



THE MONTH OF TISHREI 5787

Welcoming the New Year

Wishing our entire TJJ for Moms Family a happy, healthy, and meaningful New Year! As we begin a new year, we are so grateful for the many opportunities to come together, connect, celebrate, and create special memories as a community.

Apple Crisp Bakes

Our annual Apple Crisp Bakes were filled with fun, laughter, delicious smells, and lots of meaningful inspiration! It was wonderful to see so many TJJ for Moms families come together in Livingston, Westchester, and Long Island as we prepared for the New Year. Nechama shared beautiful words about uncovering our inner spark, our Jewish spark, our neshama, and finding ways to let that spark shine. She also shared meaningful insights about Rosh Hashanah and the deeper reasons behind hearing the shofar, giving us plenty to think about as we entered the New Year. A very special thank you to our wonderful hosts Rebecca and Gary Lefkowitz, Lauren and Ian Magid, and Michele and Michael Minick for opening their homes and helping make each evening so warm, welcoming, and special.



Tashlich

Our annual Tashlich gathering at the beautiful home of Jodi Turk-Goldberg and Michael Goldberg was another very special afternoon. Thank you, as always, for opening your home and sharing your amazing backyard with our TJJ for Moms Family. A huge thank-you as well to the SKA staff and students for joining us and helping create such a memorable experience. Your incredible singing, energy, and Ruach brought so much joy to the afternoon!



Challah Bake

On September 16, TJJ Moms had another wonderful evening with the Brandeis Association at Shelter Rock Jewish Center. Together with the community, we enjoyed an inspiring and meaningful Challah Bake. We heard inspirational words, spent time together, and of course, made delicious challahs!

It was another wonderful opportunity to come together and strengthen our connections with the larger Jewish community.



Sharing the Mitzvah of Challah

TJJ for Moms were thrilled to have 60 challahs, lovingly made by Nechama, purchased and delivered to families who ordered them. It was a beautiful way to share the mitzvah of challah and bring a little extra sweetness into our homes for the New Year.

Sukkah Experience

This Sukkot, we were so grateful to help 50 public school families, including several TJJ for Moms families, receive a Sukkah and share in the beautiful mitzvah of Sukkot with their families and friends.

We are so happy to help make it possible for more families to experience the joy and meaning of Sukkot together. A very special thank you to Shalom Urria for helping make sure that our TJJ families have a beautiful Sukkah to enjoy. This year, Missy Edelman, one of our Sukkah recipients, opened her Sukkah and hosted a fabulous evening for some of our TJJ for Moms families. She shared inspiring words and meaningful insights about Sukkot, including the story of how the Jewish people lived in Sukkot after leaving Egypt. Her words added so much meaning to the evening and gave us an opportunity to connect the mitzvah of Sukkot to our history and our journey as a Jewish people.





Mom of the Month

Eileen Hoffman

Growing up in a fairly non Jewish area, my parents made sure that Jewish spirituality, tradition, and a strong connection to Israel were central to our home. We attended Shabbat services regularly, celebrated all the Jewish holidays, and understood from an early age that being Jewish was not simply something we were. It was an essential part of who we were.

That connection was deeply rooted in our family history. My mother lost more than 50 relatives in the Holocaust. Three of her cousins joined the resistance, eventually made their way to Israel, and joined the Haganah. One of them later led the 1948 Independence Day parade while carrying the Israeli flag. I grew up hearing my grandparents' stories about the resistance and about the ways they helped keep our relatives alive by sending food and money to safe houses.

Those stories shaped me. Family was always extremely important to me, and we maintained a strong connection with our Israeli relatives, whom we were fortunate to visit many times. Their courage, resilience, and love for Israel became part of my own Jewish identity. I carried their stories with me, even as I built a life of my own.

Then, in 2025, an opportunity arose to walk more directly into that history. My future machatainista, Michelle Honig, told me about a TJJ Moms trip to Poland focused on exploring our Jewish heritage. I immediately knew I wanted to go. I expected the trip to be meaningful because of my family's history. I looked forward to learning more, honoring the relatives I had lost, and standing in places connected to the stories I had heard throughout my life. What I did not expect was how deeply the trip to Poland would connect me not only to my ancestors, but also to the women traveling beside me.

From the moment we began, our fearless leader, Nechama, created an atmosphere of love, compassion, strength, and support. As we moved through Poland, we experienced every possible emotion. There were tears of grief and tears of joy, moments of laughter and moments of silence. We danced, sang, prayed, and cried. But we never did any of it alone. There were 23 women lifting one another through every moment. We came from different backgrounds and carried different stories, but we understood something essential in one another. Sometimes we shared words. Other times, a glance or a hand held tightly was enough. There was extraordinary comfort in being surrounded by women who could feel the weight of the journey and help carry it together.

