

Joshua Ben-Gideon, Jeff Arnowitz, Ashira Konigsburg, Philip Gibbs, Lori Koffman, Daniel Schweber, Debra Newman Kamin, Jeremy Kalmanofsky, Ben Herman, Judah Kogen at the Outdoor Retreat Dear Colleagues and Friends of Our RA:

It is a pleasure for us to present this report of our work from the past year to you. Our lay leaders, volunteers, and staff have made efforts to reorient our work to reflect the <u>10 Bold Statements of the Our RA Vision Plan</u>.

Our work is focused on three major areas outlined in the report, and we are making progress in each of them. Just a few examples from our work include our 2019 Convention in Montreal and 20/20 Judaism, our collaborative convention with USCJ, a record-breaking Interview Week, the initiation of our Zera'im project, and our gun violence campaign in the United States, with many more in the rest of our report.

None of what you will read about in this report would be possible without the *hundreds* of lay leaders and volunteers who direct and carry out every aspect of our work. As I, Debra, prepare to step down as president in March 2020, and as we prepare to welcome Stewart Vogel as our incoming president, we are so grateful to them, to our officers, our Administrative and Executive Committees, chairs and members of committees, volunteer mentors and guides, and so many others who make it all possible. And most of all, we thank our members who provide support in every way.

Our own professional staff is exceptional, even as it continues to evolve to meet our strategic goals. We are so thrilled that over this past year we have brought on a new administrative assistant, Christine Aucoin; hired our new Director of Publications, Katharine Baker; promoted Emily Hendel to serve in her new role as Director of Career Services; and have been blessed by Ashira Konigsburg's new role as our Chief Operating Officer. Most of all, we express tremendous gratitude to Elliot Schoenberg who has served us for over 30 years. We wish him a wonderful sabbatical, and look forward to his continued wisdom and contributions to Our RA.

In the coming year, we will continue restructuring and hiring staff, re-organizing our budget, increasing capacity to involve volunteers in committees, working groups, mentorships, and before moving towards greater financial stability. We will accelerate the implementation of the Our RA vision, strengthening our ability to support and connect colleagues, increasing the number and depth of our partnerships, developing new forms of Torah learning and professional skills development, promoting transparency, moving towards greater financial sustainability, and much more.

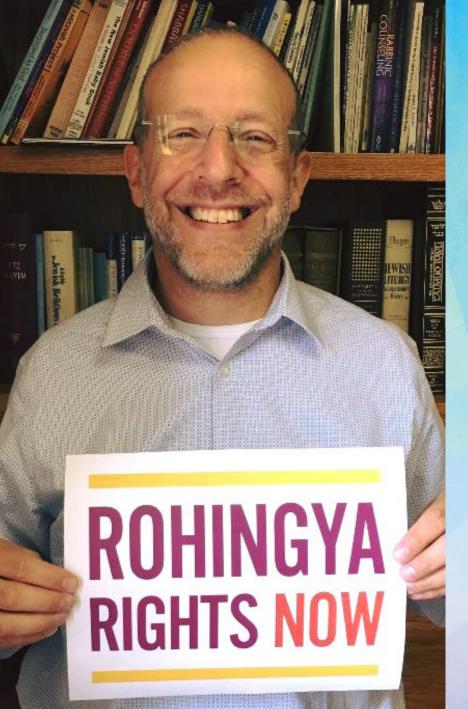
We have both had the opportunity this past year to visit with colleagues in many parts of the world. We are inspired every single day by our collective work, bringing our Torah to more people, in more places, in more ways. Our RA will continue to grow and improve so that we can support one another personally and professionally.

Warm regards,

Jacob Blumenthal CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Debra Newman Kamin President





WHO WE ARE



AND RESIDING IN



Argentina • Aruba • Australia • Brazil • Canada • Chile • Costa Rica • Czech Republic • France • Germany • Hungary • Israel • Italy • Japan • Mexico • Panama • Paraguay • Peru • Poland • Sweden • Switzerland • Uganda • Ukraine • United Kingdom • United States

- 1920′s •

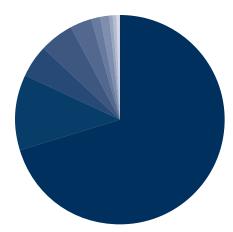
across 🚺

decades

1990's -

Born **O**

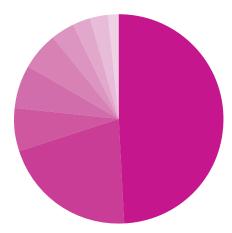
rabbinicalassembly.org



OUR ALMA MATERS

1122 Jewish Theological Seminary

- 187 Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies
- 82 Schechter Institutes
- 82 Seminario Rabínico Latinoamericano
- 55 Hebrew Union College
- 22 Reconstructionist Rabbinical College
- 19 Other
- 11 Leo Baeck College
- 9 Academy For Jewish Religion
- 6 Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary



