After March 7 and the closure of schools, Jude Kassar transformed the program from in-person learning to virtual Zoom classrooms for K-5 and WNS students
- A hybrid learning model is being planned for 2020-21 due to uncertainties about gathering
- Shalom Learning, a nationally proven curriculum for both online and in-person learning will be instituted for the coming year
- Sharon Pollin has been engaged for the year to oversee the curriculum, train and guide teaching staff, and assist with visioning and strategic planning within the Education Program
- Students will have increased opportunities to learn with Rabbi Rose in an expanded 2-day class program
- A permanent Education Director will be hired before the 2021-22 school year begins

Thank You, Jude!



For your hard work and all you've done to elevate our Education Program over the past two years:

- Building curriculum
- Implementing Shabbat School in a creative and halachic way
- Transforming WNS into a fun, social setting for the middle and high schoolers
- Engaging students and parents
- Bringing your energy and special skills into everything you do

YASHER KOACH!

Welcome Dr. Sharon Pollin

Sharon Pollin is an experienced and highly skilled educator whose educational philosophy places learners at the center. She believes that students learn best, and community thrives, when school, families and community join together. Dr. Pollin has earned a B.A. in elementary education, M.S. in educational supervision and administration, studied Jewish text at Pardes Institute for Jewish Studies in Jerusalem, and possesses Doctoral Certification in Jewish Education Leadership, and earned her Doctorate in Education Leadership. Dr. Pollin successfully led the revitalization of the Jewish Community Day School in New Orleans, where she most recently served as Head of School.

Dr. Pollin is a collaborative and reflective educator whose work is consistently informed by best practice. She has a deep love of Judaism and for Congregation Shaarie Torah, and is devoted to ensuring a warm, joyful learning experience for all. Sharon believes the current circumstances provide an opportunity to reimagine what a vital, meaningful, engaging 21st century Jewish education can be, and is excited to be a part of the shul's visioning work to ensure its future. She is delighted to come home to Shaarie Torah to serve as Education Director for the 2020-21 school year.



