

## **SPECIAL NEEDS COMMISSION**

In November of 2003, the Jewish Federation of Orange County requested Jewish Family Service of Orange County (JFS) submit a proposal to develop a **Special Needs Task Force** (now named the **Special Needs Commission**) for the Orange County Jewish community. JFS did so and the Jewish Federation of Orange County awarded JFS a grant to develop this entity.

**Mission of the Special Needs Commission:** (1) To ascertain and identify special needs of Jewish individuals and families related to physical and/or cognitive impairments that are barriers to the individual's or family's ability to participate in the social, recreational, social service, or cultural programs of the Jewish community; (2) to work collaboratively with other Jewish institutions to reduce these barriers and to create a more inclusive environment (3) to provide education to the Jewish community of Orange County-at-large about the needs of those with disabilities, in order to increase sensitivity and to reduce attitudinal barriers; (4) to provide specific information about and referral to Jewish and general community-based resources that can support individuals and families affected by special needs as defined here.

**Accomplishments:** Since the formation of the **Special Needs Commission**, much has been accomplished. An in-depth survey of Jewish agency professionals and Jewish individuals and family members of those with disabilities was conducted by the SNC. Barriers to inclusion were delineated and information was gathered about programs in the Jewish community that are inclusive.

An **Alzheimer's Association support group** is being held at JFSOC the second Tuesday of each month and additional disability-related support groups are planned for the near future.

The SNC held its first free community forum in the Fall of 2005, and the second annual forum entitled, **Advocacy 101: Ability or Disability?**, is scheduled for September, 2006.

In addition, a majority of Jewish agencies and institutions in Orange County have participated in providing information for this **Special Needs Information and Referral Directory**, listing inclusive Jewish services and programs in Orange County.

### **Special Needs Commission Members**

Anita Kurtz, Chairperson, JFSOC Board Member

La Rhea Steindler, LCSW, JFSOC Staff Consultant

Heather Becker, Special Needs Learning Partnership

Carol Clayman, Attorney

David Eisenbach, President of the Board, Jeremiah Society

Roy Kaufman, PhD, Executive Director, Jeremiah Society

Pam Kauss, MFT, Certified Rehabilitation Counselor

Joe Lebovitz, MD, JFSOC Board Member

Joan Levine, PhD, CSUF Special Education Professor

Ruth Lott, BSN

Jim Pasino, PhD, Clinical Psychologist

Ro Probolsky, Geriatric Specialist

Lucille Sacks, Disability Awareness Foundation

Sabrina Sjolseth, Community Ed. Coordinator, Bureau of Jewish Education

Barbara Stern, MSW, Prentice School

Michele Walot, MFT, JFSOC Board Member

Jan Weiner, PhD, CSUF Special Education Professor

Marshall Yefsky, Dayle MacIntosh Center, Benefits Specialist

## **How was the information gathered that you see presented here in this Special Needs Directory?**

In early January of this year, a questionnaire was mailed to every Jewish agency, school, senior facility, and synagogue in Orange County . The purpose of this questionnaire was to gather information about inclusive programs and services available for people with special needs in our Jewish community. The Special Needs Commission (SNC) then followed up this letter with numerous phone calls encouraging these institutions to share this information for our directory. About two-thirds of the Jewish institutions returned the questionnaire.

The SNC then used this information to prepare a grid of inclusive services in Orange County. The SNC mailed the grid to all Jewish institutions in Orange County again as a rough draft. We asked institutions to make any corrections to their information or to add their information if they hadn't done so the first time around. We succeeded in securing information from 22 synagogues, all 3 Jewish day schools, 9 Jewish agencies, and 2 senior facilities.