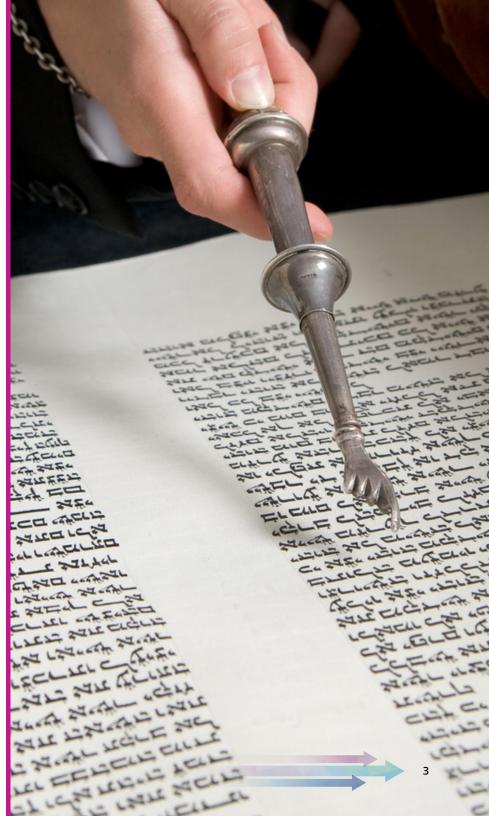
OUR PROFESSIONS

780 Pulpit
327 Undesignated
108 College Campus
102 Org./Non-Profit
95 Chaplains
54 Day School
45 Outside Rabbinate
43 Synagogue / School

26 Entrepreneur

GENDER IDENTITY

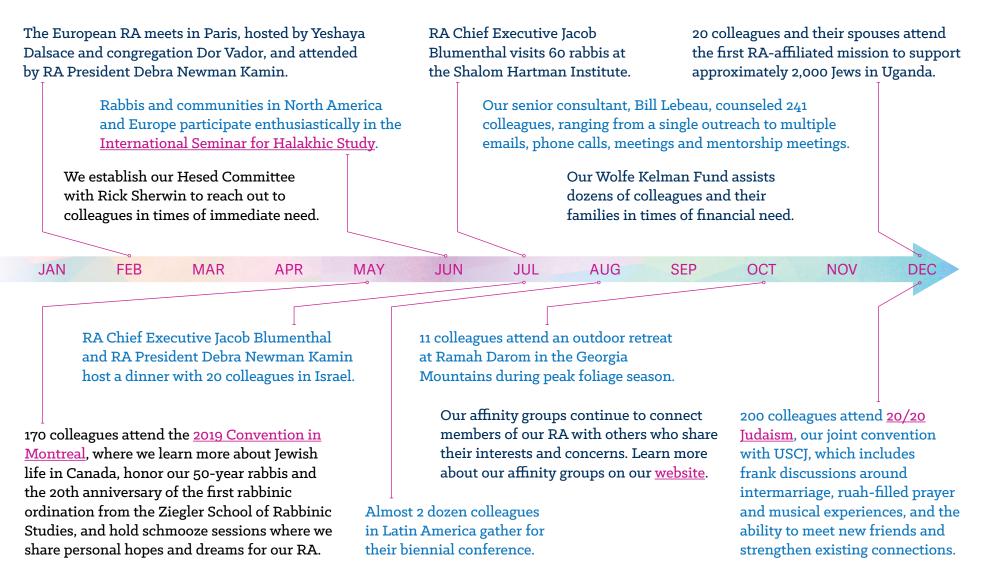
1295 Men338 Women2 Transgender



Annual Report 2019

SUPPORTING AND STRENGTHENING RABBIS IN 2019

Through in-person events and virtual connections through learning, our RA programming provides a wide variety of opportunities for colleagues to support one another in all aspects of our rabbinic work.





UGANDA TRIP

66

The people we met are connected to the stories of the Torah in visceral ways."