V. FINANCIALS



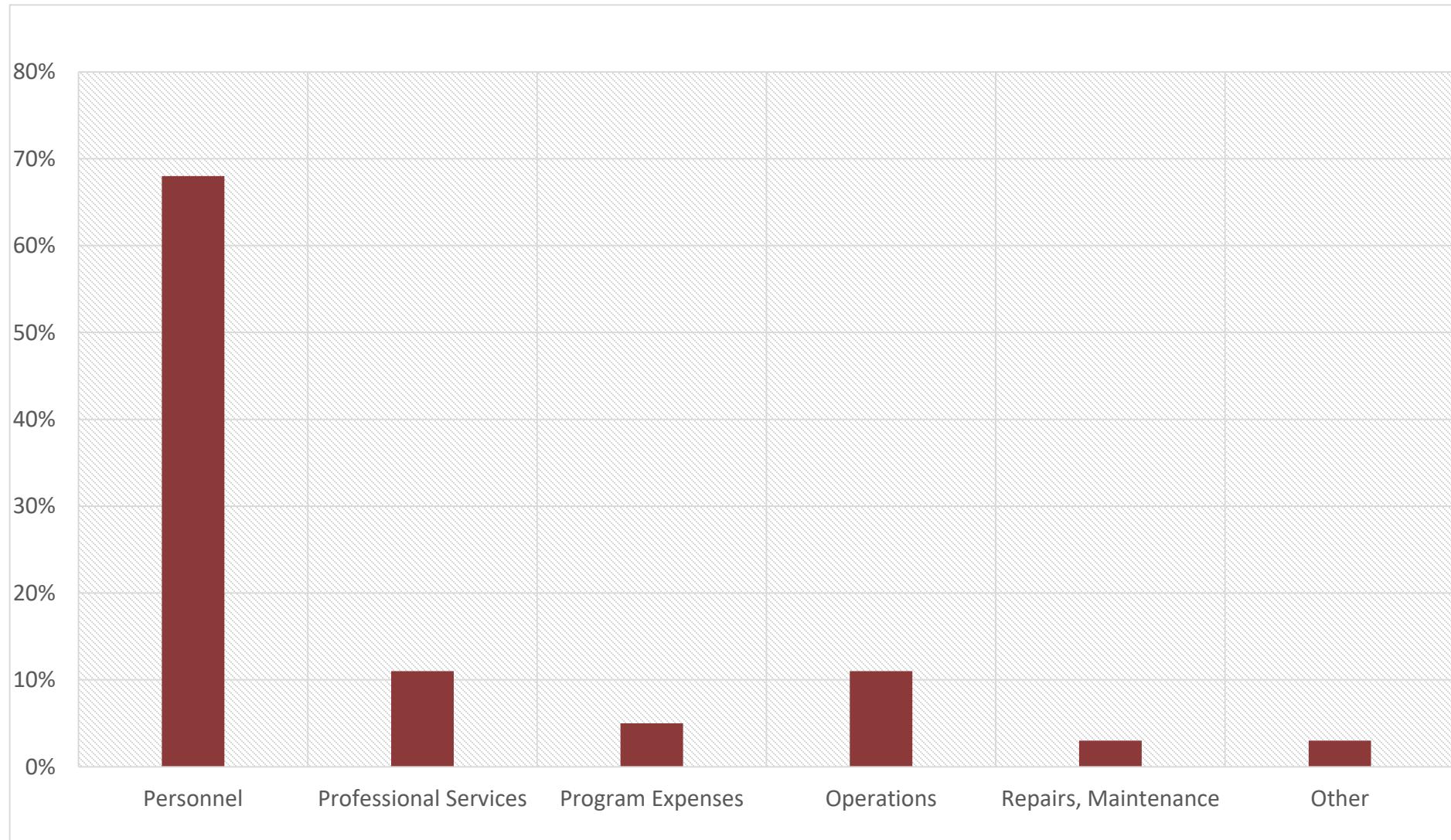
Your Generosity in 2019-20

SOURCE	AMOUNT
Dues	\$364,774
Yom Kippur Appeal & High Holy Days	\$126,392
Donations	\$90,352
Fundraiser/Community Events	\$9,160
Bequests	\$44,361
Endowments	\$10,000
Rabbi funds	\$13,284

2019-20: Current Year Results

INCOME			EXPENSES		
	ACTUAL	BUDGET		ACTUAL	BUDGET
*Transfers from Restricted to Operating Budget	70,000	57,988	Personnel (Sal & Benefits)	682,371	732,989
Dues	364,774	387,000	Professional Services	107,137	130,000
Donations, Bequests, Endow	167,157	172,500	Program Expenses	39,564	56,950
YK Appeal & HHD	126,392	135,500	Operations	122,218	133,950
Transition Funds	73,586	100,856	Repairs & Maintenance	56,757	31,000
Grant: JFGP (Covid)	15,000	-	Other: USCJ, Rabbi fund	33,843	31,976
Program Revenue	133,238	93,075	TOTAL Ordinary EXPENSES	1,014,890	1,116,865
Rental Income	152,229	155,446	Investment Gains	-	30,000
Interest from Investments	9,514	6,000	*Transfers from Restricted to Operating Budget	-70,000	-57,988
TOTAL INCOME	1,111,890	1,108,365	TOTAL NET INCOME	-	-36,488

2019-20 Expenses



2020-21 Budget

INCOME			EXPENSES		
	Q1	ANNUAL MINIMUM		Q1	ANNUAL
*Transfers from Restricted to Operating Budget	-	58,880	Personnel	170,892	732,989
Dues	220,000	300,000	Professional Services	28,375	130,000
Donations, Bequests	31,375	81,500	Program Expenses	9,775	56,950
YK Appeal & HHD	57,000	114,000	Operations	33,550	133,950
Grant: SBA PPP	-	125,790	Repairs & Maintenance	7,750	31,000
Program Revenue	15,389	68,5015	Other: USCJ, Rabbi fund	7,375	31,976
Rental Income	39,511	158,044	TOTAL EXPENSES (Quarterly)	257,717	1,116,865
Interest from Investments	1,500	6,000	Investment Gains	-	-
TOTAL INCOME	364,775	932,715	*Transfers to Operating Budget (Cemetery deficit)	-	-58,880
% of Total	39%		TOTAL NET INCOME	107,058	-157,033

