

THE SISTERHOOD ADVISOR

Handbook for Sisterhoods

Women's League

The network for all Conservative Jewish women

Women's League & Sisterhood

The partnership enriching Jewish women worldwide



WOMEN'S LEAGUE FOR CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

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THE SISTERHOOD ADVISOR

A Handbook for Sisterhoods

A publication of
WOMEN'S LEAGUE FOR CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

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THE SISTERHOOD ADVISOR

Welcome to the all new *Sisterhood Advisor* - with its focus on helping build stronger and more vital sisterhoods.

While there are many different names for the groups that are affiliated with Women's League, since the majority are called *sisterhoods* we will use that term throughout the book to represent our sisters in the Conservative/Masorti movement.

Sisterhood is the place that offers women of all ages what they are looking for today: personal growth, community and fun!

While we recognize that each sisterhood is unique, we know that whether we live in the east, west, north, south, in the United States or Canada, we have much in common. *The Sisterhood Advisor* is designed to help give each sisterhood's leadership team the tools to be more successful. Everything – well, almost everything – you wanted to know about sisterhoods is in these pages. And if it's not in here, we've shared resources of where to find answers to your questions.

Always start with our website, www.wlcj.org, where you will find even more information and resources, including this book (so you can share it easily with your team). If you have not already visited, please put it on your to-do list. There are pages on the site just for sisterhood members that you will want to access. If you need assistance, please contact Women's League Administrator Razel Kessler at 212.870.1260, ext. 1263 (rkessler@wlcj.org).

Share *The Sisterhood Advisor* with everyone on your executive committee and let them know it is available on the website. Coming soon will be new Women's League materials to share with your membership. Combined with *The Sisterhood Advisor*, you will have the tools to lead your sisterhood in exciting new directions and make it the place to be for every woman in your synagogue.

Did you know?

If you can't find what you need on the pages of *The Sisterhood Advisor*, be sure to look at the new www.wlcj.org, under RESOURCES or call 212.870.1260.



SISTERHOOD STRUCTURES

Start with the basics

Every sisterhood is different and changes over time. A sisterhood's structure should accommodate fluctuations in membership to continue to be relevant.

For some sisterhoods, a traditional president, officers, and board committees work fine. For others, a more flexible or creative approach may be necessary if facing loss of membership, lacking leadership, or just doing the same thing year after year without success.

While the next few pages of *The Sisterhood Advisor* describe the traditional structure of officers and committees, if your sisterhood is not traditional, you might want to try one of these to reflect the women in your community.

- **Rotating sisterhood leadership** could be done on a quarterly basis with several caveats: it should not be onerous for those who need to know who is doing what and when; and the changes in leadership should not cause confusion. Try for seamless transitions.
- **Co-president succession.** Each is elected for two years with staggered election years so that each senior co-president has a junior co-president who will succeed her in the second year (with a new junior co-president).
- **Executive committee members form working partnerships** with brand new and seasoned veteran members to allow for sharing of new ideas. There would always be a flow of new women learning about new things or doing things differently and promoting greater communication.
- **Two to three past leaders step back up, but act in a mentoring capacity** to build leadership succession and provide historical insight.
- **Committees without chairs** Create working teams of three to five women for all the important areas of your sisterhood: membership, Torah Fund, fundraising, communications, and programming. The work will get done and no one will be overwhelmed by being the specified leader at all times. Different women in the team take charge when addressing different issues within the workload.

Take a serious, strategic look at your sisterhood, its demographics, programming needs, finances, goals and aspirations in a realistic way. Determine goals for

SISTERHOOD STRUCTURES

one and two years in the future and hold those who take the job accountable for the work promised.

Reconsider your sisterhood mission statement. If you don't already have one, invite a team of women (both active and inactive members) from your congregation to create a vision that will reflect a connection to each other, to other members of the congregation and to the community-at-large.

Women's League Consulting Services (see page 17) is available to help you redesign your sisterhood for results.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Some sisterhoods thrive when they facilitate special interest groups (SIGs) for the women in their congregations.

Here is just a **sampling** of topics:

Yoga Torah Night Learn to Layn	The Israel Connection
Adult Bat Mitzvah	Computer Literacy
Theater Group Museum	Religion in American Life
Mavens Rosh Chodesh	Women's Health
Study Famous Jewish	Jewish Girl Scouts
Women Special Person	Interfaith Activities
& Me Math Skills for	On-Line and On-Time
Toddlers Kosher	Between the Generation
Cooking	Dealing with Infertility
Spa Splurge	On Being a Caregiver
Israeli Dancing	Coats for Kids
Investment Club	Bikkur Holim
Creating New	MADD
Rituals/Enhancing Old Ones	Sharsheret
The Sandwich	Book Group
Generation	Short Story Group
News & Views	Local Community-based
Reading Readiness and Tutoring	Social Action/Tikkun Olam projects

MISSION STATEMENT

A sisterhood mission needs to be reviewed every three to five years. Use one of these sample statements to help formulate one for your sisterhood.

Sample #1

The mission of _____, affiliated with Women's League for Conservative Judaism, is to strengthen and unite the women of the synagogue and support them in efforts to understand and perpetuate Conservative/Masorti Judaism in the home, synagogue and community and reinforce their bonds with Israel and Jews worldwide. We accept the Jerusalem Program, the platform of the World Zionist Organization.

Sample #2

The mission of _____ is to provide an interactive environment for its members; support the congregation, its youth and religious school; enrich the Jewish education and ties with Israel of its members; and support and unite with Women's League in the understanding and perpetuation of Conservative/Masorti Judaism. We accept the Jerusalem Program, the platform of the World Zionist Organization.

Did you know?

Women's League's *Divrei Hokhmah* units of study can be led by anyone, no training, skills, or previous knowledge necessary! These modules were designed to open a meeting or program with brief but cogent (and sometimes provocative) discussions, and are updated. All you need to do is ask one person to lead the discussion.



- Mishpachah: The Modern Jewish Family I & II
- Conversation Starters
- Derekh Eretz: R.E.S.P.E.C.T.
- Hiddur Mitzvah: Enhancing Mitzvot
- Pirkei Imahot: The Wisdom of Our Mothers
- The Environment
- Kol Ishah
- Heart and Soul
- Proverbs
- The Ten Commandments

Download all of these at www.wlcj.org/Resources

SISTERHOOD LEADERSHIP

PRESIDENT OR PRESIDIUM

Your role as a Women's League sisterhood president offers many rewards and challenges. You will motivate, inspire, coordinate, supervise, encourage, and lead your sisterhood to success.

To effectively lead, you need to prepare for the challenges ahead.

- Know your sisterhood structure through your by-laws. (Sisterhood model by-laws are available at wlcj.org.)
- Meet with your predecessor to benefit from her experience and practical knowledge.
- If sharing the leadership position (co-president or member of a presidium), divide the responsibilities and determine the logistics. Develop a workable communication model.
- Meet with the members of your executive committee to discuss objectives, goals and strategies for the year.
- Familiarize yourself with Women's League materials.
- Join the Women's League PrezNet, the on-line discussion group for sisterhood presidents. Email womensleague@wlcj.org.