—Elliot Schoenberg, our RA's Senior Vice President and Global Director of Rabbinic Career Development



SEMINAR FOR HALAKHIC STUDY, FALL 2019

66

About 25 attendees studied the rabbinic sources in hevruta and enjoyed a lively discussion. In addition, some of our elder women gave first hand testimony about their experience of being the first women to lead services in a minyan at our synagogue some 40 years ago or being the first allowed on the bimah. Learning about our own women's history at the shul and studying Rabbi Barmash's teshuva was a meaningful and enriching experience!"

–A. Nitzan Stein Kokin, Beth El Congregation, Phoenix, Arizona, Fall 2019



MONTREAL CONVENTION 2019

66

The opportunities to reconnect with colleagues are one of the most important parts of the Convention experience. It also feels like the best opportunity of the year to enable colleagues to build a relationship with the RA as an organization."

—Convention attendee

RA members on Uganda trip visiting Jewish community in Kampala

6

1232 (1824) 18245 (1825)

H

11/

511/2

SUPPORTING RABBIS IN CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Throughout the year, our staff and volunteer coaches and mentors counseled hundreds of our colleagues through the placement process (in all tracks of the rabbinate), transitions, and personal and professional challenges.

Our RA had record participation in <u>Interview Week 2019</u>:





85 rabbis



of graduating students from **JTS** and **Ziegler** placed over 2019 **Z4** rabbis report jobs outside of the pulpit 10 IN ORGANIZATIONS camp, education, human services, and social justice
3 ACADEMICS ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES
3 IN HILLEL
2 HEALTHCARE CHAPLAINS
2 IN DAY SCHOOLS
1 ENTREPRENEUR

PUBLISHED **COMPENSATION SURVEY** FOR DIVERSE CAREERS IN THE RABBINATE

MOCA Monday webinars about career techniques (111 participants in total) Hot Topic Blogs in 2019 written by RA members and staff on various career-related topics colleagues in diverse rabbinates interviewed in a reinvigorated project called <u>RA SPOTLIGHT</u>

Annual Report 2019

REFUGEE CRISIS

66

Over and over the Torah tells us that we are to love the stranger because God loves the stranger, and that God hears and will heed their cries. Every Passover we are told to regard ourselves as if we were slaves and freed. Our tradition calls us to action. And our history does as well."

—Debra Newman Kamin, RA President



GUN VIOLENCE

66

As rabbis too often called to comfort mourners, we grieve with all the parents of slain children, the children of slain parents, the family members, the friends, neighbors and communities of those gunned down. They are all our children, family members, friends and neighbors, and we pledge not to stand idly by their blood, crying to us from the earth."

-A Rabbinic Call to End Gun Violence



ISRAELI CONSULATE

66

Israeli elections are like cholent (special stew for Shabbat)—you can put in the same ingredients but you never know how it's gonna taste."

—Ambassador Dani Dayan



BEING A FORCE FOR CIVILITY, PLURALISM, AND GOOD IN ISRAEL AND THE WORLD IN 2019

In an increasingly polarized world, our RA fosters a climate of civility, pluralism, and social justice.

We publish 7 resolutions on important matters of the day, including refugees, voting rights, suicide and mental illness, We publish 13 timely statements on issues climate change and environmental concerns, global antisemitism, including antisemitism, the Israeli elections, reaching hundreds of thousands of people on social media. reproductive freedom, missile attacks on RA Chief Executive Jacob Blumenthal has Israel, and immigrant detention centers. a get-to-know-you at the Israeli Consulate in NYC with Ambassador Dani Dayan. We develop a <u>resource page</u> to help our RA President Debra Newman Kamin writes about her members have nuanced discussions about powerful experience learning first-hand about the refugee reproductive rights and Jewish tradition. crisis occurring at our nation's southern border with HIAS. JAN FFB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC Our RA's Task Force on Human We join over 160 national, state and local Trafficking leads efforts to actualize Jewish organizations to call on the the United Nations Sustainable Growth US government to meet the refugee plan to end human slavery by 2030. resettlement admissions goal for this year. Our RA in the United States launches its #NotOneMore campaign against gun violence, which kills over 32,000 people each year.

We stand with 22 Jewish organizations as the Rohingya Justice Network to hold the government and military of Myanmar responsible for ethnic cleansing and genocide of the Rohingya people. Our RA's Food Justice Working Group organizes a call with Mazon about the recent attacks on supports for food insecure people.

CO-CREATING A MODEL 21st CENTURY ORGANIZATION

We are committed to building a culture driven by transparency, empowerment of members, partnerships with other organizations, and financial sustainability.

