

Torch Award 2017 Application												
Submission ID	Club Name	Category	Award	Program Name	First Name	Last Name	Email	Program Overview Summary	Detail Program (Note: In some cases, the description is lengthy. Please double click the cell and move down with your cursor to read all.)	Impact	FJMC	Additional Comments
39	Congregation Beth Shalom Men's Club - Northbrook, IL (543)	Best Overall	Gold	Best Overall	Scott	Rogoff	scrogoff@gmail.com	The Congregation Beth Shalom Men's Club is an active and integral part of our community, providing education, community services, social and bonding experiences, and leadership development. We also host a lot of people. We have a large number of signature, original and creative events and constantly seek to integrate with many other arms of the synagogue. An average year includes at least 150 events and programs. We are a dynamic and committed group of men always striving to enhance our Jewish experience.	Detail Program (Note: In some cases, the description is lengthy. Please double click the cell and move down with your cursor to read all.) I began my Presidency in July of 2015 with the goal of providing innovative and creative programming, in addition to our usual programming, to engage and attract and engage newer younger members to our Men's social group and to provide social programming along with providing educational and spiritual programming for our community at large. An important aspect of fulfilling these goals was to include other branches of our Synagogue and engage in joint programming with these branches. As the award for overall programming is for a single calendar year, I will highlight our programming from April 15, 2016 through April 30, 2017. Yom HaShoah Yellow Candles and Yom HaShoah Program This program was originated by one of our esteemed members, Dr. Jerry Agrest. After many years of success, it had plateaued in terms of fund-raising as the costs of executing the program increased due to postage escalation. We had been raising money for the generalized purpose of "Holocaust education" but that was somewhat nebulous. We found that we were mailing 1200+ candles and getting donations from their families, and though we were raising \$1,000-\$5,000/year, much of that was eaten up by costs. To streamline the program, we needed to establish a definitive, relevant and easily embraced beneficiary. Our Yellow Candles Chairman Steve Lessner (a former CBS and Midwest Region FJMC past president) led this initiative by contacting the Director of Development at the Breis Holocaust Museum and Educational Center. We made a \$10,000 commitment, to be paid over a three year period, to that Youth Opportunity Scholarship Fund, which helps schools lacking the budgets to experience the Museum. The Museum recognized our commitment by placing a plaque on their wall of honor. To our knowledge we are the only synagogue auxiliary organization so recognized. While this initiative was started with our past administration, we fully fulfilled our \$10,000.00 commitment by the time of Yom HaShoah in April of 2016. We celebrated our commitment with a Yom HaShoah program featuring Holocaust survivor Egan Ratkoff. The night started with our USY kids lighting yellow candles in memory of the six million who perished in the Holocaust and telling personal stories about how the Holocaust had personally affected them. After this night moving ceremony, Mr. Ratkoff relayed his extraordinary experiences as a Jewish child who was able to flee the Nazis and his journey from Nazi Germany, through Europe and to America. Wordwide Wrap This service and program was traditionally conducted from the Bima in our main sanctuary. Under the leadership of Rabbi Av Averbach and our Ritual Programming committee, the service was re-engineered to be conducted in the round in one of our social halls. The service became an interactive teaching experience where the history and traditions of letters and some of the prayers were. Over 150 people attended and walked away with a rich spiritual feeling including 40+ Sunday school children who had participated in the Bulk-a-Pair program as well as their parents and many others who had missed the first service due to the snow. We finished up the service with providing our signature breakfast of bagels, tea, cream cheese, eggs, pastries, fruit, coffee, etc. complimentary to all who participated.	The comments on our Overall Programs regarding impact are in submission 4. The comments on our Overall Programs regarding the FJMC are in submission 4. All of the photos for all of our events can be found online in our Men's Club Photo Gallery at: https://bethshalomb.org/gallery/mens-club		