To effectively lead you need to accept responsibility. Understand, though, that you need not be without assistance. Women's League will be there with you.

- Appoint all activity chairs and teams or committees who were not elected.
- Provide good tools for your chairs or team leaders, including Women's League materials, job descriptions, and the report of the person who previously held the position. The by-laws can be helpful.
- Be sure that all board members have the calendar for the year, the names, addresses, phone numbers, emails and positions of all board members.
- Read all information from Women's League and your region and **share it**.
- You are not a solo leader. Have a communications protocol with your vice presidents and/or team leaders who are your eyes and ears.
- Respond to your members in a timely manner.
- Everyone in sisterhood is a volunteer and fits their volunteering into busy schedules. Thank them!
- Time is valuable so make meetings worthwhile.

- Serve on all committees, with the exception of nominating, as an ex-officio member; vote only to break a tie. Allow the chair to lead; that's why she's the chair.
- A good leader works to replace herself by encouraging future leaders.
- Be a role model; your attendance at Shabbat services, region meetings and conferences encourages others.
- Represent sisterhood on the synagogue board.
- Your role as president automatically establishes you as a member of the region board. Take advantage of all that your region has to offer.

To effectively lead you should take advantage of the many Women's League services. To do so, please:

- Complete your Women's League profile online so that information can be sent to your chairs.
- Pay per capita on a timely basis.
- Answer emails and phone calls when they come.
- Clear dates for any sisterhood event so that you do not conflict with region or Women's League events.
- Share your successes with the region; they want to *kevell* with you.
- Attend conferences, meetings and convention and encourage others to join you; they are opportunities to learn, share and teach.

What Women's League asks of your sisterhood:

- Keep your membership list up-to-date through the Women's League data base
- Pay your per capita on time
- Participate in the Torah Fund campaign
- Contribute to the Women's League Masorti Women's Project

RUN EFFECTIVE MEETINGS

- Create and distribute an agenda ahead of time.
- Notify everyone who needs to make a report and ask that the report be in writing. Reports should not be read at the meeting, but rather discussed.
- Work with your parliamentarian.
- Begin and end on time.
- Stay neutral; vote only to break a tie.
- Begin with *Divrei Hokhmah*; set the environment for study, learning, and cooperation.

SISTERHOOD LEADERSHIP

LEADERSHIP LIBRARY

Women's League has produced a substantial set of publications designed to help with every aspect of running a sisterhood.

If you do not have these, you can download them (as well as other useful materials) at www.wlcj.org. You will need to log on with a password to access these titles:

- Sisterhood Planner: How to Design a Year of Programs
- Ways to the Means: A Guide for Planning Successful Ways & Means Projects
- Image Plus Public Relations Handbook
- Blueprint for Membership

Other suggested titles:

- Hiddur Mitzvah Project: A Fresh Approach to Enhancing Mitzvot
- Guidelines for Rosh Chodesh Groups
- Seasonal Materials to Enhance Your Holiday Celebrations
- Membership Magnets 1, 2, 3
- Parliamentary Guide for Sisterhoods
- Model Bylaws for Sisterhoods
- Days of Study

In addition, you should read and utilize (also at www.wlcj.org):

- Toward Sisterhood Success Bulletins
- Wellness & Learning Network installments
- Mishpachah: The Modern Jewish Family materials



Jewels in the Crown Awards

Keep track of all of your successful programs and initiatives and you might be a winner of the next Jewels in Crown awards.

You can find the winners from Convention 2017 and their programs at www.wlcj.org. Take a look for suggestions for your sisterhood calendar.

STANDARDS OF LEADERSHIP

As a religious organization affiliated with the Conservative/Masorti movement, Women's League recognizes its responsibility to its membership to formulate ideals of leadership that can serve as a standard toward which we can all strive.

In this spirit, we set forth the following cornerstones of commitment and observance, consistent with the halakhah of the Conservative movement:

- Shabbat and yom tov observance
- Jewish study
- Kashrut
- Tzedakah
- Synagogue attendance
- Israel

Ascending achievement in personal Jewish development is the ultimate goal for our membership. It is our express hope that our leadership will provide the model for others to emulate.

SHARING WITH WOMEN'S LEAGUE

In order to benefit from your Women's League affiliation, it is important that Women's League has an accurate picture of your membership and chairs in your sisterhood, formerly called a Sisterhood Profile. The easiest way to do that is via the Women's League database using "Manage Positions."

Presidents, financial officers, and data managers all have access to the data base for each sisterhood. You can name a data manager to maintain your sisterhood per capita list, update member information, create spreadsheets, mailing labels and e-mail lists, etc.

Please be sure that you, or your data manager, keep your sisterhood profile up-to-date, and Women's League will then be able to share this information with the appropriate members of your sisterhood.

If you need help accessing the website and database, please contact Razel Kessler, 212.870.1260, ext. 1263 or rkessler@wlcj.org.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The officers and other members of the executive committee all have portfolios of responsibilities. The committee meets at the request of the president(s), who acts as chair. The committee's function is to present recommendations to the board for action.

Who is on the executive committee?

- President(s)
- Vice presidents
- Corresponding secretary
- Recording secretary
- Financial secretary
- Treasurer
- Immediate past president
- Presidential appointments

The president may invite to an executive committee meeting any member whose presence may be pertinent to, or necessary for, the business under discussion. The president may speak and vote as any other member.

Members of the executive committee should:

- Read the sections of *The Sisterhood Advisor* that pertain to the committees under their aegis.
- Understand the roles and responsibilities of any chairs under their portfolio.
- Collect all materials from their predecessors.
- Be familiar with the Standards of Leadership (p.5)
- Be familiar with the basic tenets of Conservative Judaism.
- Convey the message of sisterhood, region, Women's League, and Conservative Judaism.
- Support region and Women's League programs.
- Use the Women's League **Hebrew Word Guide** for the correct Hebrew spelling, translations, transliterations, and pronunciations.

Responsibilities of the executive committee

- Maintain close contact with the president.
- Attend region and area meetings.
- Attend Women's League convention.
- Consult with parallel region officers.
- Represent the president in the community when asked.
- Before installation, deliver to their successors all materials.
- Perform other duties as required.

VICE PRESIDENTS

A vice president is responsible for the administration of areas of activity assigned by the president.

- Coordinate the chairs of the different activity committees that report to her
- Meet with chairs during the summer to plan and organize projects. Meet with them regularly during the year to evaluate their progress and to assess/reorganize for the future.
- Make sure that their chairs receive updated portfolios.

RECORDING SECRETARY

Recording secretaries maintain the history of the organization by taking accurate minutes and keeping records current, to prevent misunderstandings and satisfying policy.

- Record minutes of all meetings.
- Understand how the board works and the responsibilities of the various chairs.
- Send copies of all minutes to the president before the next meeting.
- Keep records of meeting attendance.
- Maintain a policy book that records all motions passed, listed by date and subject matter. Send copies to the parliamentarian and president.

COMMUNICATIONS (CORRESPONDING) SECRETARY

The communications secretary is responsible for sending out meeting notices, maintaining a presence on the synagogue website, and mailing bulletins and other information.

