



Mazal Tov!

It is our pleasure to present you with this Shalom Baby welcome bag. It contains many wonderful gifts and information about Jewish resources in the metropolitan Washington DC area.

The resource information in this gift bag covers topics from Jewish life-cycle ceremonies to child care. You will also find gifts to share with your new addition to your family.

In addition to our wonderful ShalomBaby bags, we have a listserv where you can ask questions, share information including parenting tips and strategies, find announcements about what is going on in the Jewish Community (including our own ShalomBaby playgroups and storytimes), form your own playgroups, and much more!

Our ShalomBaby listservs are through Yahoo Groups, or Big Tent and are geographically targeted.

If you have not already signed up and you live in Maryland or DC please contact Beri Kravitz at beri.kravitz@shalomdc.org

If you live in Virginia contact Brittanie Werbel brittaniew@jccnv.org

We would also love for you to volunteer to be a ShalomBaby ambassador. Volunteering is a great way to meet other parents of young children in your area.

For more information about ShalomBaby, please contact Beri Kravitz, ShalomBaby Coordinator, at 301-348-7309 or beri.kravitz@shalomdc.org

The Staff of Jconnect



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About Jconnect

Jconnect is your connection to everything Jewish!

Our motto is *Join • Ask • Volunteer* and we strive to make these options easily accessible to all.

We provide information about resources in the Jewish and secular community. Our trained information specialists can help you with any questions. We also can work with you to help find meaningful volunteer projects for you and your family. Additionally, you can find various events going on through out our community on our community calendar. Please call us at 301-770-4848 or 703-978-3910. You can also e-mail us at jconnect@shalomdc.org or search our Web site at www.jconnect.org.

About The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington

The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington builds and sustains a vibrant and purposeful Jewish community that cares for those in need, deepens engagement in Jewish life, and strengthens the bonds among Jews in the Washington area, in Israel, and around the world. We provide funding and community planning for a family of agencies that serves some 110,000 Jewish households (approximately 267,000 people) throughout a 1,500-square-mile area that includes Northern Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia. Thirty-eight local agencies, schools, youth groups, and community service programs as well as more than 40 congregational education programs are supported by The Jewish Federation.

For more information about The Jewish Federation, please contact 1-888-246-1818 or volunteer@shalomdc.org.





Jewish Life Cycle Ceremonies for Babies

The joy of the expansion of your family is enhanced through ceremonies that are traditional among the Jewish community, and that can also be personalized.

Baby Naming/Simchat HaBat

Traditionally, a baby girl is named in synagogue on the day of the first torah reading following the day of her birth. This traditionally takes place on a Monday, Thursday or Shabbat. Her parents announce their daughter's Jewish name at an *aliyah* during the Torah ceremony, where they are called upon to recite a blessing. The timing is traditional; the ceremony can take place at any time convenient to the new parents.

In an effort to mark the complete equality of boys and girls in our era, many non-Orthodox families conduct a ceremony closely related to the religious significance of the *brit milah* (ritual circumcision ceremony for a boy). Many families create a naming ceremony that is highly personalized and conducted by the parents. The ceremony and celebration can take place any time within the days, weeks or even months following the baby's birth (or adoption).

A new tradition that has been created is the *hachnasat bat labrit*, a covenant service for a daughter. This service incorporates many of the aspects of the *brit milah* including participation by *kvaterim* (godparents), a symbolic physical application such as wrapping the daughter in a *tallit* by the *sandak* (one of the baby's grandfathers), special prayers, and the baby's Jewish name being given.

Celebrations for girls can provide an opportunity for your own Jewish learning and commitment to grow. Consult your rabbi for appropriate prayers and passages to read at the ceremony. Examples of simchat habat ceremonies are available online at several websites (just "google" *simchat bat* ceremonies) or from the Jconnect office, 301-770-4848 or 703-978-3910.

Bris or *Brit milah*

According to Jewish law, a healthy baby boy is circumcised on the eighth day after his birth. Abraham is commanded in Genesis 17 to bear the mark of his special relationship to G-d in his and his descendants' flesh. The instructions in the Torah state "at the age of eight days every male among you throughout the generations shall be circumcised." The *brit milah*, the ritual ceremony of removing the foreskin which covers the glans of the penis, is a simple surgical procedure that can take place in the home or synagogue and marks the identification of a baby boy as a Jew.

The ceremony is traditionally conducted by a *mohel*, a highly trained and skilled individual, although a rabbi in conjunction with a physician may perform the *brit milah*. The *brit milah* is a joyous occasion for the parents, relatives and friends who celebrate in this momentous event.

At the *brit milah*, it is customary to appoint a *kvater* (a man) and a *kvaterin* (a woman), the equivalent of Jewish godparents, whose ritual role is to bring the child into the room for the circumcision. Another honor bestowed on a family member is the *sandak* who is most often the baby's paternal grandfather or great-grandfather. This individual traditionally holds the baby during the circumcision ceremony.

The service involves a *kiddush* (prayer over wine), a challah (twisted egg bread), the circumcision, blessings, a *dvar torah* (a small teaching of the Torah) and the presentation of the Jewish name selected for the baby. During the *brit milah*, a chair is set aside for Elijah the prophet. Following the ceremony, a *seudat mitzvah* (celebratory meal) is available for the guests.

For information about the *brit milah* for your son, call your rabbi or Jconnect at 301- 770-4848 or 703-978-3910.

Mohels

All will perform a *bris* on a child of non-Jewish mother. However, the child will not be considered Jewish until he participates in a conversion ceremony at a *mikvah*.