2020-21 Budget Call to Action

SOURCE	ESTIMATE	CHALLENGE
Dues	\$300,000	Can we top \$340,000?
Yom Kippur Appeal & Book of Remembrance	\$105,000 & \$9,000	Strong campaign in spite of no onsite services
Fundraisers/Community Events	\$20,000	Frieda Event Will Milt Carl Way event occur?
Rental & Parking Income	\$158,045	Pipster and Alano operating?
Program Income	\$68,501	Education programming -- different models
Expenses per Quarter	\$257,717	Can we sustain throughout the year? If not, what to cut?

2020-21 Budget Highlights

SOURCE	AMOUNT	% OF TOTAL
Dues	\$300,000	32%
Rental & Parking	\$158,045	17%
Yom Kippur & Book of Remembrance	\$114,000	12%
Program (Education & Cemetery)	\$ 68,500	7%
Donations, Bequests & other gifts	\$81,500	9%
Fundraising & Community Events	\$20,000	2%
Grant: SBA PPP loan converts to grant	\$125,790	13%



שעדי תורה

VI. CST'S FUTURE:
A 'BORDERLESS' SYNAGOGUE

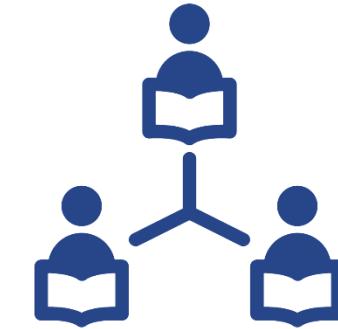
Futures Committee Plan



Building
Community



Investing in
Spiritual Life



Educating the
Next Generation

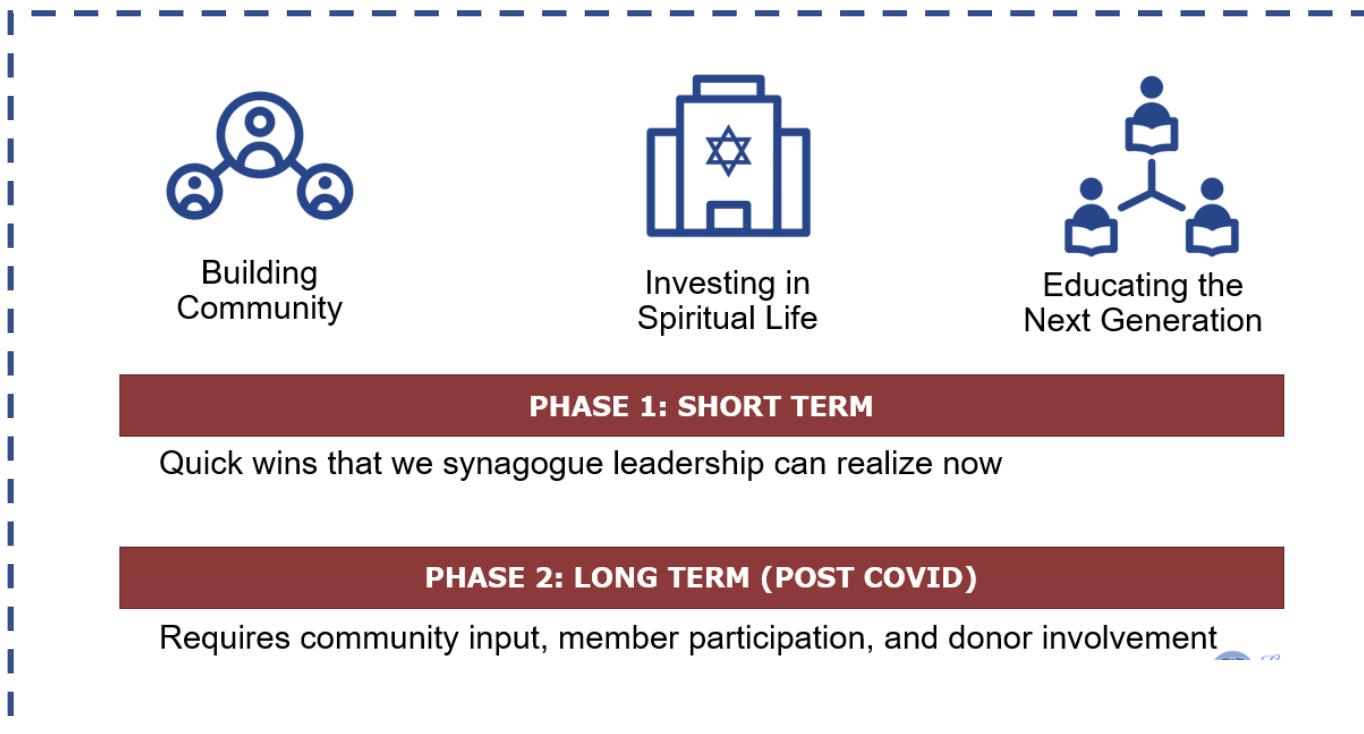
PHASE 1: SHORT TERM