- Notify members of all meetings.
- Conduct all correspondence on official stationery or email. Update stationery, if necessary.
- Read *excerpts* of important correspondence at meetings.

BUDGET FOR SUCCESS

One of the best gifts you can give your sisterhood is active participation in Women's League conventions, region conferences, and Leadership or Z'havah Institutes. There should be a line item on your sisterhood budget for presidents as well as up-and-coming new leaders to attend these essential events.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

It is the responsibility of the financial secretary to maintain the financial records of sisterhood.

Remember that the fiscal year runs July 1 to June 30.

The financial officer has direct access to the Women's League data base for your sisterhood and can do much of the record keeping directly on the data base.

In billing dues, use the suggested statement (next page).

For help, ask the sisterhood/congregation's accountant for assistance.

- Receive all monies from members and other sources. Keep detailed records.
- Turn all monies over to the treasurer; provide her with records and retain receipted duplicates.
- Arrange for dues collection and turn them over to the treasurer, who issues a receipt for the money.
- Record dues received; bill as necessary (see Appendix I).
- Report regularly on income and status of members.
- Serve on the budget committee.
- Keep transparent records of all accounts between the organization and its members.
- Maintain a separate record of per capita dues, which are payable to Women's League by the treasurer on January 10. Any additional per capita that comes in after that date should be sent to Women's League on collection.
- Correct and update membership data on the Women's League data base.

TREASURER

- Receive all monies from the financial secretary, record all receipts, make deposits, keep records of monies due.
- Pay all bills by check countersigned by the president, upon receipt of a voucher signed by the president.
- Disburse all monies as directed.
- Report in full regarding all monies requested.
- Cooperate with the synagogue's fiscal review procedures.
- Submit the books to the authorized synagogue accountant for audit before the end of the fiscal year on June 30.
- Serve on the budget committee.

PARLIAMENTARIAN

The parliamentarian interprets the bylaws and advises the president, without bias, helping to assure orderly procedures. She does not make decisions. The parliamentarian is the chair of the bylaws revision and policy committee. The region parliamentarian should be consulted before a sisterhood takes any action to change its bylaws or policy.

- Facilitates the orderly transition of business.
- Protects the rights of members to propose ideas, speak, vote, serve, nominate, and be candidates.

Resources

- Women's League Parliamentary Guide
- Model Bylaws for Sisterhoods
- Women's League Guide for Sisterhood Nominating Committees

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Serve as the sisterhood's policy-making body.
- Represent sisterhood in the synagogue and community.
- Develop new leadership.
- Support Women's League and transmit information and materials from Women's League and region to members.

What board members should know

- The objectives of sisterhood and its mission
- Sisterhood policies
- The relationship among sisterhood, region and Women's League

Duties of board members

- Approve the budget.
- Serve on committees as assigned.
- Support programming and fundraising projects.
- Attend meetings.
- Work toward the Standards of Leadership.
- Attend synagogue services regularly.
- Be active in sisterhood and region.
- Attend region and area meetings and events.
- Participate in the Torah Fund campaign.

EX-OFFICIO DIRECTORS

- The rabbi, cantor, and educational director, or their wives, should be ex-officio members of the board with full power of voice and vote.

BUILDING SISTERHOOD

Make the most of your sisterhood statement

To let your members know what they can expect from sisterhood, include with the dues statement:

- Sisterhood or synagogue brochure
- List of officers with contact information
- Description of projects supported by sisterhood
- Calendar of events
- List of ongoing sisterhood activities and programs
- Show the added value of membership in Women's League
- Short survey asking what they are looking for in sisterhood

**[Name of Sisterhood]
Affiliated with**

Women's League for Conservative Judaism

Member's name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Address _____

Membership Dues for 20____/57____: \$_____*

Make check payable to _____ Sisterhood

Mail to: _____, Financial Secretary

Address: _____

*Dues include per capita to Women's League for Conservative Judaism.

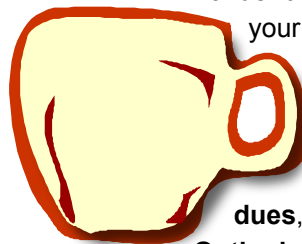


WOMEN'S LEAGUE FOR CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM represents you at major Jewish, international, national, religious, and public policy organizations.

_____ **Region** offers area meetings, personnel, workshops and training services.

Making Free Membership Profitable

Offering a new member of your synagogue a **free first year of sisterhood** is a wonderful way to introduce her to your organization.



By including her on the Women's League membership list and **paying her per capita**

dues, she will receive **New Outlook for Women's League**,

Published 2-3 times a year, and she will find a voice in the largest women's synagogue-based organization in the world.

Download the brochure **How To Make Free Membership Profitable for Everyone** at www.wlcj.org.

PER CAPITA

Per capita dues fund Women's League administration, programs, and materials. The per capita rate for sisterhood members was raised in 2013 to \$15 per member.

Per capita is payable for each member, whether regular, life, courtesy, ex-officio, or honorary.

For your convenience, you should do all updates to your per capita data online.

Check the names of newly enrolled members to keep billing records complete.

Make deletions and changes of address on the data base as they occur throughout the year. Send per capita payment for any new members.

Sisterhoods are responsible for all members listed on the membership database as of December 31.

SAMPLE SISTERHOOD BUDGET

	PAST YEAR	PROJECTED
SISTERHOOD INCOME		
Membership dues (includes Women's League per capita)	_____	_____
Judaica Shop (net)	_____	_____
Fundraising Projects (itemize) such as donor, thrift shop, dinner dance (net)	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
Contributions (Funds, Tributes, Individual)	_____	_____
Other Income (itemized)	_____	_____
TOTAL SISTERHOOD INCOME	_____	_____
TORAH FUND RECEIPTS **		_____

TOTAL INCOME		_____

EXPENDITURES		
Per Capita dues paid to Women's League	_____	_____
(Per capita monies should be kept in a separate account. They are due January 10.)		
Torah Fund** Disbursements	_____	_____
(**Torah Fund monies should be sent directly to the Torah Fund office or kept in a separate account.)		
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Stationery and printing	_____	_____
Postage	_____	_____
Supplies	_____	_____
Telephone	_____	_____
Publicity and Bulletin	_____	_____
Meeting expenses	_____	_____
Publications and books	_____	_____
Membership	_____	_____
Programming and Education	_____	_____
Other _____	_____	_____
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	_____	_____
PRESIDENT'S EXPENSES		
Women's League Convention Fund (budgeted yearly)	_____	_____
Region Conferences and Meetings	_____	_____
Community functions	_____	_____
TOTAL PRESIDENT'S EXPENSES	_____	_____
EXPENSES for MEMBERS		
Women's League Convention	_____	_____
Region Conferences and Meetings	_____	_____
Training (Leadership Institutes, etc)	_____	_____
TOTAL EXPENSES for MEMBERS	_____	_____

SAMPLE SISTERHOOD BUDGET

	PAST YEAR	PROJECTED
COMMITMENTS TO CONGREGATION		
Annual line-item congregation budget	_____	_____
Additional commitments (kiddush, pulpit flowers, etc.)	_____	_____
Special projects (itemize)		
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
TOTAL COMMITMENTS TO CONGREGATION	_____	_____
YOUTH/SCHOOL		
Youth Activities (USY, Kadima, Ramah, college outreach)	_____	_____
Religious School (parent/teacher meetings, holiday celebrations, etc.)	_____	_____
TOTAL YOUTH/SCHOOL	_____	_____
GIFTS (new members, life cycle events, illness, condolence)		
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
TOTAL GIFTS	_____	_____
CONTRIBUTIONS		
Scholarship Funds (itemize) (eg: Ramah, USY, Solomon Schechter Day School)		
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
Masorti Israel/Overseas Women's Groups	_____	_____
Other Women's League appeals	_____	_____
Other _____	_____	_____
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	_____	_____
MISCELLANEOUS		
Contingency Fund	_____	_____
Other _____	_____	_____
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	_____	_____
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	_____	_____
INCOME LESS EXPENDITURES	_____	_____

SISTERHOOD COMMITTEES

Sisterhood, like Women's League, can function as either teams or committees.