Staff Updates:

In 2019, OUR RA bid farewell to our two most senior professionals:



Julie Schonfeld departed for sabbatical in January 2019 and in June 2019 became our CEO Emeritus, following 18 years of service.



Elliot Schoenberg, Senior Vice President and Global Director of Rabbinic Career Development, takes his final sabbatical after 30 years of service.



Emily Hendel now serves as our Director of Career Services.



Our former Director of Operations, Ashira Konigsburg, has stepped up as our Chief Operating Officer



We wish our previous administrative assistant, **Shira Harris**, the best of luck in graduate school.



And we are excited to welcome our new administrative assistant **Christine Aucoin**.



We were thrilled to bring on a new Director of Publications, **Katharine Baker**.

Our newest initiatives:

In November, we initiated our "Zera'im" project to pilot organizational and cultural change within our organization.

Our RA hosts an unprecedented <u>three-part</u> <u>webinar series</u> bringing together rabbis from the Orthodox, Conservative, Reform and Reconstructing Judaism movements on the topic of understanding antisemitism today.



Our RA on the web and social media in 2019:

Our RA website received over 407,000 PAGEVIEWS.

Our top 10 website visitors' countries were: United States • Canada • Israel • United Kingdom • Australia • Germany • India • Brazil • Argentina • Mexico

f Our <u>Facebook page</u> reached over 327,000 PEOPLE .
Tweets received over 314,000 IMPRESSIONS.
Our <u>YouTube videos</u> received over 1,000 VIEWS.
O We launched an official Instagram channel.

Latin American colleagues gathered for their biennial conference

۱

CIA MI

BUDGET TRANSPARENCY

Our annual funding allows The Rabbinical Assembly to meet our principal responsibility of caring for the welfare and well-being of our rabbinic members and strengthening the relationships of rabbis with the congregations, communal institutions and organizations they serve.

REVENUE

Revenue is mainly derived from membership dues and publications. During the last several years the revenue collected from membership dues has remained stable. Historically the revenue from publications runs in cycles that permit us to build up reserves during profitable years and then utilize those reserves to balance our operating budget during a downward cycle. In addition, income is generated from interest and dividends of our investments. We have recently initiated our own annual campaign and are just starting to see the benefits of this effort.

CASH ON HAND JULY 1, 2018*		\$1,171,509
Membership dues Publications - net of related costs Fundraising and Contributions Convention Fees and Fundraising Professional Growth and Learning Grants and other funded projects	\$1,337,721 \$618,299 \$115,200 \$ <u>105,000</u>	
TOTAL Investment Income (Dividends and I Other Revenue TOTAL REVENUE	Interest)	\$2,176,220 \$254,955 \$7,575 \$2,438,750

*Our fiscal year runs July-June



EXPENSES

Our professional staff is involved in all programming and development efforts of the RA which include the work of the Rabbinic Career Development Commission (that focuses on providing career services to rabbis not engaged in congregational work) and the Placement Commission. Whether it is planning programs, providing resources, communicating with members or providing pastoral assistance, our staff coordinates the work of the RA, including the coordination of all meetings and conferences within North America and internationally. Operating expenses include the business needs of our organization, including salaries, accounting, auditing and investment management fees.

As you look at the expenses you will see expenses related to committees and other gatherings of colleagues, as well as expense associated with sending our Officers to represent the RA to our membership and to the broader community. While we are able to accomplish many of our meetings by video conferencing, it is essential to bring our members together in-person for some of the most important work of the RA. We continue to include more of our international colleagues in these meetings.

During the last couple of years, we continued to direct funds towards the development and implementation of our strategic plan. We are investing in the future of the RA.

As we work to make our RA a more transparent organization we hope that this Annual Report helps you to better understand the financial operations of our organization.

PROGRAM EXPENSES

Committee and Related Expenses ¹	\$123,474
Member Services ²	\$67,748
Affiliations and Annual Grants ³	\$52,978
Convention expense, net of registration fees	\$530
Professional Growth and Learning, net of participation fee	\$3,469
Programming Rabbinic and Professional Salaries Expenses ⁴	\$517,763
Programming and Member Services Operation Expenses	\$160,401

TOTAL PROGRAMMING EXPENSE

OPERATIONS EXPENSE

Office Rabbinic and Professional Salaries ⁵	\$1,025,895
Office Operating Expenses ⁶	\$216,401
Retiree Compensation	\$65,542
Professional Fees	\$9,500
Investment Advisory Fees	\$32,067
Governance and Strategic Planning	\$67,771
Public Relations	\$66,000
Website Upgrade	\$56,000
Reimbursed Leadership Travel Expense	\$81,233

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE

TOTAL EXPENSES Decrease of other assets

CLOSING CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 20197

¹Committee and related expenses include in person meetings of the Committee on Jewish Laws and Standards (CJLS), Executive Council, Administrative Committee, Membership Committee, Social Action, Nominating Committee and Joint Bet Din.