Quick wins synagogue leadership can realize now

PHASE 2: LONG TERM (POST COVID)

Requires community input, member participation, and donor involvement

What is a Borderless Synagogue?



BORDERLESS SYNAGOGUE

- Accessible to community outside of NW Portland
- Rooted in our physical space
- Leaning into our *haimesh* atmosphere

Examples of a Borderless Synagogue in Practice



Building
Community



**CREATIVE, DIVERSE, & REGULAR PROGRAMMING
FOCUSED ON BUILDING INROADS TO WHERE PEOPLE
ARE ALREADY TURNING FOR COMMUNITY**

RELIGIOUS PROGRAMMING

- Adult education
- Community Shabbat meals
- Rabbi's regular learning opportunities
- Hebrew for adults



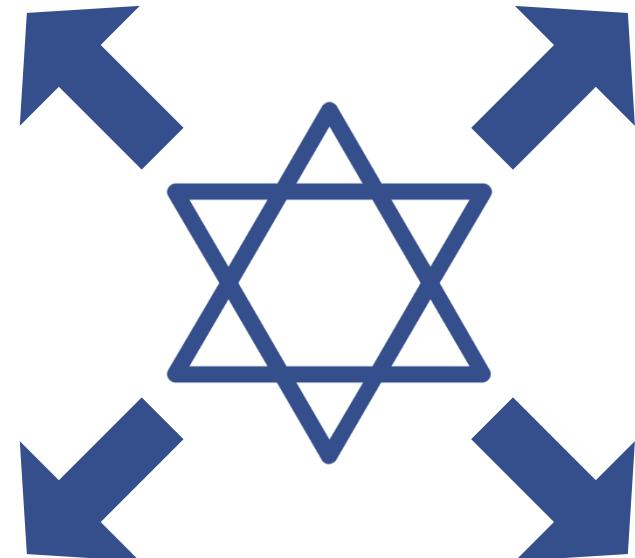
SECULAR PROGRAMMING

- Book clubs
- Virtual happy hours
- Guest speakers
- Yoga
- Cooking

Phase 2, Next Steps, and Community Involvement

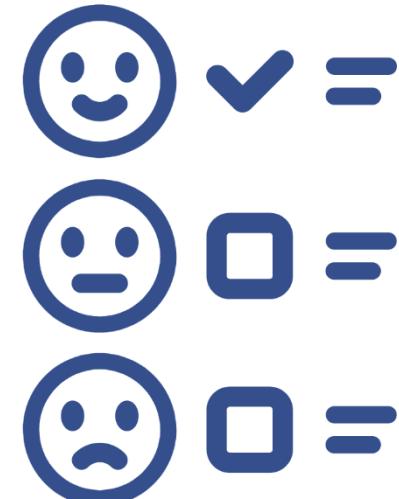
NOW

Borderless
Programming



JULY

Community
Surveys



SUMMER

Community Zoom
Meetings



Futures Committee

We want you involved!

Please reach out to the Futures Committee to see where you can help: CSTFuture@Shaarietorah.org.