

B'nai David-Judea Food Allergy Policy
Approved by the Board of Directors 05.31.2018

Approximately 7.5% of the population has a food allergy, ranging from mild to life-threatening. Based on the feedback from our recent survey and input from the taskforce, the following policies are being implemented to create a safe and inclusive community at B'nai David-Judea:

- **Nut-Aware Environment:** While it is impossible to guarantee a nut-free environment, we will ask people not to bring any peanut or tree nut products into our building, with special concern for the sanctuary, social hall, and Rechov Yeladim. In addition, Rechov Yeladim parents will be asked not to bring ANY food or snacks other than those provided by BDJ. We will send out periodic reminders about this policy, particularly around Purim and Simchat Torah, when people tend to bring more food into shul.

- **Catered Events:** Any food that contains the 7 major allergens (milk, eggs, fish, peanuts, tree nuts, wheat, soy), as well as the additional airborne allergens to which BDJ members may be sensitive (currently peanuts, wasabi and horseradish, but updated as necessary) shall be labeled accordingly.

- **Non-Catered Events:** Events at BDJ that are for smaller groups (such as Geshet and Briut HaNefesh) will not be required to label all foods, but coordinators will check with participants periodically to assess what foods may need to be restricted.

- **Persons with Allergies:** When members renew their membership forms or new members join, they will be asked to inform BDJ of their food allergies. When registering for events, attendees will have an opportunity to list their allergies and/or pose questions and concerns. While every effort will be made to minimize foods with major allergens, BDJ will not be able to guarantee that all food will be suitable for everyone in attendance nor will it be able to fully guarantee that all allergen information is listed correctly.

- **Private Home Events:** Individuals who host BDJ community events in private homes (such as Nosh N'Drosh, oneg, or Seder Nashim) will be asked to avoid all nuts, label foods and/or provide a list of ingredients, and to save the packaging from store-bought foods so that sensitive individuals can check to see if the food is safe for them. BDJ will not be able to guarantee that all food will be suitable for everyone in attendance nor will it be able to fully guarantee that all allergen information is listed correctly.

- **In Case of Emergency:** We will post a list of doctors in the office who might be found at shul in case of emergency. Rechov Yeladim counselors will continue to be trained to use epipens and administer Benadryl in case of a life-threatening allergic reaction. Additionally, the shul will continue to maintain a securely stored supply of Benadryl and epipens (both .15mg and .3 mg) as part of the first aid kits that are in the office, Rechov Yeladim, the mother's room, and in the sanctuary. BDJ will not be able to guarantee that medication will be available for every condition or circumstance. Congregants and attendees to BDJ and BDJ events will be encouraged to carry suitable medication with them when in attendance.