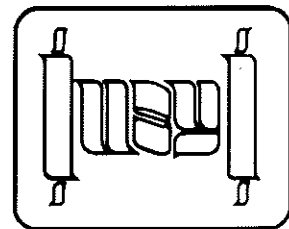


USY OFFICER PACKET:

Social Action/Tikun Olam Vice President

The *USY Officer Packets* are a project of
The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism,
Department of Youth Activities

(Experimental Edition)
December 2003



Social Action Tikun Olam Vice Presidents,

Congratulations on being given the privilege of working as a SATO VP. Over the past four years, I have had the opportunity to work as one myself, and I can assure you, there is nothing more rewarding.

As a SATO VP, there are many things you can do. From raising money for Tikun Olam, or hands on assistance to those less fortunate, the opportunities are endless.

This handbook has been compiled to guide you through your year as a SATO VP. It is the goal of this packet to supply you with program ideas and motivation to work hard as a SATO VP.

Throughout this handbook you will find a guide to different program sources, motivational sources, and any other type of source that can help you along your way to make it a very charitable year.

You will find programs that will work in big crowds, and those that will work in a group of ten. You will find programs that can be done at any time, and those that can only be done once a year. You will also gain an understanding of where your T.O money goes. This handbook will hopefully make being a SATO VP as easy and fulfilling as possible.

No matter what the reasons are that you are showing USYers SATO, you are doing a great deed. You are showing the light to so many people and making each of them a better person. You will enhance your own knowledge and respect for others as well.

USY wishes you well in all acts of loving kindness, and Gimilut Chasadim.

- Lee Soffer,

2003 International SATO Vice President

What is SATO?

Social Action Tikun Olam.

Social Action is quite broad in explanation. USY does Social Action like visiting old age homes, homes for the mentally disabled, and also outreach programs for domestic, drug, and alcohol abuses etc.

Tikun Olam is USY's charity. USYers raise money throughout the year that is annually allocated to different Jewish causes throughout the world.

Where does my T.O money go?

40% of T.O money goes to Tzedakot previously approved by USYers

30% of T.O money goes to scholarships. These scholarships help send USYers who couldn't regularly afford it, attend USY summer and long term programs such as Pilgrimage, Wheels, Nativ, European Experience, just to name a few.

30% of T.O money goes to Conservative Jewish Socio-Religious programs in Israel. As USYers, we need to support the Conservative Movement in Israel, especially our Nativ program. Without this money, USYers and many Conservative Jews would not have a place of Conservative comfort to turn to while traveling in Israel.

How can I give my Chapter's T.O money to a local charity?

Well it's quite simple really. Out of every chapter's T.O money, they are given the opportunity to allocate the 40% (that goes to approved tzedakot) to charities that they want. This process makes giving to T.O more personal, and it gives USYers the opportunity to help improve their local community.

10 Practical Chapter Tikun Olam Programs

- 1- Tea Party...Stuff some tea bags in envelopes, with an invitation to your tea party. Invite the entire congregation not to come, but to send in a donation. (For more details, see USY's Online Program Bank at www.usy.org/pbank/)

- 2- Bus Bets...Any time you're at a program that has a bunch of USYers on a bus, take bets on what time you'll arrive to the destination. Charge a dollar a bet, and let the winner split the total bets with T.O, always remind the winner that they are welcome to give all the money to T.O
- 3- Challah Sale...There is a more detailed handbook on how to run such a program. To put it simply, buy in bulk, challot from a local kosher bakery, and sell them to congregants before every Shabbat for profit to Tikun Olam. Not only will people be getting Challah, but they will also be giving money to Tzedakah. (To request the handbook please contact the International Office.)
- 4- Dance-A-Thon ...Have every USYer attending get a sponsor that will pay per hour that the USYer dances. If they can dance at 10 dollars an hour, and dance for four hours, then they alone have raised forty dollars. Multiply that by the 100 USYers you may have at a dance, and you've got 4000 dollars.
- 5- Bowl-A-Thon...Hopefully for T.O's sake, USYers are good bowlers. It is a similar idea to the Dance-A-Thon, however this time around, the sponsors will pay for however many pins the USYer knocks down. For some people, 25 cents per pin may mean 25 dollars, but who knows, maybe someone will bowl a perfect game and earn 75 dollars.
- 6- Purim Carnival...Many synagogues have one, but maybe yours can be run by the USYers. If USYers run it, maybe there can be some say in where the profits go. Many synagogues run raffles, and charge entry and all of the profits (which should be most the money, because you can use homemade games) can go to Tikun Olam.
- 7- Sports Bets...Have a chapter meeting to watch the Cowboys play the Cardinals, or whatever matches you like. Draw up a pool for the final score. Charge one dollar per box. Winner takes have the pot, the rest goes to T.O, and like in the bus bets, remind the winner that T.O would be happy to accept all of the money.

- 8- Sell groggers, Mishloach Manot...Purim is great for SATO because so many people come to shul, and it is not Yom Tov or Shabbat, so everyone can open their wallets and be the big spender. Before the Megillah reading reaches Haman, get in front of the congregation, and sell the groggers to them. Don't just give them out, make a profit for charity. After services or even before, sell Mishloach Manot or Hamantashen to everyone there. This is assured to be a hit.
- 9- Bagel Sales...Have you ever sat through Sunday morning Hebrew School and had nothing to eat. Don't fear USY is here. On a rotation with the rest of the chapter board, come every Sunday morning with a lot of bagels, some cream cheese, butter, apple and orange juice. Slice the bagels, spread them, and then sell them by the half. You will be making a bunch of school kids happy, and you will be making a whole lot of money for Tikun Olam.

These program ideas can all be fun as long as you remember what the cause is. Sometimes the trick to raising a lot of money for T.O is letting people do it with something they enjoy whether it be dancing or watching sports.

The one thing you must always remember, is that at the end of the program, thank everyone on behalf of those that the money is helping. Thank them for doing a Mitzvah, and for participating in a great Tikun Olam Program.

10 Practical Chapter Social Action Programs

- 1- Mitzvah Makers...A bunch of USYers can go to different old-aged homes every Friday before Shabbat, and play games or chat with the senior citizens. Not only will you make their week, but also you will give them some youth to brighten up their Shabbat experience.
- 2- Accessibility For the Disabled...Is your synagogue accessible to the disabled? How about you build ramps where there are none, make the Synagogue for all people, not just the lucky ones who have full use of their bodies. All it takes is some time, wood, and creativity.
- 3- Make the synagogue a community center... Encourage your synagogue to offer time and space to rehab groups that are non-profit. Drug rehab, alcoholics-anonymous, etc. Even though USYers won't be working hands on, you can help others help themselves.
- 4- Adopt-A-Highway...or a street (because highways are pretty big). You can get you chapter's name out in the public by having a sign on the street, and every once in a while, a group of USYers can get out there and clean up the street, making our environment cleaner, and a community more appealing.
- 5- Walk-A-Thon...Similar to a Dance-A-Thon or Bowl-A-Thon, except USY T.O fund probably wont profit (unless it is organized by USY). A group of USYers can join with numerous walk-a-thons throughout the year. Raising money for AIDS, Autism, Cancer, and Diabetes research to name a few.
- 6- Tree Planting...There is nothing better than honoring a friend or family member and improving the world in one move. You can plant trees in America, or through Keren Kayemet LiYisroel (in Israel). USY even has its own Forest that you can add to by allocating 40% of your contribution to JNF. Every tree makes our earth that much more beautiful.
- 7- Sukkah Building...Do you ever drive around in the Fall and notice how many Jewish families don't have a Sukkah in their yard? It could be

because they don't own one, or because they don't have the time or energy to build one. This is our chance as USYers to literally bring Judaism into people's homes. By renting a Sukkah (varying sizes), and going to build them for people, you will not only make money for Tikun Olam, but you will be assisting many elderly people and others do the Mitzvah of having a Sukkah.

