

# TBE SOCIAL JUSTICE

# NEWSLETTER

Issue 9 | June 1, 2020

[Temple Beth-El Social Justice Link](#)

## SOCIAL JUSTICE CHAIRPERSONS



**Social Justice Chair**  
Joshua Bean

**Daystar Life Center**  
Paula Haemmerle

**FAST (Replacement Needed)**  
Karen Berman

**Mitzvah Day**  
Molly Auld & Will Conroy

**MLK Parade**  
Miriam Pardoll & Joshua Bean

**PRIDE Parade**  
Alica Kicic & Len Leeb

**Leif Nissen Social Justice  
Lecture Series**  
Karen Lieberman

**Yom Kippur Social Justice  
Forum**  
Robin Warren

## SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE 2019-2020 FISCAL YEAR IN REVIEW

As I look back on the past 2019-2020 fiscal year, I am overwhelmed by all of the work we have done and accomplishments we have made. It has been a true honor to lead this committee and work alongside so many tireless activists in our Temple Beth-El Community. As a result, I would like for this issue of our newsletter to highlight all of the success we had this year. First, I would like to thank **Rabbi Torop, Robin Warren, Karen Lieberman, Karen Berman, Paula Haemmerle, Molly Auld, Will Conroy, Alica Kicic, Len Leeb, Diann Stern, Miriam Pardoll and Judy Ciurczak** for leading our sub-committees, for believing in this work with every ounce of their soul, and for dedicating their valuable time to advocating for others. I would also like to thank all of the members of this committee and our marketing guru, **Kendra Cluck**. You all provided so much feedback and creative energy. Our success does not happen without you. I can't thank you all enough. I look forward to the upcoming year and our continued journey together as we demand justice for all in our community.

## November 15th 2019 Leif Nissen Social Justice Lecture Series

On this unforgettable Shabbat evening, we hosted climate change expert, Michael Mann. With over 400 people in attendance, we had a packed house. We ran out of chairs and guests had to stand outside the sanctuary just to listen. Thanks to Karen Lieberman and so many of our amazing volunteers who made this event so successful. Most importantly, this was a conversation on a social justice issue that impacts us all. I am looking forward to more events like this next year.



## National News & Organizations



For LGBTQ Equality in Jewish Life



Welcome the stranger. Protect the refugee.

# KNOW YOUR RIGHTS CAMP

## BLACK LIVES MATTER



## Yearly Tzedakah Donations

Each quarter I select an organization that our Tzedakah donations go to during that period of time. We call it the **Tzedakah Spotlight** and we set a quarterly goal of \$180. Kendra provides updates each week in our eScroll and I also include this info in our monthly newsletter. I am pleased to announce that each quarter we met and sometimes even surpassed our goal. I take this selection process very seriously and try to identify organizations that provide support to the most vulnerable in our community both locally and nationally. This year we donated to the following organizations: [Equality Florida](#) (LGBTQ+), [RAICES](#) (Immigration), [SOL Relief](#) (Disaster Relief) and [The Bail Project](#) (Incarceration).

[CLICK HERE TO DONATE](#) . [CLICK BELOW FOR INFO](#) .

## TZEDAKAH SPOTLIGHT

Tzedakah is not just about charitable contributions,  
but about justice & righteousness.

APRIL, MAY & JUNE 2020

## THE BAIL PROJECT

The Bail Project, Inc., is a non-profit organization designed to combat mass incarceration by disrupting the money bail system - one person at a time.

**We have exceeded our goal! Keep it up!**

[CLICK HERE TO DONATE](#)

## DAYSTAR RECAP

With the help of approximately 20 volunteers, we were successful in delivering over 1,000 lunches to those in need at Daystar Life Center. Due to COVID-19, volunteers were unable to dedicate their time to Daystar but Temple Beth-El stepped up and donated funds to purchase food and cleaning supplies. As a result, volunteers were able to make sandwiches, purchase food supplies, repack 300 individual food containers, and 150 hand sanitizer containers. We also assisted in putting together personal hygiene kits (soap, toothpaste, etc.) Though we feel like we made an impact, sadly there are many more needs now. We hope to continue our support for the 2020-2021 year. -Paula Haemmerle

If you would like to donate to Daystar Life Center, [CLICK HERE!](#)



## MLK Jr. Day Parade

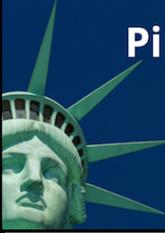
Thanks to the impressive collaborative efforts of **Miriam Pardoll, Kendra Cluck, and Sarah Grace Nadler**, we had our largest Temple turnout ever! With over 40 people from TBE in attendance, our community stepped up in a big way by showing our support and solidarity for Dr. King's ideals alongside other community members who were committed to social justice. We also made a conscious effort to give back to the community by selecting a Black-owned business to print our new t-shirts and banner. It was a success on every level. As Heschel said when he marched in Selma, "It felt like my legs were praying". Thank you all again for making this such a memorable event!