We hope that you find this directory helpful. We plan to update it on a regular basis. If you have additions or corrections to make, please email them to [LaRhea@JFSOC.org](mailto:LaRhea@JFSOC.org) so that they can be included in future editions. You may also find this directory on the Jewish Federation of Orange County Website at:  
**[www.Jewishorangecounty.org](http://www.Jewishorangecounty.org)**

Thank you to all of the Special Needs Commission members who made time in their busy schedules to help gather and publish this information. Thanks especially to fellow Special Needs Directory sub-committee members Heather Becker, Carol Clayman, Ro Probolsky, and Marshall Yefsky.

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SNC Directory Sub-Committee Chair

La Rhea U. Steindler, L.C.S.W  
SNC Staff Consultant

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## Orange County Jewish Agencies

### Synagogues

#### **Beth Jacob Congregation**

3900 Michelson Drive  
Irvine, CA 92612  
Tel: (949) 786-5230  
Orange County Airport Area Orthodox Synagogue

#### **Beth Torah Synagogue**

Leisure World Club House  
Laguna Woods, CA 92653  
Tel: (949) 786-5371  
South Orange County Orthodox Synagogue

#### **Chabad of Irvine**

5010 Barranca Parkway  
Irvine, CA 92604  
Tel: (949) 786-5000  
Orange County Airport Area Orthodox Synagogue

#### **Chabad of Laguna Beach**

Congregation Kol Yaakov  
30804 South Coast Highway  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651  
Tel: (949) 499-0770  
South Orange County Orthodox Synagogue

#### **Chabad Jewish Center**

24104 Marguerite Parkway  
Mission Viejo, CA 92691  
Tel: (949) 770-1270  
South Orange County Orthodox Synagogue

#### **Chabad Jewish Center of Newport Beach**

3412 Via Oporto  
Newport Beach, CA 92663  
Tel: (949) 721-9800  
Orange County Airport Area Orthodox Synagogue

#### **Chabad of West Orange County**

Congregation Adat-Israel  
5052 Warner Avenue  
Huntington Beach, CA 92649  
West Orange County Orthodox Synagogue

**Chabad of Yorba Linda**

Congregation Beth Meir Ha Cohen  
19045 Yorba Linda Blvd.  
Yorba Linda, CA 92886  
Tel: (714) 693-0770  
North Orange County Orthodox Synagogue

**Congregation B'nai Israel**

2111 Bryan Avenue  
Tustin, CA 92782 Tel: (714) 730-9693  
Central Orange County Conservative Synagogue

**Congregation B'nai Tzedek**

9669 Talbert Avenue  
Fountain Valley, CA 927078  
Tel: (714) 963-4611  
West Orange County Reform Synagogue

**Congregation Eilat**

22081 Hidalgo  
Mission Viejo, CA 92691  
Tel: (949) 770-9606  
South Orange County Conservative Synagogue

**Congregation Kol HaNeshamah**

14252 Culver Drive, Suite A  
Irvine, CA 92602  
Tel: (949) 551-2737  
Orange County Airport Area Reform Synagogue

**Congregation Shir Ha Ma'a lot**

3652 Michelson Drive  
Irvine, CA 92612  
Tel: (949) 857-2226  
Orange County Airport Area Reform Synagogue

**Pacific Community of Secular Humanistic Jews**

21152 Lockhaven Circle  
Huntington Beach, CA  
Tel: (949) 262-5850  
West Orange County Non –Denominational Synagogue

**Surf City Synagogue**

Central Park Library  
7111 Talbert Avenue  
Huntington Beach, CA 92648  
Tel: (714) 374-4232  
West Orange County Conservative Synagogue

**Temple Bat Yahm**

1011 Camelback Street  
Newport Beach, CA 92660  
Tel: (949) 644-1999  
Orange County Airport Area Reform Synagogue

**Temple Beth El of South Orange County**

2A Liberty  
Aliso Viejo, CA 92656  
Tel: (949) 362-3999  
South Orange County Reform Synagogue

**Temple Beth Emet**

1770 West Cerritos Avenue  
Anaheim, CA 92804  
Tel: (714) 772-4720  
North Orange County Conservative Synagogue

**Temple Beth Ohr**

15721 East Rosencrans Avenue  
La Mirada, CA 90638  
Tel: (714) 521-6765  
North Orange County Reform Synagogue

**Temple Beth Tikvah**

1600 North Acacia Avenue  
Fullerton, CA 92831  
Tel: (714) 871-3535  
North Orange County Reform Synagogue

**Temple Judea of Laguna Woods**

245 Moulton Parkway  
Laguna Woods, CA 92637  
Tel: (949) 830-0470  
South Orange County Traditional Synagogue

**University Synagogue**

3400 Michelson Drive  
Irvine, CA 92612  
Tel: (949) 553-3535  
Orange County Airport Area Reconstructionist Synagogue

### **Jewish Day Schools**

#### **Hebrew Academy**

14401 Willow Lane  
Huntington Beach, CA 92647  
Tel: (714) 898-0051  
West Orange County Area  
WASC Accredited, Blue Ribbon School,  
Chabad private Jewish Day School: Preschool → High School.

#### **Morasha Day School**

30482 Avenida de Las Banderas  
Rancho Santa Marguerita, CA 92688  
Tel: (949) 459-6330  
South Orange County  
CAIS Accredited, Private community Jewish Day School: Preschool → Sixth Grade

#### **Tarbut V'Torah Community Day School**

5200 Bonita Canyon Drive  
Irvine, CA 92603  
Tel: (949) 509-9500  
Orange County Airport Area  
WASC Accredited, Blue Ribbon School, Private community Jewish Day School: Kindergarten → 12<sup>th</sup> grade

### **Jewish Agencies**

#### **B'nai B'rith Youth Organization**

1 Federation Way  
Irvine, CA 92603-0174  
Tel: (949) 435-3470 and 3471  
BBYO is a youth-led, adult-supervised high school Jewish youth organization.

#### **Bureau of Jewish Education**

1 Federation Way  
Irvine, CA 92603-0174  
Tel: (949) 435-3450  
The unifying force for Jewish education in Orange County

#### **Community Foundation of Jewish Federation**

1 Federation Way  
Irvine, CA 92603-0174  
Tel: (949) 435-3490  
The largest resource for Jewish philanthropy in the Orange County area

**Friendship Circle**

3412 Via Oporto  
Newport Beach, CA 92663  
Tel: (949) 721-9800  
[www.friendshipcircleoc.org](http://www.friendshipcircleoc.org)

Pairs local teens with children with special needs for weekly “Friends at Home” visits, and a full range of programs and activities.

**Hillel Foundation of Orange County**

1 Federation Way  
Irvine, CA 92603-0174  
Tel: (949) 435-3444

The organization for Jewish campus life, providing opportunities for Jewish students to celebrate their Jewish identity with others. Hillel groups currently meet on the campuses of CSUF, Chapman College, UCI, and OCC.

**Jeremiah Society**

4029 Westerly Place, Suite 101  
Newport Beach, CA 92660  
Tel: (949) 253-3120 x240

This organization provides social programs for Jewish adults with developmental challenges.

**Jewish Community Center**

1 Federation Way  
Irvine, CA 92603-0174  
Tel: (949) 435-3400

A full array of activities and programs for every age.

**Jewish Family Service of Orange County**

1 Federation Way  
Irvine, CA 92603-0174  
Tel: (949) 435-3460

The Orange County Jewish social service and counseling agency.

**Jewish Federation of Orange County**

1 Federation Way  
Irvine, CA 92603-0174  
Tel: (949) 435-3484

The umbrella organization for the Jewish community and for fundraising for local, national and international Jewish communities

**Special Needs Learning Partnership**

100 Seton, Irvine, CA 92612  
(949) 733-3973

Provides Jewish education for children with learning differences and staff training.

