



Young Judaea/Kaplen JCC Teen Engagement Associate

BACKGROUND

Young Judaea is a diverse community that educates and empowers Jewish youth to deeply engage with Israel and to lead positive change for the Jewish People, Israel and the World. For over 114 years, Young Judaea has inspired Jewish youth of diverse backgrounds to become engaged leaders and inspired activists with a deep personal connection to Israel. The Young Judaea Journey includes regional camps, a national teen camp, year-round regional and national programming for teens, Israel immersive experiences, and alumni reunions.

The Kaplen JCC (Jewish Community Center) on the Palisades is a welcoming home away from home for all who pass through its doors in Tenafly, NJ and for the wider community. Deeply rooted in Jewish values and tradition, the Kaplen JCC welcomes all and cultivates the social, intellectual, physical and spiritual well-being of the entire community. Our vision is to be the center point of Jewish life in our community and to engage all generations in our mission and values. With over 3,000 membership units and over 750,000 people served each year we serve a vibrant and diverse community in our 200,000 square foot building and acres of outdoor grounds.

POSITION SUMMARY

Young Judaea and the Kaplen JCC seek a creative, dynamic professional with strong educational, organizational and communication skills to engage Jewish teens in Northern NJ in meaningful and impactful ways. This professional will join the Kaplen JCC staff team and the National/Regional YJ Teens team. In partnership between YJ and Kaplen JCC, this professional will report to the Young Judaea Director of Teen Education. This professional will partner with the YJ Regional Advisors and will be responsible for creating and implementing a programmatic vision consistent with the values of pluralism, Zionism and social action that meets the needs of today's teens. This position is full time in Northern NJ (with two weekly day in New York City, and regular travel throughout NJ, NYC, Westchester and Long Island) between September and May, and June through August in residence at Camp Tel Yehudah in Barryville, NY and/or Sprout Lake Camp in Poughkeepsie, NY.

JOB DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES

- Development of local programming in Northern New Jersey and regional programming in the Northeast (including Westchester, Long Island and NYC) Young Judaea regions
- Cultivate local and regional teen leaders, supporting regional teen leadership board (Northeast Mazkirut)
- Create an active and engaged group of local Northern NJ teens through educational and social activities
- Build partnerships with local organizations to foster community and engagement for YJ Teens
- Aid in the recruitment and retention of Sprout Lake and Camp Tel Yehudah Campers to strengthen the YJ camp pipeline, bring new people into the Young Judaea pipeline to participate in YJ teens programming throughout the year including (camp, year round programs, Gesher summer programs, and Year Course), as well as returning to be camp staff
- Partner with the local NJ Israeli Shliach to create dynamic and engaging Israel programming for local teens
- Implementation and staffing for Northeast Regional Convention, and participating on the broader YJ Teens Advisor Board
- Coordinate youth volunteerism for internal JCC events and in partnership with local synagogues
- Create and facilitate leadership development programs for counselors and JCC teen participants
- Partner with program departments serving teens to ensure consistency and collaboration
- Participate in Kaplen JCC agency wide engagement events

WHO YOU ARE

- 1-5 years experience in Jewish communal service, Jewish teen programming, summer camping, or a similar field
- Excited about the future and potential of Jewish teens
- Organized and motivated by attention to detail, ability to manage concurrent projects
- Experience and skills working on programs for youth, including logistics and speaking with the parents of teenagers
- Strong written and oral communication skills
- A desire to work to foster a pluralistic teen community; basic understanding of Jewish religious observance regarding Kashrut, T'fillot, Shabbat, etc. to navigate comfortably in pluralistic environment

- Ready to address the challenges of organized Jewish youth movements in 2023 and beyond, devising creative and innovative solutions
- Flexible, team-oriented, good-humored
- Passionate about social activism and the role that youth play in leading social change
- Knowledgeable about Young Judaea's history, mission and nuance

Salary range: \$50,000 - \$65,000 plus benefits commensurate with experience

This position is primarily based in Northern New Jersey with regular travel regionally throughout Westchester, Long Island and NYC (with regular access to a car), and occasional travel for regional and national convention. Willingness to work regular Sundays and evenings, with the opportunity to create a flexible schedule to accommodate for non-weekday hours.

To apply, please send a resume and cover letter to Erica Cohen, Director of Teen Education at erica@telyehudah.org. Your cover letter should include why this job is right for you right now, and something we could not learn from your resume alone. Informational inquiries welcome.