WASHINGTON-AREA

Dr. Habib Ahdoot (ob-gyn)
703- 960-7440

Dr. Andrew Engel
301-320-6065
andrewkaren@erols.com

Rabbi Dani Kermaier
240-667-3202
mohel@bris.us www.bris.us

Rabbi Raphael Malka
301- 649-3042
www.otbrit.com
otbrit1@msn.com
otbrit.md@verizon.net

Dr. Louis M. Marmon
(pediatric surgeon and certified mohel)
301-294-2684
www.pedsurg-mohel.com

Rabbi Abraham Rappaport
1-877-MDMOHEL
301-260-7590
rabbi@mdmohel.com
www.mdmohel.com

Dr. April Rubin
(ob-gyn, mohel trained at JTS)
202-841-3329
202-547-4604
aprilrubin@aol.com

BALTIMORE-AREA, BUT WILL TRAVEL TO DC AREA

Steven J. Adashek, MD
410-561-9812
mohel18@comcast.net

Rabbi Yirmiyahu Benyowitz
410-484-2058

Rabbi Michael Henesch
410-653-3255

Rabbi Moshe Rappaport
410-358-6560

Rabbi Moshe Roshan
410-764-2291

Reverend Arthur Shulman
410-653-2031

AVAILABLE FOR CONVERSION

(Hatafat dam brit)
Dr. Lawrence Shuman
1-877-brisdoc (877-274-7362)
brisdoc@erols.com



More Jewish Life Cycle Ceremonies for Babies

Pidyon HaBen

An ancient custom is that of the *pidyon haben* or “redemption of the first born.” This custom dates back to the rite of the first born being consecrated to G-d as a priest. The rite has evolved to the custom of a ceremony of ransoming a male baby, who is the first child born to the mother, by giving five pieces of silver to a descendant of the Kohen tribe. This ceremony takes place any time after the thirtieth day. A celebration follows the transaction. Some families like to conduct a similar ceremony for a girl. The *pidyon habat* can be accomplished through a symbolic gift of *tzedakah* in the child’s name.

Shalom Zachar

In some families, the first Shabbat of a male child’s life is marked with a special celebration. Friends and relatives gather at the baby’s home to congratulate the family. A *d’var torah* is given and a light meal is shared. Lentils and chickpeas are traditional foods because of their round shape, symbolizing life’s continuity. The same event for a baby girl is called a *shalom bat*, “greeting the daughter.”

Wimpel

A tradition that is being revitalized is that of making a wimpel. The linen worn by the baby at his *brit milah* was made into an embroidered Torah binder. Pieces were sewn together and on it would be embroidered the baby’s name, date of birth, astrological sign, and any wishes for the new baby. The finished wimpel was presented to the family’s congregation after the baby’s first birthday. A small ceremony accompanied the presentation. A blessing would be offered to the parents and the child on the *bimah* (synagogue podium) and the wimpel would be used that day to bind the Torah scroll. Families are recreating this beautiful and very meaningful tradition for both girls and boys. Speak to your synagogue for details about this ceremony.

Your rabbi is an excellent source for additional information about any of these beautiful life cycle events. If you do not have a rabbi, Jconnect will be glad to assist you in finding one.



Jewish Adoption

The same rituals that mark the birth of any Jewish baby are available to adopted babies, with exceptions made to the customary timing. It may also be necessary for your baby to undergo a conversion at a *mikvah* (explained below). Your rabbi can advise you on what rituals are customary for your specific synagogue community. If you don't have a rabbi, please call Jconnect at (301) 770-4848 or (703) 978-3910 and you will be referred to a rabbi of the denomination you prefer.

Mikvah

Halachah (Jewish law) traditionally requires that an adoptive baby boy or girl participates in a conversion ceremony at a *mikvah*. In the case of an infant boy, this usually takes place after the circumcision has healed. A *mikvah* is a warm pool, a portion of which must be rainwater, built in a ritually prescribed

manner. A parent enters the *mikvah* holding the baby and participates in the entire event with the child. The baby is fully immersed in the water for a moment. After the immersion in the *mikvah*, the child receives his or her Hebrew name and is considered to be halachically Jewish. Usually, a certificate attesting to the child's new status is issued at that time at the religious bathhouse in which a ritual purification takes place. Ceremonies can vary and your rabbi will inform you as to what is expected. **Please contact your rabbi for any other questions you have regarding Jewish adoption. If you require assistance in contacting a rabbi, please call the Jconnect at 301-770-4848 or 703-978-3910.**

* Special thanks to Rabbi Douglas Weber and Jessica Weber for the material from their book *The Jewish Baby Book Handbook* published 1990 by Behrman House.

Mikvaot (Mikvahs)

Adas Israel Mikvah (Conservative)
2850 Quebec Street NW
Washington DC 20008
301-654-1988

Alterest Yisroael Mikvah (Orthodox)
11621 Seven Locks Road
Potomac, MD 20854
301-299-0144

Chabad Lubavitch Mikvah (Orthodox)
3939 Prince William Drive
Fairfax, VA 22031
703-426-1980

Emunah Society-Mikvah of Greater Washington (Orthodox)
8901 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910
301-565-3737

Jewish Family Center Mikvah (Orthodox)
18320 Georgia Avenue
Olney, MD 20832
301-774-2880

Kemp Mill Community Mikvah (Orthodox)
1401 Arcola Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20902
301-649-4800

National Capital Mikvah (Orthodox)
1308 28th Street, NW
Washington DC 20007
202-342-5303

White Oak Mikvah (Orthodox)
10900 Lockwood Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20901
301-404-7323



Jewish Community Center Resources for Young Families

Each of our area's JCCs offer a wide variety of programs and activities for children and families, including holiday celebrations, children's books fairs, fitness and exercise classes for new parents and their babies and toddlers (or for parents alone), day care, preschool, and other enrichment activities. For information contact:

Washington DCJCC

1529 16th St. NW
Washington, DC 20036
202-518-9400
www.washingtondcjcc.org

Sarah Rabin Spira
Director, Center for Youth and Family
202-777-3278
sarahr@washingtondcjcc.org

