

To our community,

After months of discussion and community feedback, the Yachad team has made the decision to transition from Yachad into the next phase of community-wide teen programming.

We are excited and eager to present the Teen Education Network, a solution for community-wide teen programming that allows each synagogue autonomy while reaching a wider group of teens.

Teen Education Network

Through the Teen Education Network, several familiar community-wide courses will continue, helmed by the Minneapolis Jewish Federation.

As they have always done, each synagogue will offer teen programming based on that congregation's strengths, expertise, and audience. And, as has always been the case, this programming will be open to the entire community.

The Teen Education Network's primary goal will be connecting teens with the programming that best suits them—regardless of their affiliation or synagogue membership—through a virtual catalog run by MJF.

Why the change?

Through Yachad, we set out to revamp a decades-old teen programming infrastructure. That kind of change requires experimentation and adjustment—hence, the current shift in Yachad's offering.

We are proud of the collaboration we experienced through Yachad. Collectively, we call ourselves the brit-signers. That title is important to us—we signed a brit in 2014 at the beginning of the Yachad process to recognize and celebrate the sacred aspect of this relationship.

Society, trends, and the lives of teenagers change rapidly. When the idea for Yachad was first introduced, 15 years ago, the program looked far different than it did when it launched in 2015. Now, four years later, it's no surprise that teen educational offerings again look different.

And in the future, when new opportunities arise for teen programming, the collaboration

happening in this space will be crucial in meeting our community's needs.

Sincerely,

Adath Jeshurun Congregation
Bet Shalom Reform Congregation
Beth El Synagogue
Darchei Noam
Heilicher Minneapolis Jewish Day School
Minneapolis Jewish Federation
Sharei Chesed Congregation
Shir Tikvah Congregation
Talmud Torah of Minneapolis
Temple Israel