

Minutes-July 26

Present: Ketl Freedman-Doan, Rita Benn, Deborah Greene, Harvey Somers, Midge Cone, Rob Deschaine, Renee Robbins, Ann Alpern, Lauren Gold, Amanda Fahim, Jennie Lieberman, Charles Weaver, Fruma Taub, Jennifer Traig

Mendoza family updates: Midge indicates 99% done with paperwork for onboarding Hailey for her summer job. Midge did this process with Hayley. She asked about where to best get a TB test done for Hayley. Lauen suggested contacting Packard Health or Washtenaw Public Health Department. She also explained the difference in costs of lab tests; although blood test results are much quicker, payment may be required for it.

Jennie asked about getting Hailey's fingerprinting done. Midge explained that the school where she is employed will take care of that with her: there's a \$65 charge; the school will pay half and deduct the rest from her first paycheck. Jennie indicated that she feels the family doesn't seem to know this; *Midge will follow up*. Jennie shared how much time she spent with Natalia going over the paperwork that Hayley had already completed with Midge's assistance.

Midge will also follow-up with Natalia on how to enroll the kids in school but someone may need to help/do it for the fall.

Dillan went to one week of summer school. Natalia is not taking ESL right now, so Hailey is doing most of the interpreting. Jennie shared that Natalia is planning to take English at Scarlett in the fall. Amanda reported that Geiler is planning to take electrician classes but will need to get his English up first

Deborah asks if we see a continued need to provide assistance and support (perhaps not financial), as she indicates that this has been common with other co-sponsor groups. Amanda says English learning is life-long and she will provide a contact sheet in the transition to independence with information on ESL. Renee asked if she should reach out to International Neighbors to see if they would like this service to help with her practice of English. She has several friends helping out there. Amanda thought it wouldn't hurt, though we would need to check with the Mendozas to see if they're interested. Amanda will check. Deborah voiced concern about the affluence of volunteers and possibility of discomfort that might arise due to this class difference. Renee will check to see about representation of International Neighbor volunteers.

Action Item: Midge will follow up with Natalia about summer job and school enrollment future needs. Renee will check with International Neighbors.

Closing-up JCOR work with the Mendoza's. Amanda reports that the family knows their co-sponsorship closes in August and they have few needs and concerns. Amanda is currently working on them with home ownership, connecting them with Habitat for Humanity, and has made a budget with them; feels they are in good shape to buy a house.

Amanda will reach out next week to schedule a case closure meeting and anyone is welcome to attend. No one present at the meeting indicated interest to attend. Amanda indicated that they are

welcome to stay in touch as neighbors and friends but are no longer obligated to help if contacted and suggests we redirect them instead to JFS. Ketl inquired about some outstanding healthcare appointments. Amanda will follow up to make sure the family's periodontal and medical treatment is on course.

The closure contact list is here:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sLEHJgLYos01yFTYzNfn-qvz3U-sREwsaVHyOJmAOY/edit>

Team leads: Have team leads been able to contact previous volunteers to ensure they're still on board? Ann Alpern will be stepping in as Health lead. Natalie Iglewicz has been recruited as Education lead. What if we have a lot on one team and not on another team? Do we ask people to move? Welcome and Housing particularly need more people. We will need to check on whether Alice had any luck in reaching the previous team and if there was interest in leading this team. Lauren expressed interest in changing from Childcare to Health or possibly Housing/Welcome depending on scheduling. Dispatch will need more people and will contact their list to check on availability; translator recruiting will have to wait until we know what languages are needed. Education is in good shape.

Action item: Charles will close Education signups on the website (perhaps after revision of website?), Midge will send Natalie the list of volunteers on the team as well as to Rita and Ketl so they can make the changes on the listserve.

Deborah asks if we can have a Google doc to centralize Team Lead descriptions and info with volunteer contact info. This document will be made available only to core leadership team, team and congregational leads. Amanda will be included.

Action item: Jennifer volunteered to make the Google doc and to let us know when this is done so we can send out to Team Leads.

Information in synagogues/recruitment: Informational material and suggestions are welcome as to how to inform and recruit more volunteers. Do we have people to show up at services regularly to recruit/answer questions as previously suggested for BIC? Those present from BIC did not seem to gravitate to regular staffing of this. A QR code for the materials would be a good idea. One was created for Refugee Shabbat that should work. Ketl will get that to Deborah for a website and to disseminate as materials get developed. Rita also reminds us that our own personal networks can be a good place to recruit new volunteers. Do we want to bring in folks from outside the Jewish community on committees? Suggestion that any volunteers interested in making donations or with expertise are welcome to help, as well as unaffiliated members of the Jewish community. Leads should remain congregational.

Action Item: Ketl to send out QRcode created by TBE Refugee Shabbat.

Funding: We still need to raise an additional \$9k to meet our \$15k goal before taking on another family. Rita and Ketl will send Rob the donation letter for the Federation to send out. The Federation indicates that at most this can be done within two weeks. After that is done, we will

ask congregational leads to contact these donors that belong to their congregation through email or phone, if they feel comfortable. Ketl and Rita will be coordinating identifying congregational affiliations from the list of previous donors and congregational leads.

Action Item: Rob to send forwarded donation letter to previous donors. Rita and Ketl will send a list to congregational leads to complete for identification of affiliation.

JCOR/JFS Walk-a-Mile Sept. 10: We will be organizing a team and need more people to join in. Ketl and Fruma will register a team and ask who may be interested to walk together. Charles indicated he registered already. The suggestion was made to walk as a team, with maybe a banner or have T-shirts of a similar color or logo made. We also need a logo for the website—creatives welcome! If ordering shirts: Deborah asks if we really want to order them, and if so, how many; and where would the funding come from. Decision was that individuals would pay for their own T-shirt and *Deborah would inquire about pricing for 25 or so.*

Action Item: Ketl and Fruma to organize and register a Team. Deborah to inquire about pricing for T-shirts.

Logo: The team also discussed logo possibilities. Just indicating the name for our logo or having an image associated with it. Renee's daughter is very artistic and may be willing to help if we give some direction. Rita suggested that Midge, Deborah and Renee get together to generate some designs. A house was suggested to indicate resettlement with the name JCOR. Renee asked about holding hands and that was felt to be too close to what JFS has as their logo.

Action Item: Midge, Deborah and Renee to work on logo designs for Tshirt and website.

Website: We need to get all our info up so we can recruit volunteers and donations. Charles is overseeing the process of migrating the site to save costs and also is more familiar with a different platform. We need team descriptions and a simplified form for signing up. We may want to post photos from our events. We also need to update leadership info (team leads, etc.) Charles reports that it shouldn't take more than a week or two to migrate all the material. Ketl, Debra, Charles, and Rita to schedule a meeting to discuss what they would like to see content-wise and look-wise for the website. Isaac's time to do design work - seems too busy at the moment; though Thursday, TBE will let Ketl know for sure his availability to advise us on thoughts for better navigation or look. Deborah wants to be present at this meeting with Isaac should it happen.

Action Item: Rita, Ketl, Charles and Deborah will meet. Ketl will check with Isaac as well.

Household Items still needed for JCOR2: A [link was sent](#); Midge reports that the kitchen is 99% complete but we still need cleaning supplies. Suggests JCOR committee buy some of these so we are not scrambling at the last minute and will still need to get household furniture. You can bring the item(s) to Midge's house, or you can have Amazon send it to her (Midge Cone 1911 Austin Ave., Ann Arbor 48104 - Green House; Donation Box on Porch)

Action Item: All of us check out JCOR2 needs from the list and drop off what small items and cleaning supplies may still be needed.

QR code:

