

JSL Conference Call #4

December 18, 2008, 1pm

Topic: Balancing staff and youth roles: **What Can I Do While They're on Vacation?**

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**Tentative Agenda:**

- I. Welcome
- II. Attendance
  - a. Michal Goldberg from Partnership for Jewish Learning and Life, NJ
  - b. Judy Jaffe, from Shomer Emunah, NJ
  - c. Frumma Rosenberg Gottleib from SAJE in Miami Beach
  - d. Jodi Gross, Adath Shalom, Farmington Hills, MI
- III. Introduction of PANIM staff on the call
  - a. Lia Katz- Director of Jewish Service-Learning
  - b. Reisa Shanaman- Pollin-Cohen Fellow
- IV. Goals of these calls, overview of today's agenda
  - a. Professional development opportunities for people in the field
  - b. Come together and share practices, create a community of people who can learn from one another and share experiences, create a greater knowledge bank
- V. Topic of the month: Balancing staff and youth roles: **What Can I Do While They're on Vacation?**
  - a. Overview of youth voice
    - i. A participant voice
    - ii. Integrate their wants and needs to ensure they will have buy-in, be active participants in the project
    - iii. Help them to feel ownership over the project, connect to it, want to maintain a relationship
    - iv. Experiences
      1. Teen Volunteer Corps: have them narrow it down, choose a project, step in when they need help
  - b. What's appropriate for your community/agency/setting?
    - i. Goal should not be to use the Youth Voice to the exclusion of others, there should be a balance
    - ii. Keep in mind your goals, and making sure goals are being met, while allowing for the teens to steer the project
  - c. What are some background logistics that can be delegated to staff? Delegated to teens?
    - i. Remember that teens can do pretty much everything (research, logistics, etc.), only restricted by how much time and effort they want to put into the project
    - ii. Sometimes they just need help with management and oversight, things they are not able to do during the day
  - d. Preparation tasks that can be done in advance/while teens are not in school
    - i. Preliminary research on community needs

- ii. Status update from the teens: where are they at?
  - e. Thoughts from the field – what has worked for you? What hasn't worked?
    - i. Frumma: Had a club at the high school, would try to recruit other students to join the club via booths and assemblies, got 85% of students signed up! Adults did preliminary research, but teens were able to choose which areas they wanted to work with, wrote individual mission statements, had pages on the high school web site
    - ii. Lia: Sometimes a recurring project, set up by an adult the first time, but getting teens involved immediately, will give them more ownership of the project, help ensure they stay involved in future events (example: J Serve)
- VI. Open space for questions/suggestions/great experiences in general
- VII. Looking forward
  - a. There are some "blank" weeks - - are there questions that people have that they'd like to see addressed there?
    - i. E-mail Lia with any suggestions!
  - b. Next month's topic: Program Evaluation on Monday, January 12, 2009
- VIII. Closing Remarks:
  - JSL yahoo group
    - E-mail Rachel Meytin, Lia Katz or Reisa Shanaman to join!
  - Seminar registrations are due!
  - National Educators' Institute dates for summer 2009. Scholarship is available!!
    - June 21-25 at University of Maryland with possibility of an advanced track
    - August 2-5 CAJE in San Antonio