JCC of Greater Washington

6125 Montrose Rd.
Rockville, MD 20852
301-881-0100
www.jccgw.org

Julie Margel
Director, Bender-Dosik Parenting Center
301-348-3837
jmargel@jccgw.org

JCC of Northern Virginia

8900 Little River Turnpike
Fairfax, VA 22031
www.jccnv.org

Amy Brinko
Director, Early Childhood Programs
703-537-3039
amyb@jccnv.org

JCCNV West

Meets at synagogues

Laurie Albert
703-537-3064
lauriea@jccnv.org

L'Amazing Baby: Childbirth Preparation with a Jewish Twist

Offered by:

Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia
8900 Little River Turnpike
Fairfax, VA 22031

Laurie Albert
Director, Community Engagement
703-537-3064
lauriea@jccnv.org

JCC of Greater Washington

6125 Montrose Rd.
Rockville, MD 20852
301-881-0100
www.jccgw.org

Julie Margel
Director, Bender-Dosik Parenting Center
301-348-3837
jmargel@jccgw.org

“With each child, the world begins anew.” This class offers parents-to-be a traditional Lamaze prepared childbirth class plus a spiritual, ritual and emotional support network for welcoming a Jewish child into the community. Couples will learn about *Brit milah* (ritual circumcision), baby naming ceremonies, managing the transition from being partners to parents, building a Jewish home and Jewish and secular resources. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet and nurture relationships with other expecting couples.



Parenting Classes Offered by Synagogues

Making Mishpacha: A Workshop for Jewish Couples Expecting Their First Child

Offered by:

Adas Israel Congregation
2850 Quebec Street, NW
Washington, DC 20008
202-362-4433

In this five-session series, Jewish couples explore the changes that accompany transformation into a family, including naming choices and rituals, shifting roles and priorities, communication, and other family issues. Session activities include (but are not limited to) class discussions, partner communication exercises, text study, and planning for follow up social gatherings. Single parents and parents adopting are welcome. The class runs once a year in the fall and is open to the public.

L'Mazel: A weekly series for Jewish Parents to Be

Offered by:

B'nai Israel Congregation
6301 Montrose Road
Rockville, MD 20852
Sharon Safra
Family Education Director
240-221-2500
sharons@bnaiisraelcong.org

L'Mazel is a five-week series for expectant couples. This series of informal gatherings and discussions includes topics such as details for planning a *brit milah* (ritual circumcision) or naming/*simchat bat* (welcoming ceremony for a baby girl), preparing for the transition from couple to family, selecting a Jewish name for your child, values for Jewish parenting, and more. Single parents, interfaith couples, and families considering adoption are all welcome. Cost: \$25 for B'nai Israel members, \$60 for nonmembers.



The New Baby Program from Premier Homecare

Premier Homecare is pleased to announce the New Baby Program. Premier's certified nursing assistants offer an extra pair of hands, providing round-the-clock baby care to help keep the household running smoothly.

For more information about the New Baby Program please contact Premier Homecare at 301-984-1742 or info@PremierHomecare.org.

Premier is licensed as a residential service agency through the Maryland Office of Healthcare Quality,

and all caregivers hold licenses or certifications from the Maryland Board of Nursing.

Premier Homecare is a non-sectarian, not-for-profit subsidiary of **JSSA (Jewish Social Service Agency)**. Treatment and employment are provided without regard to race, color, age, national origin, gender, religion, sexual orientation or disability. Additionally, our proceeds are used to support safety net services for the low income, frail elderly.



Jewish Resources for Interfaith Families

Do you have questions about raising a child in an interfaith home? There are several programs in the Washington Jewish community that can offer assistance and support.

Jewish/Interfaith Family Connections

The JCC of Greater Washington's interfaith outreach program provides Jewish/interfaith couples and families with an opportunity to explore Judaism in an inclusive environment. All programs strive to provide a warm, supportive atmosphere for mixed-faith couples and their families. Peer and extended-family support, couples workshops, and Judaism classes are all designed to responsibly help participants face the challenging dilemma of reconciling faith and family. Utilizing these resources, couples and families can experience the rewards of sharing Jewish rituals together while building a strong support network of others who share their perspective.

Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington
6125 Montrose Road
Rockville, MD 20852
Debbie Sokobin
301-348-3760
dsokobin@jccgw.org

Interfaith Connections

The Washington DCJCC offers workshops and programs for interfaith couples several times each year. These four-session workshops explore backgrounds, values, traditions, and other areas of concern. The workshops are facilitated by Dr. Marion Usher, who has been leading workshops and discussion groups for interfaith couples for many years.

The director also provides all kinds of information including a list of individuals who can preside at interfaith marriages. Interfaith Connections also offers interfaith couples groups, "Baby Makes 3" parenting workshops for interfaith couples, and interfaith Shabbat observances and Seder preparation.

Washington DC Jewish Community Center
1529 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036
Jean Graubart
202-777-3268
jeang@washingtondcjjcc.org



The Mothers/ Parents Circle

The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington is partnering with the Jewish Outreach Institute (JOI) to launch the Mothers/Parents Circle. The Mothers/Parents Circle is an umbrella of FREE educational events and resources for parents raising Jewish

children within the context of intermarriage or a committed interfaith relationship. The program focuses on Jewish rituals, ethics and the creation of a Jewish home, and includes regular meetings and group Shabbat and holiday observances.

Washington DC:

Sixth and I Historic Synagogue
Washington, DC 20001
www.sixthandi.org

Northern Virginia:

Congregation Sha'are Shalom
Leesburg, VA
703-737-0686
www.sha-areshalom.org

Congregation Beth Emeth
Herndon, VA
703-860-4515
www.bethemeth.org

Temple Rodef Shalom
Falls Church, VA
703-532-2217
www.templerodefshalom.org

JCC of Northern Virginia
Fairfax, VA
703-323-0880
www.jccnv.org

Maryland:

Washington Hebrew Congregation
Potomac, MD
301-279-7505
www.bethesda jewish.com

JCC of Greater Washington
Rockville, MD;
301-881-0100
www.jccgw.org



Jewish Resources for Families with Special Needs

A disability affects not only your child, but your entire family as well. Within the Jewish community, resources are available to help your family cope with your child's special needs.

