

**Jewish Agencies of Western Massachusetts
Wish List
January 2012**

Agency	Program	Amount Requested
Anna P. Housen Israel Desk	<p>Israel Teen Emissary Program Two highly trained and energetic post High School informal educators will spend 10 months in the area from August 2012 to June 2013. The purpose is to strengthen ties between the people of Western Mass and the people in our P2K partnership community – the Afula Gilboa region. The emissaries will build living bridges through people-to-people connections. They will share their energy and allow the enthusiasm of Israeli youth to permeate all parts of the Valley.</p> <p>Up to four (4) sponsorships needed for blocks of time at Jewish and non-Jewish institutions in all parts of the Valley. The sponsorship will pay for the cost of one emissary to spend up to four working hours a week for 10 months at a qualifying institution(s) of the donor’s choice.</p>	\$2,500.00 (per sponsorship)
Beit Ahavah Northampton	<p>Shirah b’Shabbat – Musical Shabbat Services & Offerings to the Community A series of spiritually uplifting Shabbat and weekend musical programs offered by Beit Ahavah. Our growing synagogue and musical Rabbi have shown great skill and passion for bringing spiritually uplifting Jewish musical offerings and innovative musical guests - spanning the greater Valley region to Jerusalem - to our Shabbat and holiday services, as well as Saturday night and weekend concerts and programs. We hope to continue to inspire with our unique mission and penchant for music as a synagogue</p>	\$500-\$4,000
Beit Ahavah Northampton	<p>“Choshev Machshev” – Computer Enhanced Hebrew Language Learning in our synagogue Hebrew Studies program A “Choshev Machshev” or “Think Computer” station of three laptop computers will be created in our Beit Ahavah Community School where students will utilize software and internet capabilities with guidance from a teacher to greatly enhance learning Hebrew, both conversational/modern and prayerbook Hebrew. We tested this project this year with a borrowed computer, and students flourished. Three refurbished laptops and creative, dynamic and interactive Hebrew software will allow students of different learning styles and levels to become engaged with Hebrew through interactive media. This venture follows research from Taglit-Birthright CEO Gidi Mark and Birthright Director of Education Barry Chazan in their recent charge to the American Jewish community to bring the Israel-trip’s most positive experience of “breathing Hebrew oxygen” to the American Jewish community and create a vibrant American Hebrew culture, starting in our Religious School environment.</p>	\$2,500
Congregation Sons of Zion	<p>Tree of Life. Sons of Zion maintains a Tree of Life to honor its members for a variety of activities in support of the synagogue. As the current tree is full, they would like to add a new Tree of Life to continue the tradition.</p>	\$3,000

Heritage Academy	<p>iPads for Inquiring Middle School Students' Minds Each Middle School student will receive an ipad, which will be integrated into all subject areas. This will allow students to make use of the most modern of technologies—allowing them to access people and information around the world and get immediate feedback. This would cover the purchase of 10 iPads.</p> <p>The educators and administrators are in full support of this bold initiative and will match the grant in our 2012-2013 school year budget</p>	\$5,000
Heritage Academy	<p>Interactive Science textbooks for Middle School New science textbooks for our middle school classes which would include additional on-line assignments and video. Our current textbooks are from 1991 and are outdated.</p>	\$4,890.27
Hebrew High School of New England	<p>Accreditation HHNE is seeking accreditation by the prestigious New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). This self-reflective process will allow HHNE to become an even more attractive option for Jewish teens. The total cost, which will be \$8-10,000, involves an initial fee, hosting the visiting committee, secretarial and faculty development time.</p>	\$5,000
Hebrew High School of New England	<p>Director of Development Search Now that HHNE has moved into a modern, state of the art educational facility, to ensure its continued success, the Board has agreed to focus on building a strong and sophisticated development office. We are therefore seeking a professional and skilled director who will lead our annual, endowment, and capital campaigns.</p>	\$2,500
Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts	<p>PJ Library® Every month when a PJ Library book arrives in the mail, the mailing sends a very powerful message to our families and that message is, “we, the Jewish community know about you and we care about you.” We are seeking funding to help cover the cost of books and programming. We have about 500 children receiving PJ Library books and our funders will be featured in the gift tagline which appears on the outside of every PJ Library envelope and will also be featured in other publications.</p>	\$3,600.00
Jewish Geriatric Services	<p>Alternative Therapies Program at JGS Across our campus JGS has implemented Alternative Therapies in an effort to promote wellness and improve resident/client quality of life. A licensed massage therapist spends one day a week offering a yoga class at three of our service sites: The Julian J. Leavitt Family Jewish Nursing Home, Wernick Adult Day Health Care Center, and Ruth’s House, our assisted living residence. She spends one day a month offering massage therapy to our residents at Ruth’s House, as a module of our monthly Spa Day. Complementary or alternative therapies, such as massage, therapeutic touch, gentle yoga, strength and balance training, breath work, and relaxation techniques focus on improving one’s overall sense of good health and well-being. These programs promote wellness and increase feelings of health and positive self-image. JGS seeks funding to help underwrite the cost of the massage therapist</p>	\$5,000

