



TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM

Tikkun Olam's Alt Gift Guide Hanukkah: Heal the World

As you gather together around the Hanukkiah, spin the dreidel, eat latkes and jelly doughnuts, it is important to remember that gift giving can be done in many ways.

In this spirit, we hope you will consider devoting one or more nights of Hanukkah to experiencing the joy of giving to others in need. Just as many candles can be lit from a single flame, we can add brightness to the lives of others and add deeper meaning to our own festive celebration.

This guide is a work in progress. If you have an organization that you would like to add, please let us know. □ tikkunolam@tba-ny.org

Thank you!



Around the World

American Jewish World Service www.ajws.org

AJWS fights hunger, disease and poverty in the developing world. AJWS offers service volunteer opportunities with a difference. AJWS advocates for global change.

URJ: Nothing But Nets urj.org/socialaction/issues/nets

Malaria kills. Nets save lives. Each year, 350-500 million people are infected with malaria. In Africa, more than one million of those affected die each year. This project is simple: purchases send one bed net to Africa to protect someone while they sleep.

GREAT TO DO WITH YOUR CHILDREN *

Heifer International - A Flock of Chicks for \$20 www.heifer.org

Heifer International's mission is to end world hunger and poverty and care for the earth. You pick an animal to purchase such as chicks, goats, pigs, or geese and Heifer International sends it to a family in a village in a third world country. Heifer's strategy is to "pass on the gift." As people share their animals' offspring with others – along with their knowledge, resources, and skills – an expanding network of hope, dignity, and self-reliance is created that reaches around the globe.

Make Donations to Worthy Causes in the Names of Your Friends and Families

www.mercycorps.org

Select from more than 20 "Mercy Kits": aid packages that support such causes as bringing clean drinking water to the Congo or aid to hungry children in Indonesia. You make a donation in someone's name and a card containing your message is sent to them.

Shop at an Online Charity Mall www.changingthepresent.org

Save an elephant or vaccinate a needy child. Designed like a charity shopping mall, this site offers causes to donate to. Choose one of its cards or design your own online and the card is sent directly to the recipient in whose name you have made the donation.

Help the Environment and Plant a Tree <http://www.arborday.org>

Money may not grow on trees, but it can help save them. This foundation will plant a tree in your recipient's honor.

Kiva: Loans that Change Lives www.kiva.org

Kiva is an online organization that connects small business owners in poor nations around the world with people like us, who might want to loan \$25 or \$50 to them and watch the difference it can make in their lives.

These loans help the world's working poor make great strides towards economic independence. Throughout the course of the loan (usually 6-12 months), you can receive email journal updates from the business you've sponsored. As loans are repaid, you get your loan money back.

Just Give.org www.justgive.org

This site has many different charities to give to all in one place. Browse around or put in a zip code, it's that easy. Gift cards are also available.

Jewish World Watch: Help Refugees www.jewishworldwatch.org

Jewish World Watch works to mobilize synagogues, their schools, their members and the community to combat violations of human rights around the world. Click On the Ground Projects, then Education to see what project the JWW is working on.

Get Your Hands Dirty

DOROT (hands on volunteering for Families) www.dorotusa.org

Dorot aims to mobilize volunteers of all ages to improve the lives of the elderly.

Make a birthday card for a senior. Click on Volunteer, click on Families, click on card making project. Also great for Bar or Bat Mitzvah party project.

Donate Your Time www.serve.gov

Have you been looking for an organization where you can volunteer, either individually or as a family? United We Serve is a government run website that lists volunteer organization by category e.g. arts, environment, education, health, and links you to organizations, events, information.

New York Cares www.newyorkcares.org

New York Cares is a nonprofit organization that brings vital volunteer support to more than 850 nonprofit agencies, public schools and other deserving organizations throughout the five boroughs. You could be needed to help paint a homeless shelter in the Bronx, take homeless children to a museum, teach computer skills to people looking for jobs, clean up a park, donate winter coats or do one of many other activities.