Jewish Social Service Agency (JSSA)

JSSA's Special Services Department addresses the needs of each family member through assessment of services needed by parents, siblings and the child who has a disability or a chronic or life-threatening illness. Services include the following and vary depending upon location: Family Counseling Child and Adolescent Counseling Case Management Parent Support Groups Sibling Support Groups Psychological Testing and Assessment Services for Deaf & Hard of Hearing Lois & Richard England Children's Home Health & Hospice Program.

Jewish Social Service Agency
www.jssa.org

Main Office
200 Wood Hill Road
Rockville, MD 20850
301-838-4200

Annandale Office
3018 Javier Road
Annandale, VA 22031
703-204-9100

The Partnership for Jewish Life and Learning

The Early Childhood Program Area at the Partnership for Jewish Life and Learning is committed to being a catalyst for innovation and transformation as they lead teachers, directors and parents in providing the best social and educational settings for each young Jewish child in our community.

The Special Needs Department offers both consultative and on-site services to professionals, parents and students in the area nursery, congregation and day schools. Professionals in the department are available to meet with parents, teachers, administrators and individuals with disabilities of day schools and congregational schools to offer guidance regarding schools, resources, accommodations and services in the community. It sponsors an annual conference, "Opening the Gates of Torah," for parents, teachers, and community members who have an interest in special needs.

Partnership for Jewish Life and Learning
12230 Wilkins Avenue
Rockville, MD 20852
240-283-6200
www.pjll.org

Mara Bier
Director, Early Childhood Department
240-283-6230



Jewish Preschools in the Washington Area

There are more than 30 Jewish preschools in the Washington area that provide a stimulating and fun Jewish educational experience for young children. The information below is current as of Fall 2008. For more up-to-date information, please visit the JIRS

Web site at www.jconnect.org and click on “P” for preschools. Many of these preschools also offer summer camp programs. Contact Jconnect at 301-770-4848 or 703-978-3910 to find out more.

Northern Virginia

Adat Reyim Preschool

Gail Froehlich, Director
Springfield, VA 22152
703-455-7529
703-912-7984 FAX
preschool@adatreyim.org

Agudas Achim Preschool

Sue Finger, Director
Alexandria, VA 22302
703-998-6072
703-998-5843 FAX
preschool@agudasachim-va.org

Beth Emeth Early Childhood Center

Judy Fox-Tepper
Herndon, VA 20171
703-860-4515 x115
703-860-5647 FAX
judyft@bethemeth.org

Congregation Etz Hayim Preschool

Janice Kimmelman, Director
Arlington, VA 22204
703-979-4466
703-979-4468 FAX
preschool@etzhayim.net

Gan Israel Preschool of Fairfax

Nechama Fajnlund, Director
Fairfax, VA 22031
703-426-1980
ganisraelpreschool@gmail.com

JCC of Northern Virginia Preschool

Amy Brinko, Director
8900 Little River Turnpike
Fairfax, VA 22031
703-537-3039
703-537-3089 FAX
amyb@jccnv.org

JCCNV/Beth El Preschool

Dina Backer, Director
Alexandria, VA 22304
703-537-3084
dinab@jccnv.org

Keshet Child Development Center

Ilisa St. Pierre, Director
758 South 23rd Street
Arlington, VA 22202
703-535-5525
703-535-6751 FAX
keshetcdc@yahoo.com

Northern Virginia Hebrew Congregation Preschool

Reston, VA 22090
703-435-8829 x110
703-437-3443 FAX
preschool@nhvcreston.org

Olam Tikvah Preschool

Sharon Sherry, Director
Fairfax, VA 22031
703-425-1886
703-425-0835 FAX
director@olamtikvahpreschool.org

Rodef Shalom Nursery School

Fran Pfeffer, Director
Falls Church, VA 22043
703-532-2227
703-536-0754 FAX
fpfeffer@templerodefshalom.org

Rosie Uran Jewish Education Center at

Congregation Sha'are Shalom
Sheri Brown, Director
Leesburg, VA 20175
703-737-0686
rujec@sha-areshalom.org

Washington, D.C.

Adas Israel Nursery School

Shelley Remer, Director
Washington, DC 20008
202-362-449
202-363-7236 FAX
shelley.remer@adasisrael.org

Temple Sinai Nursery School

Perri Iger-Silversmith, Director
Washington, DC 20015
202362-3836
202-363-6396 FAX
nurseryschool@templesinai.org

Washington DCJCC Early Childhood Center

Sara Rabin Spira, Director
Washington, DC 20036
202-777-3270
202-518-9420 FAX
sarahr@washingtondcjjc.org

Washington Hebrew Congregation Edlavitch Tyser Early Childhood Center

Nancy Cook
NW Washington, DC 20016
202-895-6334
301-354-3200 FAX
ncook@whctemple.org

Maryland

Alef Bet Montessori School

Ayelet (Ellie) Lichtash, Director
Rockville, MD 20852
301-881-9010 x16
301-881-9018 FAX
aishmontessori@aish.com

Beth El of Montgomery County Preschool

Elaine Auerbach, Director
Bethesda, MD 20814
301-652-8569 x311
301-907-8559 FAX
eauerbach@bethelmc.org

Beth Sholom Early Childhood Center

Cheryl Horn, Director
Potomac, MD 20854
301-279-7010 x213
301-279-5815 FAX
chorn@bethsholom.org

B'nai Shalom of Olney Nursery School

Renee Stadd
Olney, MD 20832
301-570-0699
301-774-3992 FAX
renee.stadd@bnaishalomofolney.org

