

5786 *Empty Your Pockets* TZEDAKAH CAMPAIGN



Each year the Tikkun Olam Coordinating Committee is charged with deciding how to allocate High Holidays tzedakah that year. The decision is never easy, as there are so many worthy candidates.

As in the past several years, we invited recommendations from the whole community and received many suggestions. We wish we could contribute to all of them, but to make our contributions meaningful, we narrow the list down to 4-5 organizations whose work aligns strongly with our values as a congregation. Please read on to learn about the organizations we're supporting in 5786.

Battered Women's Support Services



Several years ago, Or Shalom identified **Battered Women's Support Services** as one of eight "leading lights" in our community, and we have maintained a strong personal relationship with them over the years. BWSS works tirelessly to eliminate gender-based violence, providing education, advocacy and support services to assist all victims and survivors, and operating from a feminist perspective that promotes gender equity. BWSS also provides critical data, research, and policy analytics to grassroots and community-based organizing campaigns. www.bwss.org

JQT Vancouver



JQT (pronounced J-Cutie) is a volunteer-run charitable non-profit dedicated to "queering" Jewish spaces and "Jew-ifying" Queer spaces through education, dialogue, art, cultural celebration and partnerships. JQT's vision is to create a growing and thriving community for all 2SLGBTQIA+ Jews to celebrate their various identities and intersections. Their mission is to address and prevent problems experienced by the Jewish Queer and Trans community by providing training and consulting services aimed at resolving issues specific to this community, including homophobia, transphobia, and mental health issues.

www.jqtvancouver.ca

Covenant House Vancouver



**Covenant
House
Vancouver**

Covenant House Vancouver is committed to serve all youth with relentless support, absolute respect, and unconditional love; to help youth experiencing homelessness; and to protect and safeguard all youth in need. They incorporate the principles of Immediacy, Sanctuary, Value Communication, Structure, and

Choice in all aspects of their programs and services. As a trauma-informed agency, Covenant House holds an awareness that the youth who come to them may have been impacted by various forms of trauma, and they believe trauma can be both a cause and a product of homelessness. www.covenanthousebc.org

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Open House Ramle–Bayit Patuach



הבית הפתוח ברמלה
Open House in Ramle
a peace education center in Ramle, Israel Est. 1991

Open House Center in Ramle was founded in 1991 to further peace and coexistence among Israeli Arabs and Jews in Ramle, a mixed city of 75,000 residents, 22% of whom are Arabs. The Jewish-Arab ratio in Ramle parallels the Jewish-Arab ratio in the State of Israel generally, making Ramle a microcosm of the country. Open House has two interrelated goals: to provide educational and social opportunities to Arab children and their families through their Center for the Development of the Arab Child; and to be a place of encounter and cooperation between Jews and Arabs in the Ramle-Lod area through their Center for Jewish-Arab Coexistence. Through the Center, Open House fosters greater mutual understanding between the two populations, forges friendships, and increases possibilities for cooperation among the citizens of this mixed city. www.friendsofopenhouse.co.il

Youth Climate Corps, British Columbia



Youth Climate Corps develops the climate leaders of tomorrow by training a workforce of young people who know how to work together, communicate powerfully, and get things done on projects that contribute to climate resilience in communities across BC.

YCCBC is a non-profit program that builds on youth leadership to foster climate resilience and a livable, low carbon future, and invites the youth of BC to mobilize. <https://www.youthclimatecorps.com/>



Looking for a great way to fulfill the mitzvah of Tzedakah this High Holiday season?

A donation to the Or Shalom Tzedakah Fund is a perfect way! In the tradition of “Emptying your Pockets” before entering the sanctuary for Kol Nidre, there will be a basket on site for cash donations. Even better, you can donate online via the Or Shalom website (www.orshalom.ca). Look for the “Tzedakah Fund” option in the Donations section of our home page.

All donations made online become tax-deductible.