

TIKKUN OLAM VOLUNTEER PROJECT

All *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* candidates at Congregation Beth Shalom are required to complete a volunteer activity in fulfillment of the *mitzvah* of *Tikkun Olam* (the mending of the world), a fundamental Jewish principle. A student's completion of this task encourages a feeling of commitment in his or her new role as a thoughtful, responsible member of the Jewish community. This commitment can be spread out over time or performed during school vacation time.

Students must complete at least 18 hours of volunteer work. Ideally, this time is spent in human contact. Many organizations, both Jewish and secular, are thrilled to have young volunteers. A sampling of approved volunteer activities can be found in coming pages of this handbook. The *Tikkun Olam* committee is available as a resource for additional activities; phone the synagogue office for a contact number. **A child who wishes to propose another project must present this request to Patti Kroll for approval at least 8 months prior to the *Bar/Bat Mitzvah*.** At least one month before their *Bar/Bat Mitzvah*, students must show they have completed the chosen activity by submitting the form below to Patti Kroll, along with a short letter from the project supervisor on the organization's letterhead.

A list of possible volunteer opportunities and their locations can be obtained from the Ritual Office.

***TIKKUN OLAM* VOLUNTEER PROJECT CONTRACT**

I, _____ have a commitment to

_____ for _____ hours of service.

Description of organization:

Why did you choose this particular organization?

Name and phone # of contact person at organization:

Type of work I will be doing:

Signed _____
(*Bar/Bat Mitzvah*)

TZEDAKAH

In Biblical and Rabbinic times every Jew would give 10% of his or her income or produce to the Temple to support the communal needs of our people. We encourage your child to consider approaching this model as you decide how to fulfill the commandment of *Tzedakah*, in light of the generosity which may be shown to your child during this time. Please feel free to speak to the Rabbi for ideas.

Please discuss the *Tzedakah* Contract (see below) with Patti Kroll when you meet for your first *D'var Torah* lessons.

----- (Cut here and submit form below to the Rabbi.) -----

TZEDAKAH CONTRACT

"We are obligated to be more scrupulous in fulfilling the commandment of *Tzedakah* than any other positive commandment because *Tzedakah* is the sign of a righteous person."

– *Mishnah Torah*

I, _____ have made/pledge a donation of _____ % of my Bar/Bat Mitzvah gifts.

to _____.

Description of organization(s):

Why did you chose to donate to this particular organization(s)?

Signed,

(Bar/Bat Mitzvah)

We _____, the parents of

_____, certify that our child has provided accurate information to the Synagogue regarding the obligation of *Tzedakah*.

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____ Phone Number: _____ E-mail: _____