²**Member Services expenses** include but are not limited to Commission for a Vital and Connected Rabbinate (VCR), Dover Emet - Social Action Initiatives, Newsletters, Professional Learning and Growth and Rabbinic Career Development.

³Affiliation and Annual Grants include Conversion Grants, European Bet Din, Latin American Region, Israel Region, National Council of Synagogue, and support of Interfaith Activities.

\$(926,363)

\$(1,620,409)

(\$2,546,772)

(\$79,934)

\$983,553

⁴**Programming operations expense** includes salaries and related costs associated with coordinating programming, professional resources and membership.

⁵Rabbinic and Professional Salaries includes salaries and related costs.

⁶Office Operating Expenses include the costs of day to day office and administrative operations such as insurance, telephone/internet charges and other administrative expenses.

⁷Includes security purchases and other expenses associated with our investment portfolios and banking.

15

Aaron • Abbi • Abby • Abe • Abigail • Abraham • Adam • Aderet • Adir • Adrian • Ahud • Akiba • Akiva • Alan • Albert • Alberto • Alejandro • Alex • Alexander • Alexandre • Alexis • Alfred • Alfred • Allan • Allen • Alon • Alvan • Alvin • Amanda • Amichaim • Amiel • Amos • Amy • Analia • Anat • Andi • Andras • Andres • Andre • Andrew • Andy • Annabelle • Anne • Annie • Antonio • Ari • Arie • Arieh • Ariel • Ariella • Arielle • Armando • Arnold • Arthur • Ary • Aryeh • Asher • Ashira • Aubrey • Avi • Avigayl • Avinoam • Avis • Aviva • Avraham • Avram • Avelet • Azriel • Barat • Barbara • Barry • Barry Dov • Baruch • Baruj • Batya • Bea • Becca • Ben • Benay • Benjamin • Benny • Bernard • Bernhard • Beryl • Beth • Beverly • Bezalel • Bill • Brad • Bradley • Braham • Brent • Brian • Bronwen • Bruce • Bryan • Burton • Cara • Carie • Carl • Carla • Carlos • Carnie • Carol • Carolyn • Carrie • Catharine • Cecelia • Chai • Chaim • Chana • Charles • Chaya • Cheryl • Claudia • Claudio • Clifford • Colin • Corey • Craig • Dahlia • Dan • Dana • Daniel • Daniela • Daniella • Danielle • Danny • Dany • Danya • Dario • David • David • David • Debi • Debora • Deborah • Debra • Dennis • Diana • Diane • Dianne • Diego • Dina • Donald • Dorothy • Douglas • Dov • D'ror • Earl • Ed • Edgar • Edmund • Eduardo • Edward • Edwin • Efraim • Efrem • Ehud • Eitan • Elaine • Elan • Elana • Eli • Elianna • Eliav • Elie • Eliezer • Elijah • Eliot • Eliott • Eliseo • Elisha • Elizabeth • Ellen • Elliott • Elliott • Elon • Elyse • Emanuel • Emily • Ephraim • Erez • Eric • Ernesto • Ervin • Erwin • Esther • Etan • Ethan • Eugene • Evan • Eve • Everett • Evtan • Ezekiel • Ezra • Fabian • Faith • Feivel • Felipe • Fernanda • Floriane • Fred • Fredda • Frederic • Frederick • Gabriel • Gad • Gadi • Gail • Gali • Gary • Geoffrey • George • Gerald • Gerry • Gershom • Gershon • Gesa • Gideon • Gil • Gilah • Gilbert • Gloria • Gordon • Graciela • Greg • Greta • Guido • Guillermo • Gustavo • Guy • Hagit • Hal • Hanan • Hanna • Harlan • Harold • Harry • Harvey • Hayim • Hayyim Harold • Heather • Hector • Helene • Henry • Herbert • Herman • Herschel • Hillary • Hillel • Hirsch • Howard • Ian • Idit • Ilan • Ilana • Ira • Irina • Iris • Irvin • Irving • Irwin • Isaac • Iscah • Ismar • Israel • Ita • Ivan • Jack • Jacob • Jacqueline • Jaime • Jama • James • Jan • Jane • Janet • Jarrod • Jason • Jaxson • Jay • Jaymee • Jeff • Jeffrey • Jeni • Jennifer • Jeremy • Jerome • Jesse • Jessica • Jill • Jim • Joanna • Jodie • Joel • John • Jon • Jonah • Jonas • Jonatan • Jonathan • Jonina • Jon-Jay • Jordan • Jorge • Josef • Joseph • Josh • Joshua • Joyce • Juan • Judah • Judd • JudiAhavah • Judit • Judith • Jules • Julia • Julian • Julie

Justin • Kara • Karen • Karina • Kassel • Katie • Keilah • Kelley • Ken • Kenneth • Kerrith • Kerry • Keven Tzvi • Kevin • Kliel • Kvod • Larry • Laura • Lauren • Laurence • Laurie • Lavey • Lawrence • Lea • Leah • Lee • Leon • Leonard • Leonard • Leonel • Leor • Leora • Leslie • Lester • Levi • Lewis • Lia • Liebe • Lilly • Lindsey • Lionel • Liron • Lisa • Loel • Loren • Lori • Louis • Lucca • Lucia • Luciana • Lyle • Lynn • Lynne • Malcolm • Malgorzata • Manes • Manuel • Marc • Marcela • Marcelo • Marcia • Marcos • Marcus • Marcy • Margaret • Margit • Marilyn • Marim • Mario • Marion • Mark • Marshal • Martin • Marvin • Mathew • Matt • Matthew • Maurice • Mauricio • Max • Maximiliano • Mayer • Megan • Meir • Mel • Melanie • Melinda • Melissa • Melvin • Menachem • Mendel • Mervin • Mia • Micah • Michael • Michal • Michel • Michele • Michelle • Mikie • Miles • Milton • Mimi • Mira • Miriam • Miriyam • Mitchel • Mitchell • Moishe • Mordecai • Mordechai • Moriah • Morris • Morton • Moshe • Murray • Mychal • Myrna • Myron • Nadav • Naomi • Nason • Natasha • Nate • Nathalie • Nathan • Nathaniel • Neal • Nechama • Neil • Nelly • Nicole • Nilton • Nina • Nisim Dov • Nitzan • Noach • Noah • Noam • Nogah • Nolan • Norbert • Norman • Norton • Oliver • Orit • Orrin • Pablo • Palti • Pamela • Patricia • Paul • Paula • Paulette • Penina • Peretz • Perry • Peter • Philip • Phyllis • Pinchas • Raanan • Rachel • Rafael • Rafi • Ralph • Rami • Randy • Ranon • Raphael • Raquel • Ravid • Raymond • Rebecca • Reuben • Reuven • Rhonda • Richard • Rick • Rivon • Rob • Robert • Roberto • Robin • Robyn • Rodney • Ron • Rona • Ronald • Roni • Ronit • Ronnie • Rory • Rose • Roy • Royi • Ruben • Ruti • Ruven • Ryan • Salomon • Sam • Samuel • Sandra • Sanford • Sara • Sarah • Sarina • Sarit • Scott • Sean • Sebastian • Selilah • Sergio • Seth • Shai • Shaina • Shalom • Shamma • Sharon • Sharyn • Shaul • Shawn • Shaye • Shayna • Sheldon • Shelley • Sherre • Sherre • Sherre • Shirra • Shirra • Shlomo • Shmuel • Sholom • Shosh • Shoshana • Sidney • Simcha • Simeon • Simkha • Simon • Solomon • Stanley • Stefan • Stephan • Stephanie • Stephen • Steve • Steven • Stewart • Stuart • Susan • Suzanne • Sydni • Sylvan • Tal • Tamar • Tamas • Teresa • Theodore • Thomas • Tim • Tirza • Toba • Todd • Toni • Tova • Tracee • Tracy • Tsafreer • Tsvi • Tziona • Tzvi • Uri • Uriel • Ute • Valerie • Vernon • Vicki • Victor • Warner • Warren • Wayne • Wendy • Wesley • Will • William • Yaacov • Yael • Yafet • Yardan • Yehiel • Yehoshua • Yeshaya • Yisrael • Yitzchak • Yoav • Yoel • Yonatan • Yonina • Yosef • Yvonne • Zachary • Zalman • Zari • Zelick • Zoltan • Zvi

There is no way that a staff of 12 in New York could possibly serve over 1,600 rabbis around the world without the committed and continuous support of our Administrative Committee, Executive Council, volunteers and all our members.

Thank you to each one of you for another meaningful and productive year!