- **Teams:** all members of the team share responsibility and lead in their area
- **Committees:** have a chair who is responsible

Each sisterhood is unique and has different ways to meet the needs of its membership and potential membership. Here are some suggestions for committees:

BOOKS

- Book discussion group that meets regularly
- Enters into a partnership with Judaica shop to promote Jewish reading
- Encourages sisterhood members and their families to read books and periodicals of Jewish content

Resources at WWW.WLCJ.ORG:

- BookMarks
- Orpah's Annual Selections
- Book Corner
- Women's League Reads

Other resources

- Jewish Book Council (www.jewishbookcouncil.org)
- Association of Jewish Libraries (www.jewishlibraries.org)
- Jewish Review of Books

BUDGET & FINANCE

Budgets help a sisterhood determine the funds needed for activities and to anticipate the income to fund them and should reflect all the needs for the year. The committee should include the treasurer, financial secretary and vice presidents affected by the budget.

The budget should be prepared at the end of the fiscal year for the next year. A balanced budget should be presented to the board of directors for approval and should include the actual expenditures and income from the previous year.

Contributions:

All funds collected by, and on behalf of, sisterhood should be reserved for it and its congregation. Women's League requests that you set aside specific funds for Masorti Women (see next column) as well as for other causes from time to time. Contributions

to organizations not related to Women's League or requested by Women's League should be limited to **token amounts** and allocated only upon direction of the board of directors.

CREATIVE JUDAIC ARTS

Encourage members to create family heirlooms and promote an appreciation of Judaic arts and crafts and *hiddur mitzvah* (embellishment of a mitzvah).

Resources at WWW.WLCJ.ORG:

- An expansive selection of instructions for a wide variety of creative projects
- *The Women's League Hiddur Mitzvah Project*

DEVELOPMENT/FUNDRAISING

Guide the sisterhood to fundraising events that are in keeping with the ideals of Judaism; primary purposes are educational, cultural and inspirational; must satisfy the local regulations and be approved by the rabbi.

Resources at WWW.WLCJ.ORG:

- Ways to the Means

ISRAEL

Women's League is committed to the support of Israel with a multi-faceted program:

- Love of Israel is inherent in our tradition, and a component of our bylaws
- Education about Israel
- Economic independence
- Political and financial support for the Masorti (Conservative movement)
- Tourism and aliyah
- Political advocacy
- Women's League supports Mercaz and the Masorti Foundation
- Support of the new bat mitzvah program for girls and their mothers

Just One Dollar: Each sisterhood is asked to make a contribution equal to one dollar per member. Fundraising can involve passing a pushke at an event, or it could be a fundraiser unique to your Sisterhood. Donations will fund the annual **Masorti Women's Days of Study**, as well as vital projects for the 60+ Masorti kehillot (congregations). Sisterhoods are urged to send donations to the WLCJ office and note "Annual Masorti Donation." A complete list of kehillot, with contact information, appears in the WL calendar diary, and on the website, www.wlcj.org.

SISTERHOOD COMMITTEES

JUDAICA SHOP

- To educate and to serve the community by its selection of ritual objects and gifts, educational materials and resources
- To be a business enterprise
- Partners with other chairs to enhance sisterhood
- Should stock Women's League material

MEMBERSHIP

The role of the membership committee is to recruit, reclaim and retain new and ongoing members.

Remember, all activities are membership activities... and membership is a never-ending activity!

Resources at WWW.WLCJ.ORG:

- Blueprint for Membership
- Sisterhood Program Planner
- Z'havah Planner
- Membership Magnets 1, 2, 3
- How to Make Free Sisterhood Membership Profitable for Everyone!
- Reaching Out to Your Sisterhood Membership

MITZVOT

- Programs for mitzvah-based activities that cover many interests and holidays
- Team approach allows one woman to be responsible for one holiday
- The Women's League Hiddur Mitzvah Project and Mitzvah Yomit: A Daily Mitzvah are invaluable resources
- Special events could be a Women's Seder, Vashti's Banquet, Ushpizot, or a Day of Study

Did you know?

Kolot BiK'dushah is the cadre of Women's League members who are qualified to lead services and read Torah and Haftarah.



NOMINATIONS

The nominating committee identifies the leadership that will direct and strengthen sisterhood. It is elected by the membership or appointed by the president. Members should be familiar with the abilities of the general members. The chair should have a copy of your current bylaws so she can be familiar with your procedures.

The committee has an uneven number of members, including the chair. Potential candidates for office should not be on the committee. The president is not a member and does not attend the meetings.

Responsibilities of the nominating committee:

- At the first meeting, the parliamentarian should clarify bylaws and policy.
- Between elections, assist the president in filling any vacancies that arise. These appointees serve until the end of the president's term.
- Inform Women's League and your region nominating committee chair of any changes on the board during the year, or when vacancies are filled.
- Honor the confidential nature of the committee.
- Consider candidates by their performance of duties, attendance at meetings and synagogue services.
- Leaders in sisterhood should act as role models. See Standard of Leadership, on page 4.

Establishing a slate:

- Nominate a candidate for president first.
- Consult with the current president and her nominated successor.
- Ask for suggestions from the membership.
- Provide nominees with descriptions of their schedules, obligations and exact job descriptions.
- The bylaws determine the number of officers, elected board of directors, appointees and term.

Resources:

- The training services department is prepared to assist any nominating committee.

Resources at WWW.WLCJ.ORG:

- Nominations Guide for Sisterhoods
- Creative installation scripts

SISTERHOOD COMMITTEES

PUBLIC POLICY

Public policy is integral to the Women's League program. Sisterhoods should use the materials they receive from Women's League in planning activities and social action campaigns. They should also respond to action alerts. Following Women's League policy, they should participate in local and national affairs.

To keep members up-to-the-minute on issues and events of interest to them in our ever-changing world, Ba'Olam is emailed out regularly with direct links to articles and commentary. Link to it via the website.

Resources at WWW.WLCJ.ORG:

- Women's League Resolutions
- Guide to Writing Women's League Resolutions
- Guide to Voter Registration
- Guide to Writing Advocacy Letters

PUBLIC RELATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS

The communications committee encourages the participation of your membership through brochures, invitations, flyers, bulletin ads and articles, internet, and Facebook. Public relations is a way to reach out to all Jewish women and communicate with the community about your sisterhood and its activities.