## Local Organizations



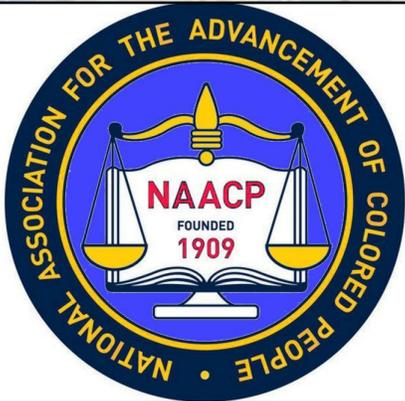
## Pinellas Coalition for Immigration Justice



## The Red Tent Women's Initiative



## FIGHTING CHANCE CHARITABLE SUPPORT FUND



## ONE COMMUNITY

A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH FOR SOUTH ST. PETERSBURG



## Social Justice Yom Kippur Forum

On October 9th, thanks to **Robin Warren**, we hosted a Yom Kippur Social Justice Forum titled, *When Intimate Relationships Are Unsafe: If It Can Happen Anywhere, It Can Happen Here*. Robin facilitated an amazing conversation with our panel: **LaDonna Butler** (The Well), **Jessica Dickerson** (CASA), and **Frieda Widera** (Largo PD).



## UPCOMING EVENT

EVERYBODY IS WELCOME

## WORLD REFUGEE DAY 2020, TAMPA BAY: STORIES OF EXILE, WELCOME, AND SUCCESS

JUNE 19, 10:30AM-NOON

Advanced Registration Required! | <https://tinyurl.com/wrd2020>

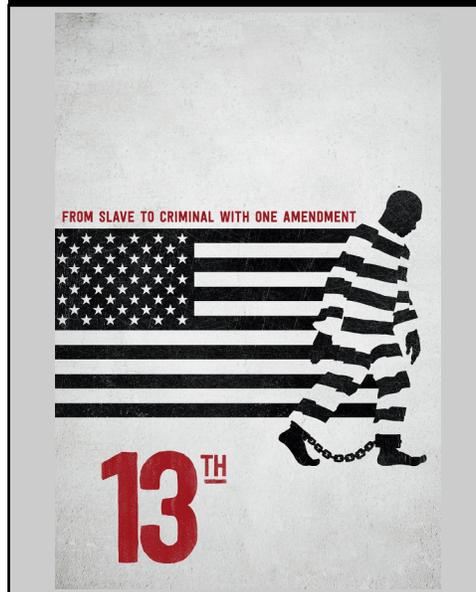
World Refugee Day is celebrated each year to honor those who have been forced to flee their home countries and have journeyed to safety. Join us on this webinar to listen to the experiences of local refugees and to learn how you can get involved in doing the work of welcoming.



## COALITION BUILDING

This year our Temple Beth-El board approved us to join two very important coalitions in St. Petersburg. The first is the **Pinellas Coalition for Immigration Justice**. Meryl Blackman has been a dedicated member of this coalition since their creation and continues to be a valuable asset to their mission. The PCIJ consists of 21 local organizations (and growing) who "advocate that all people that approach our borders receive compassionate, just and dignified treatment whether asylum seekers, refugees, or those in search of a better life". My request is for those who have Facebook to please visit and 'like' their page and share with friends and family members. While this coalition is growing, they still need more support from our local community. I know I can count on each of you to help spread the word on the important work they are doing. I would also like to thank Karen Berman for educating me on the amazing work of **Pay It Florida Pinellas**. Their goal is to provide food, critical necessities, and safety kits to the most vulnerable populations in our community as a result of COVID-19. As soon as this information was presented for board approval, board member and Brotherhood co-president, Steve Jenkins got to work and arranged to have over 200 pounds of food donated to **Atwater's**, a soul food restaurant in South St. Pete (designated feeding location via Pay It Florida- Pinellas). As a result, TBE was mentioned in the Tampa Bay Times. [CLICK HERE](#) to read. Thank you Steve for making such a huge impact.

## RECOMMENDED VIEWING



## RECOMMENDED READING