- 8- Political Action...Take Social Action literally. Act Socially. Support Israel, support Judaism, and support whatever you believe is right. If USYers go to a rally as a group, our voices can be heard and people may not reject our opinions just because we are younger than most. After all it is we that are the future.
- 9- Bar/Bat Mitzvah Tutoring...Many synagogues have trouble finding people to help tutor the younger kids for their Bar/Bat Mitzvah. If USY organized a group, (proceeds could go to Tikun Olam), USYers can start a sort of big brother, big sister program. You will be able to watch a younger person grow over the course of a few months, and you will reap the benefits of seeing what you have taught them go into action at their Bar/Bat-Mitzvah
- 10-Deliver Mishloach Manot...Every year, the synagogues look for people to buy Mishloach Manot, to put them together, and to deliver them. If USYers were to work with the people in charge of this, then they will be doing the mitzvah of helping others and of giving Mishloach Manot.

The same with Tikun Olam projects, one must always remember why they are doing these acts of loving-kindness. Social Action programs won't always be fun, but you will get to see hands on, who you are helping and how you are helping them. One will truly understand the importance of Social Action after doing Social Action programs. As always it should be recognized as the job of the SATO VP to thank everyone on behalf of those that benefited (note: everyone will benefit in one way or another, even the USYers, because you will be able to see what you are capable of doing).

Where can I find further sources on Social Action and Tikun Olam?

One great source is the SATO website. All you have to do is go to www.usy.org, and click on the SATO part. On the SATO website, you will find a program bank, as well as links to other related charitable sites.

You can find USY handbooks on the environment, Drug and Alcohol Abuse programs, Chapter SA or TO programs and many others.

Additionally, one may find the pamphlets written by Danny Siegel to be quite useful. They can be received through the USY office. (An order form for SATO Publications appears at the end of this booklet.)

Does USY offer any clubs like my High School does? SADD, Key Club, etc.?

Actually USY does. USY offers four clubs, Chalutzim (for Israel awareness), Heschel Honors Society (Religion Education), and two clubs solely devoted to SATO. 613 Mitzvah Corps, as well as USYers for a Drugs and Alcohol Free Environment (UDAFE).

613 is a club which tries to motivate people to do acts of loving-kindness. It costs \$6.13 to join for one year and \$61.30 for a lifetime membership. The number 613 is significant because it is the number of Mitzvot in the Torah.

UDAFE is a club for USY to take a stand against the illegal use and abuse of drugs and alcohol. Judaism does not permit one to harm theirs or anybody else's body. It would be ideal for every USYer to join, and for every chapter to run a drug/alcohol awareness day. And for all of USY to join together in rejecting harmful substances.

UNITED SYNAGOGUE YOUTH TIKUN OLAM PROGRAM PUBLICATIONS LIST AND ORDER FORM

A portion of the money raised by USYers for the Tikun Olam Tzedakah Fund pays for a whole series of Tikun Olam publications. These are available to any affiliated USY member, USY Chapter or region on a complimentary basis. This important part of the Tikun Olam Program enables us to educate USYers about Tzedakah and social action.

Five Good Reasons Why People Who are Blind Should Own Their Own Cars or: How To Think Mitzvahs - Danny Siegel - This pamphlet contains problems and solutions that address many different issues. We are taught to think about solutions to problems that are presented to us everyday.

11 Ways USYers Can Change the World in Big Ways - Danny Siegel - This pamphlet contains detailed ideas and instructions for 11 "Mitzvah Projects" which individuals or chapters can adopt to improve their communities and carry on the work of g'millut chassadim. Try one!

13 Things Kids Don't Know About Tzedakah - Danny Siegel - What is your Tzedakah-G'millut Chasadim IQ? In other words, how much do you know about Tzedakah and G'millut Chasadim? In this reprint from Moment Magazine, Danny Siegel discusses Thirteen Things that Kadima and USY age adolescents don't know about Tzedakah.

116 Practical Mitzvah Suggestions - Danny Siegel - A concise comprehensive list of ideas that you and the USYers in your chapter can use in developing Social Action/Tikun Olam programming.

Brother Can You Spare a Dime - Arthur Kurzweil - An analysis of the Treatment of Beggars according to Jewish Tradition, which also enables us to explore Jewish text even if we have difficulty with Hebrew.