Using social media to attract and connect:

Social media is another way to communicate to the people you value in the format they are already using. What a great way to engage people in what is happening in your sisterhood.

Online and current: If your synagogue has an online discussion group, be sure sisterhood has a constant presence and voice.

Resources at WWW.WLCJ.ORG:

- Toward Sisterhood Success Bulletin 4 is a complete review of current social media
- Image Plus Public Relations Handbook
- Graphics and information

Follow Women's League and what's happening in other sisterhoods on Facebook.

TIKKUN OLAM

Jewish values require us to take an active part in the community. Each sisterhood knows its community best and can choose accordingly. Suggestions include:

- working with the disabled in the synagogue;

- giving to both Jewish and community-based charities, but not as their fundraising arm.

Resources at WWW.WLCJ.ORG:

- The Mitzvah of Bikkur Holim
- Giving Tzedakah with Thought
- Yom Yarak: Green Day

Other resources:

- Mazon (a Jewish response to hunger)
- COEJL
- www.charitynavigator.org and www.ljgooders.com

TORAH FUND

Supporting the schools of higher education in the Conservative movement is an overarching role for Women's League and its affiliated sisterhoods.

The roles of the Torah Fund committee in a sisterhood:

- Help reach the goal set by the region Torah Fund vice president and region president
- Educate the membership about Torah Fund and the schools/programs it supports
- Inspire members to contribute to Torah Fund

Resources: Torah Fund provides the necessary information. For information, please call the Torah Fund director at 212.678.8876

Torah Fund contributions should be deposited in a separate account and forwarded monthly to:

Torah Fund/Jewish Theological Seminary
3080 Broadway, New York, NY 10027

YOUTH LIAISON

- Between sisterhood and synagogue committees
- Keep sisterhood informed of activities and bring sisterhood concerns to the committees

CANADIAN POLICY AND ADVOCACY

The Canadian Policy & Advocacy Committee of Women's League deals with issues relevant to Jewish life in Canada, but that is by no means its sole purpose.

Canadian sisterhoods should encourage members to join MERCAZ Canada: Mercaz-masorti@interactivepages.com

WHAT YOUR REGION DOES FOR YOU

WOMEN'S LEAGUE REGIONS

Sisterhoods affiliated with Women's League are organized into 13 local regions. The regions are vital links in our network.

When you connect to your region, Women's League can bring you even more services in the most effective way possible. Regions have volunteers who are available and willing to assist the chairs in your area and sisterhood.

Every sisterhood president is automatically on the region board. By participating in your region, your whole sisterhood benefits!

Highlights of the region structure

Your sisterhood plays an integral role in improving communications between your members and other sisterhoods in your region.

Your region team can be a great asset as you become comfortable in your role as president. They are experienced sisterhood women who are ready, willing and able to help you succeed. Working with this team will help you assess your sisterhood's needs and identify what services will benefit you the most.

Who is on the region team?

- Region president
- Region area vice president or sisterhood support vice president (depending on the structure of your region)
- Your local area director or a representative of the region board assigned to your sisterhood

Your sisterhood's support team

The region leaders are part of your region's support system, your first line of defense. They hopefully live close enough so that they can provide effective and personal service to you and your sisterhood team. They are experienced in sisterhood and region and can get you the information you need quickly.

We encourage a member of your region team to communicate with you every 6-8 weeks. She will also help create networking opportunities for you with other sisterhoods in your area and region. We encourage video or conference calls, as well as face-to-face meetings when geographically feasible. If you have not heard from a representative of your region, please contact your region president. Her email can be found on the website under regions.

Benefits of your region

Your sisterhood has much to gain from your region: assistance in building membership, speakers, consulting services, bulletins, and more. It is to your benefit to become an active member of your region board. Similarly, invite region officers and chairs to your programs to get to know them so that they can become familiar with your sisterhood.

The area director/sisterhood support team is your link to your region and to Women's League but you are the one who makes this connection work! Region personnel will work with you to solve challenges and resolve issues, or put you in touch with those who can be most helpful.

Sisterhood responsibilities to the region

- Clear sisterhood dates with the region calendar.
- Attend all region meetings and functions and encourage others to join you.
- Publicize all region events and meetings on your website, Facebook page, eblasts, and at all events.
- Encourage sisterhood members to attend region events.
- Budget funds for you and other members to attend region and Women's League events.
- Read and respond to region mail, email and calls.
- Disseminate information received from the region to your membership. Remember, in most cases you are the *only* one receiving this information and we are counting on you to share it!

Region events

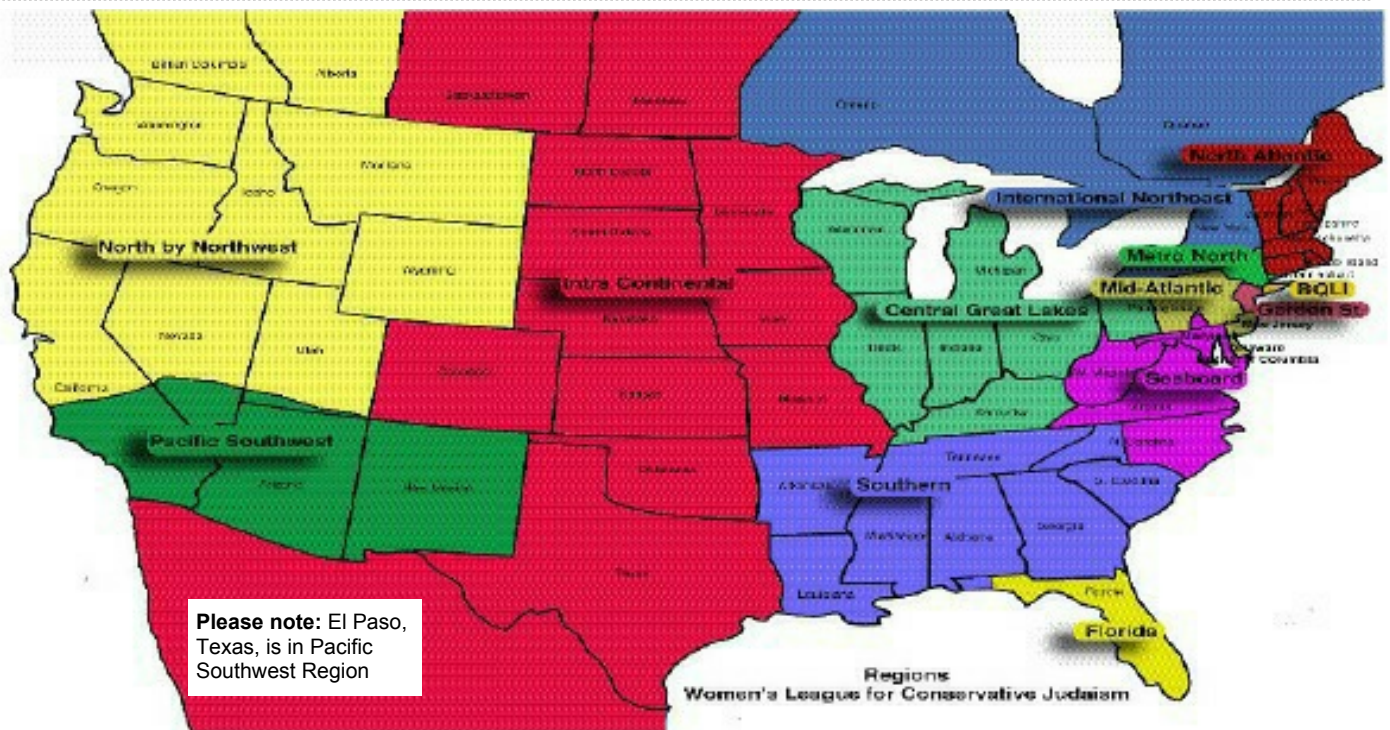
Each region provides conferences and meetings throughout the course of the year. These are opportunities for you to meet other women in your position and to share ideas and solve challenges. Be sure that you or other representatives from your sisterhood attend. These are opportunities for you to connect to your region and learn from others.