B'nai Israel Schilit Nursery School

Karen Gerton, Director
Rockville, MD 20852
301-816-5578
301-881-6221 FAX
kareng@bnaishraelcong.org

B'nai Tzedek Laura & Joel Greenzaid Early Childhood Center

Nancy Kohl, Director
Potomac, MD 20854
301-299-1149
301-299-7914 FAX
nkohl@bnaitzedek.org

Children's Learning Center

Renee Popkin, Director
Rockville, MD 20853
301-871-6600
301-871-6015 FAX
renee@clcmd.org

Har Shalom Early Childhood Education Center

Liram Laor
Potomac, MD 20854
301-299-7087 x1235
301-299-2247 FAX
llaor@harshalom.org

Har Tzeon-Agudath Achim Early Childhood Center

Sharon Wolfson, Director
Silver Spring, MD 20902
301-649-2348
301-649-3112 FAX
sbwolfson@comcast.net

Melvin J. Berman Hebrew Academy Nursery School

Rebecca Gautier, Director
Rockville, MD 20853
301-962-9400 x5129
301-962-3991 FAX
gautierir@mjbha.org

JCC of Greater Washington

Ganon Gil Full-Day Preschool
Ora Cohen Rosenfeld, Director
Rockville, MD 20852
301-348-3830
301-881-5512 FAX
rosenfeld@jccgw.org

Kehilat Shalom Early Childhood Center

Amy Snyder, Director
9915 Apple Ridge Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20886
301-869-1929
301-977-7870 FAX
asnyder@kehilatshalom.org

Ohr Kodesh Full-Day Preschool

Joanie Smeltz, Director
Chevy Chase, MD 20815
301-589-3880 x29
301-495-4801 FAX
okfullday@yahoo.com

Ohr Kodesh Early Childhood Center

Joanie Smeltz, Director
Chevy Chase, MD 20815
301-589-3880 x16
301-495-4801 FAX
jsmeltz@ohrkodesh.org

Shaare Torah Nursery School

Pam Gorin, Director
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
301-869-9842 x3
301-869-9842 FAX
pgorin@shaaretorah.org

Silver Spring Learning Center Nursery School

Debbie Ungar, Director
Silver Spring, MD 20902
301-649-1373
301-649-1274 FAX
director@silverspringlearningcenter.org

Temple Beth Ami Nursery School

Paula Sayag, Director
Rockville, MD 20850
301-762-5594
301-610-5827 FAX
pls@bethami.org

Temple Emanuel Early Childhood Center

Madeline Lowitz Gold, Director
Kensington, MD 20895
301-942-2000
Madeline@templeemmanuelmd.org

**Tikvat Israel Broadman-Kaplan Early
Childhood Center**
Rori Pollak, Director
Rockville, MD 20851
301-251-0455
301-424-4399 FAX
ecc.director@tikvatisrael.org

**Young Israel Shomrei Emunah
Nursery School**
Lianne Heller Director
Silver Spring, MD 20901
301-593-7365
301-593-7365 FAX
nurseryschool@yise.org

**Washington Hebrew Congregation
Rabbi Joseph Weinberg Early
Childhood Center**
Fran Miller, Director
Potomac, MD 20854
301-279-7505
301-354-3200 FAX
fmiller@whctemple.org



Jewish Day Schools in the Washington DC Area

Northern Virginia

Gesher Jewish Day School of Northern Virginia

4700 Shirley Gate Road
Fairfax, VA 220310
703-978-9789
703-978-2668 FAX
www.gesher-jds.org

Dr. Zvi Schoenberg, Head of School
zschoenburg@gesher-jds.org

Grades K-8. Accredited by the Virginia Association of Independent Schools (VAIS). Full curriculum of secular and Judaic studies. Federation partner agency.

Washington DC

Jewish Primary Day School of the Nation's Capital

6045 16th Street
NW Washington, DC 20011
202-291-5737
202-291-9750 FAX
www.jpds.org

Naomi Reem, Head of School
info@jpds.org

Grades K-6. Developmental, hands-on approach to Jewish and secular education. Federation partner agency.

Maryland

Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School

Lower School
1901 E. Jefferson Street
Rockville, MD 20852
301-881-1400
301-984-7834 FAX
www.cesjds.org

Upper School
11710 Hunters Lane
Rockville, MD 20852
301-881-1404
301-984-6453 FAX

Jonathan Cannon, Headmaster
Michael Kay, Principal (Upper School)
cesjds@cesjds.org

Grades K-12. All denominations. Full curriculum of secular and Judaic studies. Federation partner agency

Children's Learning Center Jewish Elementary School

4511 Bestor Drive
Rockville, MD 20853
301-871-6600
301-871-6015 FAX
www.clcmd.org

Renee Popkin, Executive Director
Dottie Harris, Director of Admissions
info@clcmd.org

Grades K-5, plus day care starting at 2 years. Pre-school and state certification.

Melvin J. Berman Hebrew Academy

13300 Arctic Avenue
Rockville, MD 20853
301-962-9400
301-962-3991 FAX
www.mjbha.org

Dr. Joshua Levisohn, Headmaster
Rabbi Avi Levitt, Upper School Principal
Rabbi Tzvi Klugerman, Middle School Principal
Mrs. Susan Koss, Lower School Principal
info@mjbha.org

Grades K-12, plus nursery school. Orthodox. Full curriculum of secular and Judaic studies. Federation partner agency.

Hebrew Day Institute

2200 Baltimore Rd.
Rockville, MD 20851
240-399-6100
240-399-6101 FAX
www.hebrewdayinstitute.org

Bini Silver, Head of School
bsilver@hebrewdayinstitute.org

Grades K-8, plus day care and preschool starting at 2 1/2 years. Full curriculum of secular and Judaic studies. Federation partner agency.