38	Temple Israel Brotherhood - Sharon, MA (74)	Best Overall	Silver	Best Overall Activities	Stephen	Shrago	ssshrago@yahoo.com	This submission is for the Best Overall club.	The following programs were run in consecutive 12 month periods. Due to application limitations, I was unable to attach all the flyers (emails) and pictures individually. For the items below that have been submitted for individual Torch awards, please see the individual applications, as indicated. I have 1 attachment for the flyers(emails) and 1 attachment for pictures. There is also 1 attachment for the golf tournament brochure. Man of the Year - Honoring Cantor Dress - see attachments below for flyer and photos Tour d'Shul - Regional event - hosted by Temple Israel - see attachment below for flyer Executive Board Planning Session - submitted for individual Torch award - please see submission The Combined Temples Charity Golf Tournament - see attached brochure Temple Sukkah Assembling - see attachments below for email and photos Paid Up Supper - see attachment below for flyer Frisco Kid - Tribute to Gene Wilder - see attachment below for flyer Keeper of the Flame - Hosted Regional event Habitat for Humanity - see attachments below for email and photos Breakfast Series - Michael Holey - see attachment below for flyer Breakfast Series - Maria Stephans - see attachment below for flyer breakfast series submitted for individual Torch award - please also see submission HMV - see attachment below for flyer Routes - see attachment below for flyer	By submitting this application and hopefully winning, members from our club will feel good that we are recognized for our overall programming. This award would encourage our members to continue with new creative programs which would draw people to our club. The Brotherhood is one of the most active arms of the temple, if not the most, and the temple knows that they rely on us for any of their needs.	Most of our programs are held at the synagogue, which draws people into our building. We try to include some aspect of Judaism in our programs. Several of our programs involve the Rabbi. This helps our members and the Rabbi get to know each other. The Brotherhood is one of the most active arms of the temple, if not the most, and the temple knows that they rely on us for any of their needs.	
13	South Jersey Men's Club - Cherry Hill, NJ (503)	Club Administration	Bronze	Task Master	Donald	Weissenstein	dweissenstein36@comcast.net	The overall goal of the Task Master is to give structure to and facilitate the organization of all of the activities conducted by the South Jersey Men's Club. It is a great recruiting tool to attract prospective members since it details all of the activities conducted by the club. Finally, it is an excellent way to develop leadership skills and to identify future Board members.	While I served as the president of the South Jersey Men's Club, 2014-2016, it became evident to me that there was no single source that specified the many activities conducted by the club and where our club members could be assigned a given task. This led me to create the Task Master which identifies the duties of each officer, the tasks associated with that office, and which club member has been delegated the responsibility to facilitate the successful completion of a given task. The Task Master is considered a living document and is updated on a monthly basis. Updates are provided to the SJMC Board of Directors and are dated to identify the most recent version. The Task Master can be replicated by any club using any word processing software. The version submitted with this application was created using Apple's Pages program. The organizational chart was created using Org Chart Master, an App that can be purchased from the Apple Store for \$9.99. The only other normal cost would be the printing of hard copies, as needed, to communicate the Task Master to the SJMC Board and the membership. In addition, the Task Master is emailed to the Board on a monthly basis and is posted on our club's website to encourage other members to get involved.	The use of the Task Master greatly enhanced the ability of the the respective officers to carry out their responsibilities. Further, it assures that when a club member volunteers to serve on a committee or to conduct a project, their involvement is documented. This is particularly important to assure that new members are not overlooked, and that when they get involved, the appropriate level of support is provided by the club officers.	The Task Master is intended to help new officers and new members to acclimate into leadership roles. It provides the support network needed for them to experience success in achieving lower level responsibilities and gives them the confidence to seek additional responsibilities in the South Jersey Men's Club and Federation activities.	