**Senior Residences**

**Bubbe & Zayde's Place**

2220 North Concord Street

Santa Ana, CA 92705

Tel: (714) 391-4000

Central Orange County Area

Kosher senior and assisted living residence

**Heritage Pointe**

27356 Bellogente

Mission Viejo, CA 92691

Tel: (949) 364-9685

South Orange County Area

Kosher Jewish retirement home for independent and assisted living needs.

## Other Disability Related Community Resources

**Infolink Orange County:** Dial “211” for a variety of community resources in Orange County.

**Adult Protective Services:** (800) 451-5155. Crisis intervention for elderly and dependent adult abuse.

**AIDS Services Foundation:** (949) 253-1500.

**Alzheimer’s Association OC:** (949) 955-9000. Supports research and stimulates public awareness of Alzheimer’s disease through educational forums and support groups.

**Anti-Defamation League (ADL):** (562) 498-6440.

**American Red Cross:** (714) 481-5300.

**Area Agency on Aging:** (714) 567-7500.

**California State Department of Rehabilitation:** (949) 598-7942, (714) 662-6030. Assists persons with disabilities in obtaining and retaining employment

**CALOPTIMA (medi-cal)** (714) 295-8500.

**Caregiver Alliance:** (800) 445-8160.

**CHADD OC:** (714) 490-7022; Children/Adults with A.D.D..

**Child Abuse Registry OC:** (714) 940-1000. 24-hour central registry to report all incidents or suspicions of child abuse or neglect.

**Council for Jews with Special Needs:** [www.csjn.org](http://www.csjn.org). Offers disability resource listing of Jewish organizations in North America.

**Council on Aging:** (714) 479-0107. Promotes adult empowerment for seniors and dependent adults, prevents abuse, and advocates for the rights and dignity of those experiencing health and aging challenges.

**Dayle MacIntosh Center:** (714) 621-3300. assists people with disabilities in living more independently.

**Disability Awareness Foundation:** (949) 598-2952. This program uses the special qualities of people with disabilities to teach today’s youth about motivation and self-esteem during difficult times.

**Domestic Violence Hotline:** (800) 978-3600, (800) 548-2722.

**HICAP:** (714) 560-0424, (714) 479-0107. Health insurance counseling through Council on Aging.

**Jewish Braille Institute of America:** [www.jewishbraille.org](http://www.jewishbraille.org) . Link between the Jewish world in all its aspects for those who are blind or visually impaired.

**Legal Aid OC:** (714) 571-5200.

**Linkages (Council on Aging): (714) 479-0107. Case Management program for frail elderly and adults with disabilities to assist them in staying in their own homes.**

**Medicare OC: (800) 633-4227.**

**OC Bar Association: (949) 440-6747. Lawyer referral and information services.**

**OCTA ACCESS Service: (800) 794-7433, (714) 636-7433. Offers door-to-door van service for persons with disabilities eligible under the ADA.**

**Orange County Learning Disability Association: (949) 646-0133 or (714) 638-1777. Info and Referrals for parents of persons with learning disabilities.**

**Orange County Fair Housing: (800) 698-3247.**

**Orange County Medical Services to Indigents (MSI): (714) 834-6248.**

**Orange County Housing Authority: (714) 480-2700. Rental assistance for low income families, the elderly, and people with disabilities.**

**Orange Caregiver Resource Center: (800) 543-8312. Resources, info and referral for families and professionals dealing with brain impairment.**

**Orange County Social Services: (714) 541-7700. County public assistance.**

**Our Way: [ourway@ou.org](mailto:ourway@ou.org). Resources for Jews who are deaf or hard of hearing.**

**Public Law Center: (714) 541-1010. Pro-bono linkage to Orange County attorneys.**

**Regional Center of OC: (714) 685-5555, (714) 796-5100. Services to persons with developmental disabilities occurring prior to age 18.**

**Social Security Administration: (800) 772-1213.**

**Team of Advocates for Special Kids (TASK): (714) 533-8275. Parent training and info center serving families of children with disabilities.**