Caring for Orphans in Jewish Tradition - Rabbi Joel Epstein - This pamphlet includes a discussion of traditional sources dealing with orphans along with discussion questions that attempt to apply the rules and guidelines of the Bible and Talmud to modern situations. there is also a section on how Tikun Olam money is used in order to care for orphans.

Chapter SATO Handbook - An informational piece with programmatic and resource materials which explains the structure and history of the Tikun Olam Program and provides a basic guide to SATO programming.

Environmental Handbook - A resource book for individuals and chapters, with facts about the dangers our environment faces, Jewish sources, program and action ideas, and lists of organizations and publications for additional information.

DWI Bookmarks- Key things to know about drunk driving.

The Giants of Jerusalem - Danny Siegel - In this reprint from Moment Magazine, Danny Siegel discusses his experiences at Yad L'kakash (Lifeline for the Old). Many of the experiences involve the thousands of USY Israel Pilgrims he has taken there over the years.

The Hellen Keller of Israel - Danny Siegel - (Summer 1995) This pamphlet teaches us that we need to look at the needs of individuals and not impose what we think they need. We are taught to look at problems in a new way, and how to act upon these findings.

Making a Real Difference in the World: 8 Jewish Texts Teach Us How To Do Tikun Olam - Danny Siegel - (Winter 1995) This pamphlet teaches us why, from a Jewish textual perspective, we should be doing mitzvot.

Maimonides' Ladder of Tzedakah - Rabbi Joel Epstein - This sheet lets the USYers try to figure out what the levels of Tzedakah are or what they should be. It also asks questions to enable USYers to understand why Maimonides selected the order he did. This also raises the important questions as to the level of Tzedakah represented by Tikun Olam.

Managing Disability - A disability handbook, including a simulation program based upon activities at the 1984 International USY Convention. These simulation activities and other materials help people to understand the problems and needs of the disabled members of the Jewish Community.

Phonathon Manual - USY Chapters throughout North America have raised thousands of dollars for Tikun Olam with this easy method. Try it. You'll be helping Jews all over the world.

Pidyon Shvuyim - Rabbi Joel Epstein - Redeeming Captives is a brief pamphlet which discusses the attitudes and sources connected with the Jewish concept of the Redemption of Captives. It also briefly discusses how the Tikun Olam Program is involved with Pidyon Shvuyim and how you and the USYers in your chapter can become more involved.

P'ru Ur'vu - How a Jew Looks at the problem of Overpopulation - Rabbi Joel Epstein - How does a Jew reconcile the problem of too many people with too few resources, compounded by the problem of a shrinking Jewish population? This pamphlet explores this problem along with a description of an organization in Israel that tries to help large families.

Social Action Idea Handbook - Published in 1994, this Handbook contains a wide variety of "how-to" information for the chapter and region including phone numbers and addresses of many organizations as well a calendar of events.

Social Action Primer - A booklet with cartoons and brief text which conveys the importance of social action programming in an innovative and light fashion.

Social Action/Tikun Olam Coloring Book - More cartoons explaining the importance of Social Action/Tikun Olam Programming (get out your crayons!).

Social Action/Tikun Olam Program Bank Checklist: - This listing of more than 100 SATO programs includes titles and descriptions as well as volume and section codes for easy ordering. They are appropriate for both chapters and regions and are available free of charge for USYers.

Tikun Olam Fund Raising Manual - USY Chapters throughout North America are always looking for new ideas to raise funds for Tikun Olam. Here are some of the best ideas collected in one booklet. Updated March 1997.

Tzedakah - A Matter of Priorities - Rabbi Jerome Epstein - Is a booklet which examines the priorities of giving according to the Jewish tradition, including the idea upon which the whole Tikun Olam Process is based, giving to the poor in your own family and city comes before branching out to the wider Jewish community and then the non-Jewish Community.

Tzedakah - Jewish Giving - A Privilege - Danny Siegel - (updated Feb. 1996) A Booklet which explores the biblical and rabbinic sources of Tzedakah. This pamphlet is currently distributed to every participant of USY Israel Pilgrimage and forms an integral part of the summer's educational program. It includes discussion questions and program ideas.

ALSO AVAILABLE

Tikun Olam Allocations Form - Every chapter has the right (one might say the obligation) to allocate 40% of their contribution to a list of approved Tikun Olam Tzedakot. This booklet contains the allocations form and a brief description of each Tzedakah we support.