Local: Get Your Hands Dirty

Peabody Outdoor Classroom

<https://www.facebook.com/PeabodyOutdoorClassroom>

Peabody Outdoor Classroom is a 39-acre nature preserve owned by the Public Schools of the Tarrytowns, used for hands-on learning in the outdoors. The Peabody Outdoor Classroom relies on the support and involvement of our community to thrive. They need volunteers to help maintain the site and support the teachers and the students who use it.

Kathryn W. Davis RiverWalk Center

<http://www.scenicudson.org/parks/davisriverwalkcenter>

Click on Things To Do: Volunteer

Scenic Hudson spearheaded turning the historic 1926 Kingsland Point Park bathhouse into a center for river-based education and recreation on the planned 51-mile county RiverWalk. Atop the center, named for philanthropist Kathryn W. Davis, a pavilion offers an excellent place to picnic while enjoying spectacular Hudson River views. The historic Sleepy Hollow Lighthouse is adjacent to the park. For information about Kingsland Point Park, contact Westchester County Parks at 914-864-7000.

Riverkeeper <http://www.riverkeeper.org>

Click on Get Involved: Volunteer

Riverkeeper is a member-supported watchdog organization dedicated to defending the Hudson River and its tributaries and protecting the drinking water supply of nine million New York City and Hudson Valley residents.

Paws Crossed Animal Shelter <http://www.pawscrossedny.org>

Click on: Volunteer

On June 2nd, 2016 the Town of Greenburgh donated an animal rescue facility to Paws Crossed! They are overjoyed and honored to be gifted this property and for the opportunity to bring a true no-kill rescue back to Westchester.

Food Bank For Westchester

<http://www.foodbankforwestchester.org>

FBW has ongoing opportunities for volunteering in their warehouse. FBW is located in Elmsford, NY.

Local

Tarrytown Volunteer Ambulance Corps www.tarrytownvac.org

TVAC has served the Village of Tarrytown for over 30 years. It depends on donations from residents and businesses as well as insurance recovery. Click on the Donate Now button in the corner of the page.

Midnight Run Holiday Cards: Temple Beth Abraham

A \$10 card buys 20 pairs of socks; \$25 card buys 6 warm blankets for the homeless poor. The inside of the card reads: "Good will towards all...A contribution has been made in your honor of 20 new pairs of socks (or 6 warm new blankets) for the homeless poor." The back describes the Midnight Run. Email tikkunolam@tba-ny.org if you would like to purchase cards. The cards were designed by TBA congregant Sharon Kirschner.

Open Arms www.shelteringthehomeless.org/openarms.htm

Open Arms, a temporary shelter for the homeless that is in White Plains has many needs. Open Arms also accepts clothes such as coats, shoes, and boots. You can drop off the items at Open Arms, 86 Post Road, Mon to Fri 9-5 and on weekends, (914) 948-5044.

La Asociacion, Tarrytown, NY – Tarrytown, NY

This program provides services to low-literacy, low-income families with children from birth to age 7. Contact tikkunolam@tba-ny.org for more information.

Pass It On Kid's Kloset <http://www.wjcs.com/kids-kloset/>

Pass It On Kid's Kloset is a not-for-profit, volunteer-driven program affiliated with WJCS that provides Westchester County children and families in need with donated clothing and related items free of charge.

Community Food Pantry of Sleepy Hollow/Tarrytown

<http://www.communityfoodpantryshtt.org>

The Community Food Pantry of Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow serves community residents who are hungry with monthly grocery distributions. They serve about 220 families each month, including shut-ins. Clients most frequently find them by referral, from the Open Door, school social workers, and religious leaders.

MOSAIC of Westchester <http://mosaicofwestchester.org>

Mosaic of Westchester is spearheading a county-wide collaboration focused on integrating Westchester's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning (LGBTQ) Jews into the fabric of Jewish life, thus enriching the entire Westchester Jewish community.

Israel

Leket Israel: <https://www.leket.org/en/>

Leket Israel, Israel's National Food Bank

Serving as the country's National Food Bank and largest food rescue network, Leket Israel works to alleviate the problem of nutritional insecurity amongst the growing numbers of Israel's poor.

Jewish National Fund: www.jnf.org

JNF performs groundbreaking work to develop the land of Israel through a variety of multifaceted initiatives including planting trees and alleviating Israel's chronic water shortage.