Call, call, call

Your region is there to help you and to celebrate with you and to share some of the burdens in the bad times. Let them know what's happening in your community so they can share the news.



REGION MAP



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT REGIONS

No one from my region is contacting me. Why would that be?

There could be several reasons. First, you should check that your online Women's League profile is correct (login to wlcj.org and click on Update My Profile) and that you have opted in to receive emails from Women's League. Women's League and your region find out who holds which position when a sisterhood president or data manager fills out the online data for your sisterhood using this information. If the profile does not have correct phone numbers and/or email addresses, then your region president and chairs can't contact you. All contact information is secure with Women's League.

Of course, as in all volunteer organizations, at times a volunteer may not be doing all that she could/should be doing. If that is the case, Women's League can help; call 212.870.1260. Our goal is to strengthen communications with each sisterhood president and her board members.

Why should I forward our region's Shabbat e-mail? Our women are inundated with emails.

Each region's Shabbat e-mails contain pertinent information about events on the region and national levels. They include events that sisterhoods in your area/region are planning so your sisterhood women can participate. By forwarding the email to your membership you are connecting your sisterhood to the larger network of Women's League and its regions. Hopefully a member will read about something that resonates with her. It happens all the time! The more women find out about an event or project, the more they will participate.

How does my sisterhood benefit when we attend region meetings?

Think back to your days in a youth group. Remember the connections with others in your area, region or nationally? That connection enabled you to network, share ideas and *bring them home*. Women's League is the same. We are looking for new ideas, and those can come from the women in your region. The region structure is there for your support, whether as consulting services, fundraising ideas, new program/membership suggestions so that you are not planning the same events year after year, or simply to be a part of something larger. Every sisterhood has its good years and not so good years; your connections to your region ensure that you have awesome years!

CONSULTING SERVICES

Be sure that your sisterhood is getting everything it can from Women's League. Put your per capita dues to work and let Women's League provide the services necessary to maintain a strong, healthy and vibrant sisterhood.

Invite a Women's League consultant into your sisterhood for an on-site seminar. These seminars are designed to energize your sisterhood by enhancing individual skills, motivating members, and expanding involvement.

Or you can choose to meet with a consultant in a smaller group or even one-on-one to troubleshoot or deal with a one-time issue.

All consulting services are led by professionally-trained volunteers. No remuneration is permitted. A consultant's travel and hotel expenses are paid by Women's League. Sisterhoods are responsible for meals and transportation to and from the airport and hotel.



Choose from these topics or confer with your consultant
to design a seminar for the specific needs of your sisterhood

Communication & Social Media: The various delivery systems to help you reach *all* of your members and potential members

Goal Setting/Strategic Planning: Set up a committee to envision your sisterhood's future. Create a reasonable action plan for success

Leadership Development: Identify and develop new leaders

Membership: How to recruit and retain members

Dealing with Sisterhood Challenges: Facing challenges in a volunteer environment

Sisterhood & Synagogue Community: Work effectively with other leaders in your synagogue

Team Building: Involve more women and have them work together successfully

Sisterhood 101: Basic procedures for operating effectively and how Women's League can help

MORE ON THE TRAINING SERVICES MENU

Mentoring

The mentoring program begins with a one-on-one telephone conversation between a consultant and a sisterhood president to provide support and ideas, to answer questions, or to help solve an issue.

Conference Calls

Upon request, a specialized consultant or director will work with your sisterhood president, leaders or committees on a variety of topics or concerns.

Distance Workshops

Using the technology of conference calls and webinars advice, tips & tricks, and first-hand experience come directly into your home. You will be able to apply your new knowledge in your sisterhood immediately. Check www.wlcj.org for the new schedule.

Leadership Institute

Recognizing the importance of developing knowledgeable and energizing leaders to strengthen sisterhoods, Women's League created the Leadership Institute. Designed to enhance personal growth, reinforce a commitment to Conservative Judaism and strengthen leadership capabilities, the Institutes welcome new, potential, and developing leaders. Leadership Institutes are offered throughout North America on a rotating basis. Check www.wlcj.org for the next institute.

PrezNet

Network with other sisterhood presidents and share information, exchange ideas and solve common problems. Join the forum open to sisterhood presidents only by writing to womensleague@wlcj.org

REQUEST FOR CONSULTING SERVICES

Women's League seminars are designed for sisterhood officers, board members and future leadership whose attendance at the Seminar will benefit your sisterhood. A Women's League Consultant will develop your sisterhood's personal training seminar.

You can sign up for a seminar directly on the website at www.wlcj.org or fill out this form and return it to Women's League.

A seminar requires 2½ hours. Check two to three topics per seminar.

Each session is customized to meet the needs of your Sisterhood.

☐ Communications & Social Media

☐ Dealing with Sisterhood Challenges

☐ Goal Setting/Strategic Planning

☐ Sisterhood & Synagogue Community

☐ Leadership Development

☐ Sisterhood 101

☐ Membership

☐ Other _____

☐ Team Building

Complete this form. **Please print.** Mail or fax it at least six weeks in advance of the dates requested.

Please list three possible dates.

[1]Date_____ Time_____ [2]Date_____ Time_____ [3]Date_____ Time_____

Sisterhood _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Region _____ Anticipated attendance _____

Seminar to be held at _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

President/Contact Person _____ Position if not president: _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ E-mail _____

Mail or FAX to: **Women's League for Conservative Judaism, Consulting Services**
475 Riverside Drive, Suite 820, New York, New York 10115
fax: 212.870.1262

THE ULTIMATE NETWORK: WOMEN'S LEAGUE & SISTERHOOD



Networking to engage, enrich and empower Conservative Jewish women

The mission of Women's League for Conservative Judaism is to strengthen and unite synagogue women's groups and their members as well as individual members; support them in mutual efforts to understand and perpetuate Conservative/Masorti Judaism in the home, synagogue, and community; and reinforce their bonds with Israel and with Jews worldwide. Women's League accepts the Jerusalem Program, which is the platform of the World Zionist Organization. [For a description of the Jerusalem program, go to www.wlcj.org]

What per capita dues do for your members

Women's League provides many intangibles, such as an international network of Conservative women, a voice in world Jewish bodies, opportunities to become leaders on the regional and national level, as well as services and materials:

- Services to sisterhoods for an effective organization
- Educational and programming material for learning and a variety of social and cultural activities
- Administrative materials such as *The Sisterhood Advisor*, *Ways to the Means*, and *Blueprint for Membership*
- New Outlook for Women's League, sent to all members three times a year
- Consulting Services
- Leadership Training Institutes
- Publications
- Conferences, symposia, meetings, and conventions

Social Action

Thanks to the numbers of our membership, Women's League is a respected voice at several international organizations. You can find a complete list of the organizations we support or which we are members of on page 22.