The trip became more than a journey through Poland. It became a journey through memory, faith, family, and connection. We honored those who came before us, but we also created something new. Friendships and bonds that I know will last a lifetime. Some of the experiences we shared can be described to others. Others belong only to the women who were there. The moments that are difficult to explain because they were felt more deeply than they could ever be put into words. I know I will carry those moments with me forever.

I am profoundly grateful to TJJ Moms, to Nechama, to Michelle, my wonderful machatainista, and to every incredible woman who traveled with me. They made an already meaningful journey into something life changing. I truly believe that Hashem guided me to this trip and placed me among these women at exactly the right time in my life. Through them, I found strength, comfort, joy, and a renewed sense of belonging. They elevated my life in ways I never could have imagined.

I went to Poland to connect with my family, my history, and the generations who came before me. I went to mourn those who were lost and to honor those who survived. But I came home with so much more. I came home with a deeper connection to my Judaism, an even stronger connection to Israel, and a new family of women who will always hold a special place in my heart. I came home understanding that the stories of our ancestors do not end with us. We carry them forward through the way we live, the connections we build, and the love we give to one another. For the history I was able to honor, for the women who helped me carry it, and for the faith and connection I brought home with me, I will be forever grateful.

Eileen Hoffman. Plainview, NY

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 19: Charlie Harary

[Charlie Harary RSVP](#)

October 30: Friday Night of Inspiration, Young Israel of Woodmere, Sign up here:

[Friday Night of Inspiration sign up here](#)

November 1-3 : JSU President Conference | Teen Leadership Conference

Anyone interested in joining us for part of the program is welcome to reach out, and we will be happy to share the schedule.

November 10-17: TJJ for Moms Fall Trip to Israel:

Apply here: [Israel Fall Trip Application 2026](#)

February 16-21: Argentina with TJJ for Moms

July 7-14: TJJ for Moms Israel Summer 2027

<https://tinyurl.com/MomsIsrael2027>

If you would like to open up a JSU club or know someone who wants to open up a JSU club in public or private school, please fill out this form:

<https://jsu.org/start-a-club/>

Check out our Website:

<https://tjjformoms.com/>

TJJ for Moms continues to inspire so many moms, dads, teens, families, and communities. Help us keep the inspiration alive and continue making an impact. [Click here to sponsor or support](#)



TJJ FOR MOMS
Israel Fall 2026
NOVEMBER 10-17

Join TJJ for Moms this Fall 2026 for a trip filled with meaning, connection, and unforgettable moments.

Apply Now <https://tinyurl.com/IsraelFall2026>

For more information contact
Nechama: nechama@ncsy.org or Osey: Osey@ncsy.org

*\$2399 First Timers (Airfare not included)
* \$2599 Previous Participants (Airfare not included)
*Double occupancy rate



TJJ FOR MOMS INVITES YOU TO A
Post-High Holidays
NIGHT OF INSPIRATION
with
CHARLIE HARARY

MONDAY OCTOBER 19
6 PM
RXR UNIONDALE OFFICE
625 RXR PLAZA Y
UNIONDALE, NEW YORK

FREE EVENT

[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/CHARLIEHARARYOCT19](https://tinyurl.com/CHARLIEHARARYOCT19)

For more information contact Yonina Wind 516-554-3818



NCSY and the Young Israel of Woodmere invite you and your family to a
Friday Night of Inspiration
Shabbat Parshat Vayseira
19 Cheshvan 5787
October 30, 2026
YOUNG ISRAEL OF WOODMERE
859 PENINSULA BLVD.
WOODMERE, NY 11598
CANDLE LIGHTING 5:36 PM
GOURMET SHABBAT DINNER 6:30 PM
\$88 PER ADULT
\$100 PER FAMILY
RSVP: [HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/ENI2026](https://tinyurl.com/ENI2026)



TJJ FOR MOMS
Israel Summer 2027 **JULY 7-14**

Join TJJ for Moms this Summer 2027 for a trip filled with meaning, connection, and unforgettable moments.

Apply Now <https://tinyurl.com/MomsIsrael2027>

For more information contact
Nechama: nechama@ncsy.org or Osey: Osey@ncsy.org

*\$2499 First Timers (Airfare not included)
* \$2699 Previous Participants (Airfare not included)
*Double occupancy rate

**If you would like more information please contact
Nechama at: nechama@ncsy.org or Osey at: Osey@ncsy.org**