Kibbutz Lotan: www.kibbutzlotan.com

Kibbutz Lotan is an Eco-Jewish intentional, collective community based on a creative approach to egalitarian Judaism and a deep commitment to environmental protection.

Neve Michael: www.nevemichael.com

Neve Michael, located in Pardes Hanna, Israel, serves 250 children ages 4-18 years old from all over Israel who were brought to their doorstep at a tender. Neve Michael Children's Village is the only multidisciplinary children's home in Israel.

More Great Organizations...

“As first world consumers we have tremendous power and what we collectively choose to buy or not to buy can change the course of life and history on this planet.”

Fair Trade Judaica <http://fairtradejudaica.org>

Fair Trade Judaica promotes fair trade as a Jewish value through educating the Jewish community, and expanding the production, distribution, and sale of fair trade Judaica products.

Help fight AIDS-Go Red www.joinred.com

PRODUCT RED was created by Bono and Bobby Shriver, to raise awareness and money for The Global Fund by teaming up with the world's most iconic brands to produce PRODUCT RED branded products. The concept was simple: raise money for needy charities through *for* profit purchases. The money helps people affected by HIV/AIDS in Africa.

MayaWorks www.mayaworks.org

MayaWorks markets the work of Mayan artisans who otherwise have no outlet for their handiwork. As a proud member of the Fair Trade Federation, MayaWorks pays artisans at prices they set, provides technical assistance and educational opportunities and meets other Fair Trade criteria. They support women and men striving to improve their lives. MayaWorks groups are organized in many Guatemalan villages because of the considerable strengths of Mayan women, their traditional weaving capabilities, their desire to learn modern business practices, and their determination to benefit their families and communities. Go to their website, learn, and shop!

Ten Thousand Villages: www.tenthousandvillages.com

Ten Thousand Villages searches the world to present a variety of beautiful fair trade items for sale. Over 100 artisan groups from 30 countries are involved, bringing jewelry, home décor items and unusual gifts for sale while paying the artists a fair wage and providing them the opportunity for a better quality of life.

Mirembe Kawomera Ugandan Fair-Trade Coffee: www.thanksgivingcoffee.com

Perform a mitzvah with every cup! Drink Fair-Trade Organic Kosher Mirembe Kawomera Ugandan Coffee! Grown by Abayudaya Jewish coffee farmers and their Christian and Muslim neighbors. Contact tikkunolam@tba-ny.org with questions.

Terrapass: www.terrapass.com

The first step you can take to fight global warming is to reduce your carbon footprint through conservation. Use TerraPass to balance the emissions you can't reduce. When you buy a TerraPass, your money funds clean energy and efficiency projects such as wind farms.

CardsThatGive.org: <http://www.greetforgood.org>

This is a non-profit site where you can buy greeting cards sold by many different charities. If you are going to purchase holiday cards, make that purchase count!! There are some charities that imprint cards and envelopes too.

Waka Waka: <http://us.waka-waka.com>

1.3 billion people around the world - a quarter of humanity - have no access to electricity, and hundreds of millions more face regular blackouts. The effects of this energy poverty are enormous. WakaWaka ('Shine Bright' in Swahili) develops, manufactures and markets high-tech low-cost solar powered lamps and chargers that are indispensable products both in the developing world and in the West.

Easy Ways to Give to Temple Beth Abraham

Do you shop online?

Goodsearch: www.goodsearch.com and/or www.goodsearch.com/goodshop

Choose Temple Beth Abraham as your charity and use goodsearch.com as your search engine. Each time you search, a donation will be made to TBA.

Before you make an online purchase, go to goodshop and search for the business. A donation will be made to TBA if you purchase from the business.

Shop at Amazon.com!: <http://smile.amazon.com>

Here's an easy one! TBA will receive a percentage of purchases you make from Amazon.com when you go to the above link and input Temple Beth Abraham.

Donate directly on TBA's website: <http://tba-ny.org/donate/>

These resources were originally compiled by Susan Weinstein and Kimberly Marcus. This has been edited by Kimberly Marcus.