

This is a **Call to Action** for all Elected Leaders:

On **Sunday, April 2, 2017** from **2pm to 6pm**, we will be joining more than five hundred Jewish teens from across Toronto and York Region at UJA Federation's Lebovic Jewish Community Campus in Vaughan *(9600 Bathurst Street)* for <u>J-Serve</u>, an afternoon of community service and improvement projects that tackle issues and causes like poverty, hunger, homelessness, genocide, human rights, health, bullying and inclusion.

J-Serve, the annual International Day of Jewish Youth Service, is a worldwide initiative through which over 13,000 Jewish teens participate in service projects all on the same day in more than 50 communities around the world. J-Serve provides teens with the opportunity to fulfill the Jewish values of *gemilut chasidim* (acts of loving kindness), *tzedakah* (just and charitable giving), and *tikkun olam* (the responsibility to repair the world).

This will mark the eighth year that Jewish teens from across Toronto and York Region will have the chance to participate in this international initiative thanks to funding by UJA Federation of Greater Toronto and BBYO. Teens will choose from eleven service projects such as assembling craft kits for children in hospitals, celebrating Passover alongside young adults with physical or cognitive challenges, engaging in social and recreational activities with seniors, and preparing meals for people living on the streets of downtown Toronto, among other projects.

We would like to invite you to join us.

J-Serve will focus on the importance of 'Good Citizenship' as one grows as a community leader. We'll highlight principles of Jewish-inspired leadership, patriotism, community service, inter-faith relations, philanthropy and ensuring the protection of democratic rights for all.

Especially given recent events across North America and around the world, we believe that your participation can reinforce how young people are significant contributors to progress regardless of age; how it's our turn to champion a new era of civil rights and equal opportunity; and how this is the right time for communities of all traditions to embrace one another meaningfully.

It would be our sincere honour to welcome you to J-Serve. If you are able to attend, please be in touch with Kevin Goodman at kgoodman@jserve.ca. Together, we can lead by example to instill the importance of service throughout our community. We hope you will you accept our invitation and inspire your colleagues to participate as well. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration; we look forward to hearing back from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Joseph Katchen, 17 Teen Coordinator J-Serve 2017 Adam Daniels, 17 Teen Committee J-Serve 2017 Kevin Goodman Managing Director J-Serve Toronto