

The National Educators' Institute for Jewish Service-Learning *Program Highlights*

Sunday, August 19: Why Jewish Service-Learning?

- **The Rationale for Service-Learning**, Peter Levine
Peter Levine is the Director of CIRCLE: The Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning & Engagement. In this talk, he will discuss the impact service-learning has had on civic engagement and give an overview of the history of service-learning.
- **Service-Learning 101**, Rachel Meytin
Rachel Meytin is the Director of PANIM's Center for Jewish Service-Learning. She has been involved with service-learning for many years and is currently working on receiving advanced certification in service-learning from the National Youth Leadership Council. Ms. Meytin will present an overview of service-learning.
- **Kesher Groups**
Participants will be divided into small groups through which they will process the material covered and create an innovative service-learning project. These groups will gather at least once each day to process and work on their project.
- **Service-Learning: What does it do?** James Youniss
James Youniss is the Wylma R. & James R. Curtin Professor of Psychology at Catholic University. He has studied and written extensively on the role that direct civic action, in particular community service, plays in generating political awareness, a sense of agency, and social responsibility. He will discuss the role of service in our national community as well as within a faith-based program.

Monday, August 20: Engaging Youth

- **Judaism and Justice: The Jewish Passion to Repair the World**, Rabbi Sidney Schwarz
Rabbi Sid Schwarz, Founder and President of PANIM, recently published a book by the same title (Jewish Lights). In this talk, he will discuss the growth of the Jewish service-learning movement in the context of Jewish history, values and the future of the Jewish community.
- **Evaluation as a Planning Tool**, Lawrence Bailis
Dr. Lawrence Bailis is a research professor at the Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University. He was recently voted one of the three most influential researchers in service-learning field. His presentation will discuss both the importance of and the key components to service-learning evaluation and how to integrate evaluation into the planning process.
- **The Kavanah Approach**, Beth Margolis-Rupp
Beth Margolis-Rupp is the Director of the Service Learning and Leadership Institute at the Jewish Community High School at Gratz College. Ms. Margolis-Rupp has been involved in Jewish service-learning for over 25 years. The kavanah model is an integrated Jewish approach to service-learning.

- **Jewish Text Toolbox**, Rabbi Jason Kimelman-Block
Rabbi Jason Kimelman-Block is PANIM's Director of Education. Using PANIM's new curriculum: Just: Judaism. Action. Social Justice., Rabbi Kimelman-Block will present a collection of the core texts essential for every Jewish service-learning professional to have at his/her fingertips.
- **Youth Engagement: The YSA Experience**, Steve Culbertson
As the President & CEO of Youth Service America (YSA), Steve is a leading expert on the many facets of youth service. He will talk about the lessons YSA is learning about engaging youth, the debate about mandated service, and the next frontiers in the movement.

Tuesday, August 21: Meaningful Service

- **Panel: Lessons Learned from Creating Meaningful Service Projects**, Michelle Lackie, Hillel; TBD, American Jewish World Service
Professionals from two major Jewish service organizations: Hillel International's Tzedek Initiative and American Jewish World Service (AJWS) to discuss their organization's approaches to creating meaningful service projects.
- **Making SPACE in Your Programs**, Rabbi Jason Kimelman-Block
Rabbi Kimelman-Block will lead participants through an innovative approach to looking at different forms of service.
- **Gonzaga High School: Service-learning in a religious setting**
We will visit Gonzaga High School in Northeast DC, one of the nation's first schools to embrace the service-learning model. We will hear from four school professionals responsible for the senior social justice class, the summer service programs, and the school-wide service requirements. We will also visit the McKenna Center, a campus institution that serves the local residents.
- **Panel: The National Players**
Marlene Zakai, The National Corporation for Community Service; Rev. Mark Farr, Points of Light Foundation; TBD
Professionals from national service organizations will discuss their organizations, how they partner with faith-based programs, and their vision of service-learning for the future.
- **Explore DC – Free Evening**

Wednesday: Curriculum Integration

- **Jewish Learning and Jewish Identity**, Bernard Cooperman
Professor Bernard Cooperman is the Louis L. Kaplan Chair of Jewish History at the University of Maryland. He will present the dichotomy between Jewish learning and Jewish identity and challenge participants to focus on the actual goals of their educational programs.
- **Three Integrated Models: The Jewish Civics Initiative, Literacy-Action, and TELEM**, Rachel Meytin, PANIM; Maggi Gaines*, Jewish Funds for Justice; and TBD*, TELEM.
Panelists will present three models of integrated service-learning programming.
- **Tensions Between Service-Learning and Social Justice**, Rabbi David Rosenn.
David Rosenn is the Director of the Avodah: The Jewish Service Corps, a year-long program that integrates work for social change, Jewish learning and community building. Rabbi Rosenn will discuss the challenge of focusing simultaneously on identity formation (of

participants) and social impact (on communities). This session will explore the possibilities for and limitations of integrating these two goals.

- **Text Study: Mitzvah as Chovah**, Aaron Dorfman
Aaron Dorfman is the Director of Education at American Jewish World Service (AJWS). Mr. Dorfman will lead participants through a text study looking at the role of mitzvot as required actions. How does this impact personal choice?
- **The Jewish Civics Initiative**
We will provide an in-depth introduction to the Jewish Civics Initiative program, PANIM's signature service-learning program. We will address such issues as recruitment, seminar registration and preparation, and running service projects within classroom walls. This session is designed specifically for educators running JCI courses, but it will be open to all participants.
- **Taking a Look at the Field**
We will hear short vignettes from young Jewish adults engaged in service-learning programs. The panelists will discuss the influence Judaism has had on their decision to enroll in their programs and we will dialogue to determine what needs they see within the Jewish service-learning field.

Thursday: Reflection and Evaluation

- **Critical Reflection for Service-Learning**, Barbara Jacoby
Barbara Jacoby is Senior Scholar at the Adele H. Stamp Student Union - Center for Campus Life at the University of Maryland and also Campus Compact's Engaged Scholar for Professional Development. This talk will enable participants to explore what is critical reflection, why it matters, and how to facilitate it. Participants will receive a handout including a "reflection toolbox".
- **Evaluation in Action**
Participants will take the evaluation models presented and apply them to their own service projects.

**Some speakers, programs, and times are still being confirmed. Final itineraries will be distributed to participants upon arrival.*