

# 2017 SISTERHOOD SUMMER GRANTS PROGRAM



Dear Congregants:

We have just the thing for your children and teens this summer! The Sisterhood of Temple Emanuel of the Pascack Valley is proud to offer grants for Jewish summer programs for our youth. Numerous studies have found that Jewish camps are extremely successful at instilling in children Jewish identities so deep that they last a lifetime, and that teen peer trips to Israel strengthen a sense of solidarity among world Jewry and strengthen participants' personal Jewish identity and connection to the Jewish people and Israel.

## 2017 GUIDELINES

**DEADLINE: APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN Tuesday, March 28, 2017, & RECEIVED BY Thursday, March 30, or MUST BE PLACED IN CHAIRPERSON'S MAILBOX BY 6 pm on Tuesday, March 28, 2017.**

**Important Note:** Grants are **not** based on financial need and are limited in availability. Also, we have no control over admission to camp and travel programs. Some fill up quickly, so please apply early.

### **ELIGIBILITY FOR ALL THREE PROGRAMS (Day Camp, Overnight Camp, and Teen & Israel Travel):**

1. Eligible children must be entering Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade.
2. Parents must be members of Temple Emanuel for at least two years as well as members of Sisterhood.
3. Recipient must currently be enrolled in our Early Childhood Program, our Religious School, a Hebrew Day School, or a Hebrew High School Program, or must be an active participant in a Jewish Youth Program for High School students.\*\*
4. One lifetime award per child per program type. (Sisterhood offers three types of program grants: Day Camp, Overnight Camp, and Teen Israel Travel.)
5. The recipient and one parent must agree to volunteer a total of six hours or more in Sisterhood activities during 2017 for *each* child who receives a grant. Proof of volunteer activities must be submitted to the chairperson or Sisterhood treasurer by phone, email, or mail by February 3, 2018.
6. Awards will be announced to the Temple Emanuel community during *Shabbat* services this Spring. Prior year (2016) recipients and current year recipients and their families are expected to attend the *Shabbat* service. Please mark your calendar as soon as the date is announced.
7. By applying for an Israel travel program grant, participants agree to deliver a brief speech at the annual Sisterhood *Shabbat* service, a Sisterhood meeting, or an alternative event to be determined.
8. Recipients must follow the guidelines set by their trip or program or return the grant to Sisterhood.
9. Families apply for and accept Sisterhood grants under a good faith agreement that the requirements of the grant program will be fulfilled. In such a case where the requirements are not met, including completion of the program, the family agrees to return the full amount of the grant to the Sisterhood.

\*\* Youth group advisor must attest to applicant's active participation in program.

## **Additional Requirements:**

### **DAY CAMP:**

Only Camp Ramah Day Camp will qualify for a Sisterhood Summer Grant.

### **OVERNIGHT CAMPS:**

Grants will be distributed at the sole discretion of the Sisterhood, with preference given to those programs that offer rich and meaningful Jewish residential experiences. Three overnight camps automatically make a child eligible for grant consideration: Camp Ramah, Camp Young Judeaea Sprout Lake, and Camp Tel Yehudah. (The Committee must approve an application for any other overnight camp. Kindly include a brochure attesting to all criteria listed below when applying for a grant.)

*First-time campers at a Jewish overnight camp usually qualify for a \$1,000 One Happy Camper incentive grant through the Jewish Federation of Northern New Jersey. Those who receive a One Happy Camper grant are not eligible for a Sisterhood grant in the same year, but are encouraged to apply in a subsequent year.*

#### ***Overnight camps must meet the following criteria:***

- Friday evening and Saturday morning *Shabbat* services must be held and require mandatory attendance.
- *Shabbat* must be observed.
- *Kashrut* must be observed.
- Camp must be a member of the Foundation for Jewish Camp ([www.FoundationForJewishCamp.org](http://www.FoundationForJewishCamp.org)) and sponsored by a Jewish institution, linked to a Jewish agency, or otherwise express an overt Jewish mission.

### **TEEN ISRAEL TRAVEL PROGRAMS *must meet the following criteria:***

- *Shabbat* services must be held.
- *Kashrut* must be observed.

The Grants Committee must approve any application for a program other than those sponsored by USY or Young Judeaea. Kindly include a brochure attesting to all criteria listed above when applying for a grant.

Teen travel program applicants may be asked to participate in an in-person interview with the Grants Committee. These will take place shortly after the March 28 deadline.

## **HOW TO APPLY FOR ALL SUMMER GRANTS**

All interested applicants (with the help of their parents if they are younger than 3<sup>rd</sup> grade) should complete an application and submit it with a meaningful letter that explains why they want to attend a camp or program and includes details of their Jewish, school, and community activities. Please mail to:

Betsy Gold, Chairperson, Sisterhood Summer Grants  
120 Cortland Drive  
Saddle River, NJ 07458

For an application, please email Betsy Gold at [betsycooks@hotmail.com](mailto:betsycooks@hotmail.com).

All applications must be postmarked by March 28, 2017 (& received by March 30, 2017) or placed in the chairperson's mailbox by 6 pm on Tuesday, March 28. Recipients will be notified in April.

We hope you will consider a Jewish summer experience for your children. Should you have any questions regarding camps, programs, Israel teen adventures, or grants, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Betsy Gold, Chairperson, Sisterhood Summer Grants

201-358-2783 or [betsycooks@hotmail.com](mailto:betsycooks@hotmail.com)