Lander~Grinspoon Academy	<p>Computer lab on wheels LGA does not have the room to have its own computer lab and yet we feel that it is becoming more and more of a necessity to bring technology in substantial ways to our students. We are in the midst of a potential redesign of our library space that would make the space more for multipurpose use. One of the ideas is to have 8-12 laptops that are easily transportable to any space in our school.</p>	\$3,000 - \$5,000
Lander~Grinspoon Academy	<p>“Are you smarter than a Smart Board?” LGA would like to buy four interactive white boards for use in four classrooms. Our teachers have been doing some research and feel that the interactive white boards would be easy to learn and enhance the learning going on in the classrooms.</p>	\$5,000
Lubavitcher Yeshiva Academy	<p>Library/Technology Enhancement The computer in our school library is dated and doesn't function well. There is a collection of 6,000 titles in the LYA library and all books are less than ten years old. The library is all automated. The inventory, circulation and cataloging are all computer based. A new computer for the library will make the library more efficient and things will run smoother.</p> <p>In addition, the computers in the school library are dated. Purchasing three new computers for student use in the library will allow students to enhance their research skills and allow them to receive the full benefit of the school library</p>	\$800 \$2,400
Lubavitcher Yeshiva Academy	<p>Network Server The school's network server is dated. The server shuts off intermittently, access to the internet is limited, file backups are aborted and memory space is limited. We would like to purchase a new network server for the benefit of the entire school. It is the backbone of the entire network.</p>	\$5,000
Rachel's Table	<p>There are a number of kosher families in our area who need food assistance and therefore, Rachel's Table has recently begun a Kosher Food program. As there is no agency that specifically provides kosher food to these families, RT believes that it is our responsibility to take action. Our plan is to provide a certain type of food (produce, protein, nonperishable food, nutritious snacks, shelf stable milk, etc.) to these families each month. Food will be held at B'nai Torah for distribution by area rabbis and JFS staff members. The number of times during the year that we are able to purchase the food directly depends on the amount of funding we receive. We have already begun receiving small donations to support this effort.</p>	\$3,000 - \$5,000

Sinai Temple	<p>Before There was Facebook, There Were Chavurot...Building Community At Sinai Temple</p> <p>In order to strengthen community, Sinai Temple hopes to create a series of chavurot in the congregation. Chavurot (from the Hebrew 'chaver,' meaning friend or fellowship) are small groups of Temple members who join together to share Jewish experiences, celebrate holidays, study, or perhaps just socialize. Chavurot are a person-to-person way for "personalizing" Jewish identity.</p> <p>To organize this program, we seek to hire a part-time coordinator over a two year period (3 hours a week for 40 weeks a year). Having surveyed the congregation to be sure there is interest in chavurot, we believe this program will be very well received. It promises to bring new life to the congregation</p>	\$3,600
UMass Hillel	<p>Send a student leader to Israel</p> <p>By providing a student leader with a positive hands-on experience in Israel, you will enable them to make a pro-Israel impact on campus, and you will cultivate a Jewish leader for life.</p>	\$1,000 / student

For more information regarding any of these programs, please contact the agencies directly.

Additional agency requests are available on our website: www.jewishwesternmass.org
Requests will be removed from the on-line list as they are funded.