Hebrew Day School of Montgomery County

1840 University Blvd. West
Silver Spring, MD 20902
301-649-5400
301-649-9599 FAX
www.hdsmc.org

Rabbi David Serkin, Headmaster
hdsmc.office@verizon.net

Grades K-6. Orthodox. Full curriculum of secular and Judaic studies. Federation partner agency.

Sulam, Inc.
Housed at the Melvin J. Berman Hebrew
Academy
301-962-9400 x5523

Amy Werbin, Program Director
sulam@mjbha.org

Grades K-8. For Jewish students with
multiple disabilities (physical and learning)
who want to attend a Jewish day school.

Torah School of Greater Washington
2010 Linden Lane
Silver Spring, MD 20910
301-962-8003
301-926-9755 FAX
www.tsgw.org

Rabbi Yitzchak Charner, Headmaster
hlutch@tsgw.org

Grades K-6. Orthodox. Federation
partner agency.

Washington Hebrew Congregation
Primary School
11810 Falls Road
Potomac, MD 20854
301-279-7505
301-354-3200 FAX
www.whcecc-ps.com

Phyllis Shankman, Director
pshankman@whctemple.org

Grades K-2. Judaic and secular studies in
a Reform Jewish context.

Yeshiva of Greater Washington
www.yeshiva.edu

Boys' Division
1216 Arcola Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20902
301-649-7077

Girls' Division
2010 Linden Lane
Silver Spring, MD 20910
301-962-5111

Rabbi Yitzchak Merkin, Headmaster
Rabbi David Niman, Boys' Principal
Rabbi Zev Katz, Girls' Principal
Rabbi Gedaliah Anemer, Dean
info@yeshiva.edu

Grades 7-12. Orthodox. Full curriculum of
secular and Judaic studies. Federation
partner agency.



Congregations In The Washington Area

The metropolitan Washington area is blessed with a wide variety of religious institutions, from Orthodox to Humanistic Judaism. Check the Web sites of the synagogues, temples, and havurot in your area for tot Shabbats, family celebrations, parenting classes, and other enrichment programs.

Key:

O – Orthodox

C – Conservative

RF – Reform

RC – Reconstructionist

H – Humanistic

NA – non-affiliated

Ind - Independent

(number) – size of congregation

Northern Virginia

Agudas Achim Congregation

Alexandria, VA 22302
703-998-6460 • (550, C)
www.agudasachim-va.org

Beth Chaverim Reform Congregation

Ashburn, VA 20147
703-391-8669 • (120, RF)
www.bethchaverim.org

Beth El Hebrew Congregation

Alexandria, VA 22304
703-370-9400 • (689, RF)
www.bethelhebrew.org

Chabad Lubavitch of Alexandria

Alexandria, VA 22304
703-370-2774 • (85, O)
www.chabadaa.org

Chabad of Northern Virginia-

Congregation Ahavat Israel
3939 Prince William Drive
703-426-1980 • (150, O)
www.chabadva.org

Chabad at Tysons

Vienna, VA 22182
703-622-2953 • (O)
www.chabadtysons.com

Congregation Adat Reyim

Springfield, VA 22152
703-569-7577 • (320, C)
www.adatreyim.org

Congregation Beth Emeth

Herndon, VA 20171-2118
703-860-4515 • (460, C)
www.bethemeth.org

Congregation Etz Hayim

Arlington, VA 22204
703-979-4466 • (170, C)
www.etzhayim.net

Congregation Ner Shalom

Woodbridge, VA 22195
703-878-6904 • (115, RF)
www.nershalomva.com

Congregation Olam Tikvah

Fairfax, VA 22031-3199
703-425-1880 • (650, C)
www.olamtikvah.org

Congregation Sha'are Shalom

Leesburg, VA 20175
703-737-6500 • (125, C)
www.sha-areshalom.org

Congregation Yad Shalom

Clifton, VA 20153
703-579-6079 • (25, C)
www.yadshalom.com

Fairfax Kehilah

Fairfax, VA 22031
703-426-0723 • (20, O)
www.fairfax-kehilah.org

Ft. Belvoir Jewish

Military Congregation
Office of the Jewish Chaplain
Ft. Belvoir, VA 22060-5539
703-806-4196 • (50, Ind)

Havurat Ha-Neshama of Woodbridge/Dumphries

Services held in members' homes
703-680-4395

Kol Ami: The NOVA

Reconstructionist Community
Arlington, VA
571-271-8387 • (30, RC)
www.kolaminvrc.org

Northern Virginia Hebrew Congregation

Reston VA 20190-3830
703-437-7733 • (460, RF)
www.nvhcreston.org

Shoreshim

Reston, VA 20195
703-923-3424 • (50, Ind)
www.restonshoreshim.org

Temple Beth Torah

Centreville, VA 20122
703-263-2252 • (94, RF)
www.bethtorah.net

Temple B'nai Shalom

Fairfax Station, VA 22039-2523
703-764-2901 • (468, RF)
www.tbs-online.org

Temple Rodef Shalom
Falls Church, VA 22043-1719
703-532-2217 • (1,400, RF)
www.templerodefshalom.org

Washington, DC

Adas Israel Congregation
Washington, DC 20008
202-362-4433 • (1,700, C)
www.adasisrael.org

American Friends of Chabad Lubavitch
Washington, DC 20008
202-332-5600 • (O)
www.content.afldc.org

Bet Mishpachah
Washington, DC 20036
202-833-1638 • (GLBT, 325, C)
www.betmish.org

DC Minyan
Washington, DC 20036
(Trad)
www.dcminyan.org

Fabrangen Havurah
Washington, DC 20012
202-595-9138 • (108, Havurah)
www.fabrangen.org

Hill Havurah
Washington, DC
202-263-1910
www.hillhavurah.org

Kesher Israel Congregation
Washington, DC 20007-3340
202-333-2337 • (310, O)
www.kesher.org