Women's League sends periodic "Action Alerts" via e-mail to its members on issues relevant to Conservative/Masorti Judaism and women on the world scene.

Managing sisterhood online with the Women's League data base

Sisterhood presidents, financial officers and data managers have direct access to the information about their sisterhood on the Women's League online data base. You can update your per capita lists and sisterhood profiles directly. You can use the system as your own sisterhood data base.

Download the most recent guide to using the data base on the homepage of www.wlcj.org

On the upper pink band of the homepage of www.wlcj.org click on **Login** to access the information about your sisterhood. If it is your first time logging on or if you have forgotten your password, click on the appropriate button on the bottom. Otherwise, enter your email (the one Women's League has on file, please!) and password.

You will see two lists of options. To the left is your personal information, which should be updated.

On the right you will see **Sisterhood List Access**. This information is solely for the use of *your* sisterhood and should not be shared.

Women's League is greening

Out of respect for our environment and in keeping with our commitment to *tikkun olam*, Women's League's preferred method of communication is through e-mail and our website. If you would prefer to receive information via the mail, please contact Razel Kessler, Administrator, at 212.870.1260, ext. 1263.

Publications

For a full selection of the educational, programmatic, and inspirational Women's League materials in print,

CONNECTIONS

WWW.WLCJ.ORG

From the home page, download the guide for sisterhood presidents. The guide has all the information you need to access your sisterhood data.

On the site there are two important sections for sisterhoods, under RESOURCES:

- **Resources for Friends and Members** does not require a password. You will find most of the Women's League educational and study materials, Creative Judaic Arts patterns, resolutions, and much more.
- **Resources for Sisterhood & Region Administration** requires a password (if you don't have one, contact Razel Kessler, rkessler@wlcj.org/ 212.870.1260, ext. 1263, immediately). This is where you will find materials designed just for sisterhoods, including Blueprint for Membership, Image Plus, publicity graphics, and useful forms.

Women's League hosts several online discussion groups to meet the needs of our various constituencies. You are invited to participate in whichever meets your needs, but we strongly recommend the PREZNet for all sisterhood presidents. To participate in any, send an email to womensleague@wlcj.org.

WLCJNet

Members participate in online discussions about sisterhood and region business, share ideas, and learn how others deal with similar problems and situations.

PREZNet

Network with other sisterhood presidents and share information, exchange ideas and solve common problems online. Open to sisterhood presidents only.

Judaica Shops

Very active discussion of the needs of Judaica shop chairs, including affordable merchandising and recommendations for reliable vendors.

Mothers and Friends of American Olim

Any Women's League member who is a mother of an Israeli, or a friend of one, may join this group. Discussions cover personal experiences, requests for assistance and camaraderie.

New Outlook for Women's League

Our latest publication, New Outlook is designed for our members and features articles on hot topics, profiles of fascinating sisterhood members (let us know about someone in *your* sisterhood), holiday stories and much more. It will arrive in mailboxes 2-3 times a year.

Mishpachah:

The Modern Jewish Family I & II

The goal of the Mishpachah project is to recognize the diverse character of our Jewish families and to encourage our communities to be pluralistic, welcoming, inclusive and open-hearted to all.



Women's League is offering materials that focus on a variety of subjects affecting

today's families: diversity, continuity, identity, conflict, and celebration. There is truly something here for everyone and sisterhoods can use any number of elements for programming, study, social action, and more.

Wellness & Learning Network



Each month we present opportunities for women to learn about their own health and wellness as well as to engage in Jewish study.

The Wellness & Learning Network was born from

understanding the complex relationship between physical and emotional/ spiritual well-being. A new set of readings is presented every Rosh Chodesh, when women are encouraged to take a minute for themselves to focus on their own health needs and to consider a complimentary piece of Jewish study on the subject.

As the project moves ahead, we welcome contributions and involvement. If you would like to participate, please email Barb Levin at barbL11@aol.com. This is an organic and growing project, and your ideas are important.

Get your members to be active and engaged members of the **WOMEN'S LEAGUE NETWORK**

The best way for your members to enjoy the added value of their membership in Women's League for Conservative Judaism is to join our online network. They will find out about the many programs, projects, materials, and more that are available. Ask your members to follow these simple steps to authorize Women's League to share with them via email. They'll be glad you did, and you will find that they just might be more involved members of sisterhood.

1. Go to www.wlcj.org
2. Click on the box that says Women's League Network and send us your name.
3. We'll take care of the rest.

TIPS TO GET THE MOST FROM WWW.WLCJ.ORG



Click for our Facebook page. Sign in and like us



Click for our Twitter Page. Sign in and follow us



Click to see more menu choices



To get back to the home page, click on the white Women's League logo on the top of the page

There are four menu topics with drop down choices: **About, Member Services, Programs, Resources.** These will bring you into the heart of the website. At the bottom of each page is an Index with all of the subtopics listed

Search this website

Search box: be specific when looking for information. If it doesn't work at first, try different wording (*Women's League Shabbat* rather than *Sisterhood Shabbat*)



Click to reload the page when adding or changing data (e.g. on sisterhood database)



Click to go back to previous page; hold down to see complete history of what pages you already viewed



AND NOW WE HAVE AN APP!

Use your smart phone to access everything Women's League, including a calendar, sisterhood locator, ordering department, your sisterhood data (for presidents, financial team and data managers only), and more. Download from the App Store or Play Store.



The Women's League Torah Fund Campaign supports the Jewish Theological Seminary (New York), Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies (Los Angeles), Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies (Jerusalem), Seminario Rabinico Latinoamericano (Buenos

Aires), and Zacharias Frankel College (Germany). All funds raised go toward developing, strengthening and maintaining these schools, providing scholarships and funding programs.

The Torah Fund Campaign began in 1942 as a scholarship fund. In 1963, it merged with the Mathilde Schechter Residence Halls campaign that provided housing for undergraduate students. In time the campaign identified needs and raised funds for specific projects, including:

- Women's League Educational Pavilion
- Women's League Seminary Synagogue
- Mathilde Schechter Residence Hall Renovation
- Goldsmith Hall
- Residence Halls at American Jewish University
- JTS Quadrangle
- JTS Library bookshelves
- Schechter Institute Sculpture Garden

The Role of the Torah Fund Committee

At the beginning of each year, sisterhoods receive their fundraising goal. This goal is determined by the region president and Torah Fund vice president based on the previous year's donation and other factors. Sisterhoods should strive for 100 percent participation from their executive committee and board of directors and encourage participation from every member. Each year sisterhood Torah Fund vice presidents or chairs receive materials that include guides and examples of fundraising letters. The region Torah Fund vice president is in regular communication with sisterhood chairs, serving as a resource.