Tikun Olam Donation Cards - These cards are the perfect way to acknowledge a birthday, anniversary, or yartzheit. Sell the cards at home hospitality conventions or send them on special occasions to chapter members and parents. They cost 10 for \$11 and the money is credited to your chapter!

Tikun Olam Annual Report - Commonly known as the annual "Green Sheet," this report lists current Tikun Olam policies, and the allocation given to each Tikun Olam beneficiary.

TIKUN OLAM PUBLICATIONS ORDER FORM

As you can see, there's a wealth of material available from the Tikun Olam Program. These publications are made possible through the funds that you raise. Take advantage of the opportunity. Learn more about Tzedakah and G'millut Chasadim. Fill out the coupon below, and request those publications which you feel would be of use to you and the USYers in your chapter or region.

All publications can also be ordered online at <http://www.usy.org/yourusy/sato/topubs.asp>

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE #: _____

CHAPTER: _____ CITY/STATE: _____

Please send me the following Tikun Olam publications:

TITLE	QUANTITY
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_____	_____
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MAIL TO: Tikun Olam Program, 155 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10010

Phone: 212-533-7800, ext. 2319; FAX 212-353-9439

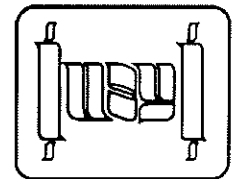
Join The 613 Mitzvot Corps

of United Synagogue Youth

When you join the 613 Mitzvot Corps:

- * Your donation will help Jews all over the world, from India to Israel, Poland to South America, and more.
- * You set an example of giving tzedakah that all people should follow.
- * You will receive the SATO Newsletter to inform you about, and give you ideas in the areas of, Tikun Olam, G'milut Hassadim, and Social Action. You will also learn about the most recent SATO activities across North America.
- * You will receive the most up-to-date material on Social Action and fundraising programming for yourself and your chapter.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP: By making a donation of \$61.30, you become a member for life! You will continue to receive information and materials on the current Social Action issues of our day, and the efforts of USYers to make a difference (just keep us informed if you move).



JOIN TODAY!

__Tzedakah and Social Action are important to me, enclosed is my check in the amount of \$6.13 made out to Tikun Olam* for my membership in the 613 Mitzvot Corps.

__I'm ready to become a life member of the 613 Mitzvot Corps. Enclosed is the check for \$61.30 payable to Tikun Olam.*

**Canadian checks must be made payable to The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

NAME: _____ REGION: _____
 ADDRESS: _____ E-MAIL: _____
 CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
 PHONE: (____) _____ GRADE: _____
 CHAPTER: _____ CITY/STATE: _____

Send your donations with this form: United Synagogue Youth, 613 Mitzvot Corps, 155 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10010-6802; call 212-533-7800, extension 2319 with questions.

WHY JOIN?

You are probably thinking to yourself, why should I join? What can a measly \$6.13 do to help a person? Here is a list of things that it can buy for someone in need. You'd be surprised how far \$6.13 can go.

FOOD

- * 6 boxes of pasta
- * 4 loaves of bread
- * 4 cartons of milk
- * 2 chalot
- * 6 cans of tuna fish
- * 12 apples

TOILETRIES

- * 2 bottles of shampoo
- * 5 bars of soap
- * 6 toothbrushes
- * 3 tubes of toothpaste
- * 24 rolls of toilet paper
- * 3 boxes of Band-Aids

CHILDREN'S SUPPLIES

- * 20 diapers
- * 2 baby bottles
- * 6 jars of baby food
- * 4 notebooks for school
- * 1 Beanie Baby
- * 4 coloring books

😊 If you put aside 10 cents every day for 2 months, you will have enough money to become a member of this amazing club. Just imagine how many people's lives you will be making a little bit brighter. 😊

PROGRAMMING FOR 613 MEMBERS

- ⇒ Create a troupe of 613 Mitzvot Corps Clowns
- ⇒ Make 613 tzedakah boxes
- ⇒ Have a regional 613 dinner with a mitzvah hero as a speaker