**Machar-Washington Congregation for
Secular Humanistic Judaism**
202-686-1881 • (125)
www.machar.org

MesorahDC
Washington, DC 20001
301-807-2434
www.mesorahdc.org

Ohev Shalom-The National Synagogue
Washington, DC 20012
202-882-7225 • (327, O)
www.ostns.org

Rosh Pina
Washington, DC 20036
(Trad)
www.roshpinadc.org

Temple Micah
Washington, DC 20007
202-342-9175 • (450, RF)
www.templemicah.org

Temple Sinai
Washington, DC 20015
202-363-6394 • (1,110, RF)
www.templestinai.org

Tifereth Israel Congregation
Washington, DC 20012
202-882-1605 • (330, C)
www.tifereth-israel.org

Washington Hebrew Congregation
Washington, DC 20016
202-362-7100 • (3,067, RF)
www.whctemple.org

Zoo Minyan
202-360-4353 • (30, Ind)
www.zoominyan.org

Maryland

**Adat Shalom Reconstructionist
Congregation**
Bethesda, MD 20817
301-767-3333 • (475, RC)
www.adatshalom.net

Aish Hatorah
Rockville, MD 20852
301-881-9010 • (60, O)
www.aishdc.com

Am HaTorah Congregation
Bethesda, MD 20817
301-229-3132 • (20, O)
www.amhatorah.org

Am Kolel Judaic Resource Center
Bethesda, MD
301-309-2310 • (150, Ind)
www.am-kolel.org

Beth Joshua Congregation
301-962-9400, ext. 5560 • (O)
www.mjpha.org

**Beth Shalom Congregation and
Talmud Torah**
Potomac, MD 20854
301-279-7010 • (450, O)
www.bethshalom.org

**Bethesda-Chevy Chase Jewish
Community Group**
Rockville, MD 20852
301-230-3763 • (40, Ind)
www.bccjcg.org

Bethesda Jewish Congregation
Bethesda, MD 20817-3042
301-469-8636 • (215, Ind)
www.bethesdajewish.com

B'nai Israel Congregation
Rockville, MD 20852-4195
301-881-6550 • (1,300, C)
www.bnaiisraelcong.org

B'nai Shalom of Olney
Olney, MD 20832
301-774-0879 • (520, C)
www.bnaishalomofolney.org

Chabad of Bethesda/Chevy Chase
Bethesda, MD 20814
301-913-9777 • (O)
www.shalomchabad.com

Chabad of Germantown
Germantown, MD 20874
301-916-4483 • (O)
www.chabadgermantown.com

Chabad Israeli Center
Rockville, MD 20852
301-770-9012 • (O)
www.chabadisraelicenter.com

Chabad of Potomac
Potomac, MD 20854
301-983-4200 • (O)
www.chabadpotomac.com

Chabad of Silver Spring
Silver Spring, MD 20902
301-593-1117 • (O)
www.chabadsilverpring.com

**Chabad Lubavitch of Upper
Montgomery County**
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
301-926-3632 • (85, O)
www.OurShul.org

Congregation Bet Chesed
Bethesda, MD
301-881-4087 • (RF)
www.betchesed.org

Congregation Beth El of Montgomery County
Bethesda, MD 20814
301-652-2606 • (980, C)
www.bethelmc.org

Congregation B'nai Tzedek
Potomac, MD 20854
301-299-0225 • (650, C)
www.bnaitzedek.org

Congregation Ezras Israel of Rockville
Rockville, MD 20852
301-627-1104 • (45, O)
www.ezrasisrael.org

Congregation Har Shalom
Potomac, MD 20854-2297
301-299-7087 • (1,050, C)
www.harshalom.org

Congregation Har Tzeon-Agudath Achim
West Silver Spring, MD 20902
301-649-3800 • (450, C)
www.htaa.org

Congregation Or Chadash
Damascus, MD 20872
301-482-1025 • (122, RF)
www.cong-orchadashmd.org

Hevrat Shalom Congregation
Gaithersburg, MD
301-528-5307 • (50, C)
www.hevratshalom.org

Jewish Rockville Outreach Congregation (Jewish ROC)
Services held in members' homes
301-468-3881 • (Ind)
www.jewishroc.org

Kehila Chadasha
Silver Spring, MD 20905
301-309-2310 • (95, Ind)
www.e-kehila.org

Kehilat Shalom
Gaithersburg, MD 20886
301-869-7699 • (350, C)
www.kehilatshalom.org

Kemp Mill Synagogue
Silver Spring, MD 20902-1609
301-593-0996 • (350, O)
www.kmsynagogue.org

Kol Shalom Congregation
Rockville, MD 20852
301-493-8198 • (190, C)
www.kolshalom.com

Magen David Sephardic Congregation
Rockville, MD 20852
301-770-6818 • (200, O)
www.magendavidsynagogue.com

**The New Temple:
A Spiritual Center for All People**
202-994-6754 • (Ind)

**Ohev Sholom Talmud Torah
Congregation of Olney**
Olney, MD 20832-1816
301-570-8663 • (80, O)
www.ostolney.org

Ohr Kodesh Congregation
Chevy Chase, MD 20815-3897
301-589-3880 • (600, C)
www.ohrkodesh.org

Olney Kehilah
301-774-1926 • (Ind)
www.olneykehilah.org

Shaare Tefila Congregation
Olney, MD 20832
301-593-3410 • (350, C)
www.shaaretefila.org

Shaare Torah Congregation
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
301-869-9842 • (222, C)
www.shaaretorah.org

Silver Spring Egalitarian Minyan
Silver Spring, MD
301-613-7427 • (C)

Silver Spring Jewish Center
Silver Spring, MD 20902
301-649-4425 • (85, O)
www.ssjc.info

**Southeast Hebrew Congregation-
Knesset Yehoshua**
Silver Spring, MD 20901
301-593-2120 • (185, O)
www.sehc.us

Temple Beth Ami
Rockville, MD 20850
301-340-6818 • (1,260, RF)
www.bethami.org

Temple Emanuel
Kensington, MD 20895
301-942-2000 • (500, RF)
www.templeemanuelmd.org

Temple Shalom
Chevy Chase, MD 20815
301-587-2273 • (611, RF)
www.templeshalom.net

Tikvat Israel Congregation
Rockville, MD 20851
301-762-7338 • (470, C)
www.tikvatisrael.org

Woodside Synagogue-Ahavas Torah
Silver Spring, MD 20910
301-587-8252 • (145, O)
www.wsat.org

Young Israel Ezras Israel of Potomac
Potomac, MD 20854
301-299-2827-machine • (O)
www.yieip.org

Young Israel Shomrai Emunah
Silver Spring, MD 20902
301-593-4465 • (535, O)
www.yise.org

Young Israel of White Oak
Silver Spring, MD
301-681-4545 • (O)
www.yiwo.vze.com

Prince George's County

Beth Torah Congregation
Hyattsville, MD 20782
301-927-5525 • (100, C)
www.bethtorah.ws

**Chabad of College Park-
Baid Menachem**
Jewish Student Center
College Park, MD 20740
301-277-2994 • (O)
www.umdchabad.org

Mishkan Torah Congregation
Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-474-4223 • (150, RC)
www.mishkantorah.org

Oseh Shalom Congregation
Laurel, MD 20701
301-498-5151 • (342, RC)
www.oseh-shalom.org

Temple Solel
Bowie, MD 20716
301-249-2424 • (225, RF)
www.templesolelmd.org



Child Care Resources Jewish Daycare

Northern Virginia

Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia Early Childhood Program

8900 Little River Turnpike
Fairfax, VA 22031
703-537-3039
703-537-3089 FAX
www.jccnv.org

Amy Brinko, Director of Early Childhood Programs,
amyb@jccnv.org

Offering childcare from 6 weeks through 5 years. Federation
partner agency.

Newspapers

Washington Jewish Week

301-230-0472: Classifieds
Can advertise for help

Gazette Papers (Maryland), Connection Newspapers (Virginia),
The Journal, Silver Spring Record, Northwest Current, Potomac
News. www.gazette.net

Live-In Au Pairs

Au Pair-USA

1-800-287-2477, www.interexchange.org

Will find au pairs for families from 16 countries. Child care cannot exceed 45 hours per week. Au pair receives one weekend off per month and one and a half days off per week. Au pair has driver's license, speaks English, has child care experience. No heavy housework. Must have own room (no sharing of room with child). Host pays for air fare, salary, health, accident, and orientation.

Cultural Care Au Pair

800-333-6056, www.culturalcare.com

Recruits, screens and trains young women and men from all over the world to care for American children while living as a member of the family. The au pair program is designed to give young people an opportunity to experience the U.S. and provide quality childcare for American families. The program is carefully regulated by the U.S. Department of State, promotes international understanding and provides cultural exchange for everyone involved.

Au pairs are 18 to 26 years old, secondary school graduates, proficient in English and typically female (95%). They come from 40 countries on five continents. An au pair's childcare experience can range from babysitting to working in day care centers to teaching. They are interested in becoming au pairs to improve their English, experience life in the United States and care for children.



Other Jewish Resources

JiFFY (Jewish Information for Families and You)

JiFFY (Jewish Information for Families and You) is an e-newsletter listing of events and activities of interest to Jewish families. JiFFY is published five times per year; quarterly and a special issue for Chanukah. For more information or to subscribe, please contact Francie at Francie.kranzberg@shalomdc.org or 301-348-7313.

Celebrate in Your Home

The Partnership for Jewish Life and Learning

12230 Wilkins Avenue
Rockville, MD 20852
301-255-1944
www.pjll.org

Mara Bier
Early Childhood Education Consultant
mbier@pjll.org

Parents, grandparents, and friends of young children can now subscribe to this Jewish holiday early childhood newsletter series. The Partnership for Jewish Life and Learning is offering subscriptions at \$12.00 for a five-part series, or you can order two or more subscriptions (of the five-part series) at \$10.00 per subscription. Topics to be dealt with throughout the year include High Holidays, Shabbat, Tu B'Shevat, Books For the Jewish Home, and Israel Independence Day.



Other Resources for Parents

Publications for Young Families

The following publications may be found
at your local library:

Kids' Post

Washington Families
www.washingtonfamily.com

ParkTakes Guide for Fairfax County Parks

Washington Families
www.washingtonfamily.com

Potomac Children

Washington Parent
www.washingtonparent.com

Resources, Seminars, Websites and Workshops for Young Parents

Connect For Kids

www.connectforkids.com
Gives adults the tools and information
need to work on behalf of children

DC Urban Moms and Dads

www.dcurbanmom.com
Listserv and Web site formed by parents
for parents

Family Matters Parenting Magazine

www.parenting-child-development.com/

The Family Phone Book

<http://theparentpages.com/>
Directory of local resources

La Leche League

202-269-4444; 703-534-8548
www.llli.org
Breastfeeding support group

Mother and Baby Matters

703-620-3323
www.motherandbabymatters.com
Support group for 40ish moms

Mothers & More

www.mothersandmore.org

Mothers First Support Group

(703) 827-5922
www.mothersfirst.org
Group for mothers interrupting their
careers to raise their children at home

Our Kids

www.our-kids.com
Activities and resources for families in the
Washington metro area

PACE (Parent And Community Education)

www.pacemoms.org
Education and support to mothers and
babies from birth to six months

parentsconnect

[http://gocitykids.parentsconnect.com/
region/washington-dc-usa](http://gocitykids.parentsconnect.com/region/washington-dc-usa)
resources, activities and message boards
hosted by Nickelodeon

The Women's Center

703-281-2657; 202-293-4580
www.thewomenscenter.org
Offers workshops on parenting issues