Benefactor's Pin for 2017-2018

Mah tovu, which means "how good!", is a phrase that originates in the Torah, in Numbers 24:5. Quoted in our prayer book, it forms the basis of the opening prayer that is sung when we enter the synagogue.



The full phrase is Mah tovu ohalecha Yaakov, mishk'notecha Yisrael, "How goodly are your tents, O Jacob, your dwellings, O Israel!" It is a spontaneous exclamation of joy and appreciation, said when gazing at the nation of Israel, dwelling in peace and mutual respect. As we celebrate the beginning of the 100th year of Women's League for Conservative Judaism and the end of the 75th year of the Torah Fund Campaign, we count our many blessings as individuals within the community of Israel. We are blessed in our synagogues with depth of learning, prayer, and acts of kindness that bind us together; with communal leaders who are thoughtful and learned; with children and grandchildren who make us smile; and with the love of family and friends — especially our Women's League sisters — who are such a strong support to us.

How good are all these blessings in our lives!

The pin, featuring the number 100 in raised letters and encased in a silver frame, is a treasured keepsake of the Women's League centennial celebration to wear with pride!

For additional information contact:

Rabbi Lilly Kaufman,
Executive Director Torah Fund
3080 Broadway
New York, NY 10027
likaufman@JTSA.edu 212.678.8876

BRINGING YOU INTO THE WORLD COMMUNITY

Our representation on and/or support of these organizations enables us to:

Enrich Jewish Cultural Life

Schechter Day School Network National
Ramah Commission American Jewish
Historical Society Girls Scouts
of the USA
Jewish Federations of North America
Jewish Book Council
JBI International
The Jewish Museum
Jewish Women's Archive

Support Israel

Masorti Foundation for
Conservative Judaism in Israel
MERCAZ USA and MERCAZ Canada,
Zionist arms of the Masorti Movement
Masorti congregations
Kibbutz Hanaton
Moshav Shorashim
American Zionist Movement
Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish
Organizations
Jewish Federations of North America
Israel Bonds
Neve Hanna Village for Children & Youth



Encourage Social Responsibility

Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA)
National Coalition Supporting
Eurasian Jewry
Justice for Jews from Arab
Countries
Religious Network for Equality
for Women (RNEW)
Office of Public Information of the U.S.
United Nations Association of the USA
State Department of Non-
Governmental Organizations
Religious Coalition for
Reproductive Choice
Sharsheret
Coalition to Stop Gun Violence
GreenFaith
Sharsheret
I Support the Girls
Fisher House

Perpetuate Conservative Judaism

Jewish Theological Seminary
Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies Schechter
Institute, Jerusalem
Seminario Rabbinico Latino Americano
Leadership Council of Conservative Judaism
United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism
Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs
Masorti Olami
Kibbutz Hanaton
Zacharias Frankel College

As members of a sisterhood affiliated with Women's League, you are encouraged to become involved with these organizations and to call on them for materials, consultations, resources, and speakers. You can use materials from any of these organizations.

Women's League accepts the **Jerusalem Program**, which is the platform of the World Zionist Organization. Find the full description of the Jerusalem Program on the Women's League website, www.wlcj.org.

Washington Representative

A representative in Washington, D.C. represents our members at government functions as well as at meetings of national and international organizations.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE TEAMS AND DEPARTMENTS

Women's League is structured into departmental teams to facilitate services to regions, sisterhoods and members. The following is a list of the teams, with the name of the responsible director with her phone number and email address. The main phone number is 212.870.1260.

Administration

Team Leader: Margie Miller
212.870.1260, ext. 2155, mmiller@wlcj.org
Personnel: Ellen K. Bresnick
ebresnick@wlcj.org
Parliamentarian: Shelley Szwabbenest
Policy: Cory Schneider
WL Nominations: Carol Simon
csimon@wlcj.org
Region Nominations: Barbara Safer
bsafer@wlcj.org

- Budget & Finance
- Convention 2020
- Development
- Kol Ishah Leadership Development Campaign
- Nominations
- Parliamentarian
- Past Presidents Council
- Per Capita Collection
- Personnel
- Strategic Planning
- WLCJ 100th Anniversary Celebration

Membership

Team Leaders: Sue Taffet and Sue Bengel

- Sisterhood Affiliation
- Individual Members
- Sisterhood Retention

Education

Team Leader: Barbara Ezring
bezring@wlcj.org
Women's League Reads: Vivian Leber (Vice President)
vleber@wlcj.org
Health/Wellness: Barb Levin (Vice President)
Personal Conversations: Renee Glazier
Program Activity: Karen Seltzer
Tikkun Olam: Rhonda Cohn

- Archives
- Books
- Creative Judaic Arts
- Jewish Studies
- Judaica Shops
- Keruv
- Kolot BiK'dushah
- Membership in Sisterhoods
- Program Activities Committee
- Program Resources
- Tikkun Olam
- Ways and Means
- Women's League Institutes
- Wellness & Learning Network
- Z'havah

Social Action

Team Leader: Marjorie Fuhrmann
mfuhrmann@wlcj.org
Vice President: Debra Bruce (Israel Team Leader)
dbruce@wlcj.org

- Mishpachah: The Modern Jewish Family
- Special Projects
- Communication Service
- Women's League Cares
- Ba'Olam
- Canadian Public Policy
- Environment
- Public Policy
- Social Action
- Washington Liaison

World Affairs

Team Leader: Lucy Becker (Vice President)

- Resolutions
- Canadian Affairs
- UN NGO
- Partner Organizations
- Ba'Olam
- Israel
- Masorti Women International
- United Nations NGO

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Torah Fund

Team Leader: Randy Schwartz
rschwartz@wlcj.org
Director: Rabbi Lilly Kaufman
JTS/3080 Broadway New York, NY
10027
212.678.8876
likaufman@jtsa.edu

Services to Sisterhoods

Team Leader: Sandy Berenbaum
sberenbaum@wlcj.org

- Consulting Services
- Consulting Personnel
- Distance Workshops
- Leadership Institute
- Judaica
- Preznet
- Ways & Means
- Affiliation
- Area Services
- Region Conferences
- Region Services
- Retention
- Sisterhood Support

Region Services

Team Leader: Debbi Green
dgreen@wlcj.org

- Region Conferences
- Region Advisers
- Sisterhood Support
- Region Nominating
- Region Budgets

Communications

Team Leaders: Lara Werwa and Elly Sokol
lwerwa@wlcj.org, esokol@jetbiz.com
Internet: Lois Silverman
lsilverman@wlcj.org
Website: Cathy Leonard
cleonard@wlcj.org
WLCJNet: Martha Katz-Hyman
Director: Erica Slutsky
212.870.1260, ext. 2157, eslutsky@wlcj.org

- CJ Magazine, CJVoices.org
- Individual Membership
- Internet Services
- Marketing
- Past Presidents Council
- Publications
- New Outlook
- Social Media
- Website, region websites
- WLCJNet