5	Temple Israel Brotherhood - Sharon, MA (74)	Club Administration	Gold	Annual Strategic Planning Offsite	Harold	Waisel	haroldwaisel@gmail.com	The officers of Temple Israel of Sharon, MA established an annual one-day strategic planning session in August 2015. Topics discussed include: 1) Review of mission and goals 2) Succession planning 3) Financial status 4) Membership and Programming	The officers of the Brotherhood of Temple Israel of Sharon, MA believe that its organization, while fortunate to be very successful, cannot rest on its laurels. Nearly all of us were new in our officer roles, especially I as President. We decided to take a step back and look at our organization, the demographics of its board and membership, and programming. Like most clubs, we have a dedicated core group of active members who sit on the board and run our programs. We struggle at times to get new blood to volunteer. We agreed that a dedicated, one-day strategic review could help to lay the groundwork for our future success and our ability to sustain the organization. To be successful, we limited our agenda for the day to the high-level, strategic elements that any organization wrestles with. Some of the agenda came from a survey of our Past Presidents to understand what issues, ideas, or concerns they had. We knew of the importance of including our past leaders' input in the process. In surveying the past presidents, we kept it simple and asked only two questions: 1) If we could only focus on one thing in 2015-2016, what would that be? 2) If we could change or improve one program, what would that be and how would you change it? (Survey questions and responses attached). Additionally, as part of the strategic planning session, we also invited one of the most experienced past presidents to participate in the meeting in order to maintain a sense of continuity from past to present to future. Every officer needs to feel included during the session. To accomplish this, we assigned each officer one part of the meeting to lead (agenda attached). Following this process permits everyone to have a chance to understand a particular issue in more depth and to facilitate a portion of the meeting. First, we lacked a Mission Statement. With almost 40 years in existence, we knew what we did and why we did it, but we did not have a formal statement that we could ensure aligned all of the great work our club does. Spending time outlining the key elements of our mission in a succinct format enabled us to express what our Brotherhood means to us, to our membership, to our synagogue, and to our community. It also allowed us to review how we aligned with the mission of our Temple and the mission of the FJMC. Second, the club's By-Laws had not been thoroughly reviewed or amended in almost 30 years. In several instances, how we acted contradicted what our By-Laws stated. Committees that existed in the By-Laws no longer functioned in the real world. We spent time prior to the meeting reviewing the By-Laws individually and then discussed each of our thoughts as a team during the strategic planning session. We proposed several changes to the By-Laws that reflected better how we operated as an organization. The third area of focus was on 2016 and beyond. What are our immediate goals, and what do we hope to achieve 3-5 years down the road? We all knew that we could not change everything in a single year. Many goals reflected the feedback from the past presidents. We also considered FJMC's new initiative and how we could do a better job incorporating it into our By-Laws and programming. We reviewed past programs and discussed how we felt about some long-term programs and if we should either take a break from them or discontinue them altogether. In the end, we determined three major goals: 1) Increase both membership and the number of active members, 2) Build a strong working relationship with our new Rabbi, and 3) Improve our processes and execution of our programs. We have achieved the first two goals, as our club membership is at an all-time high, with a few more active members, and we have a good working relationship with our Rabbi. Improving our processes and execution is a work-in-progress, and we have committed to develop a better playbook and use technology to improve our workflow and communications.	The strategic planning session resulted in many positive impacts. 1) It permits the officers to spend a full day prioritizing the top issues and goals for the club. We determine both short-term (1 year) and longer-term (1-3 years) goals. 2) The greater board membership offers input to the session that is incorporated into the agenda. This gives everyone a voice to guide future club programming. 3) Because each of us owns at least one part of the agenda, each officer has the opportunity to lead discussion and develop skills that can help them professionally. 4) We bond as officers who all have a shared vision in seeing our club remain successful.	The strategic planning session supports FJMC especially in the area of Leadership. A group of 7-8 club leaders gets together to determine the future of our club. We consider both our synagogue's practices and the FJMC's Conservative movement practices in all of the decisions we make to ensure they are in alignment. Because succession and involvement are key concerns for the greater Conservative Jewish community, this meeting proves that engaged men can work together to achieve common goals, and that newer members can become involved in our leadership and have a positive impact into the future success of our club.	
44	Eitz Chaim Men's Club - Thousand Oaks, CA (1006)	Club Administration	Silver	Office of the President	Benny	Sommerfeld	benny.sommerfeld@gmail.com	This is actually a regional initiative that I am highlighting since I think that we Western Region have done something that can benefit all regions. We have decided since a year back to have weekly video meetings with the President, EVP and Admin VP when we normally have lunch or sometimes later, we call it the President's Office. We have the opportunity to discuss all issues in a very non-confronting way and a wonderful way to create a deeper relationship between us.	We have, as many other regions, our executive meeting every other month in-between a board meeting when we invite the clubs to participate. We, therefore, decided to create different workflows of running the region. We investigated different collaboration tools and have now decided to use a video conference tool called Zoom. The meeting is a working lunch meeting and it allows all three of us to deal with whatever issues that come our way and besides we are much better prepared at our board meetings where we are the key individuals responsible for the different portions of running the region. It is a unique and original program that is spearheading within our region. We have without a doubt become much more effective as a leadership team not to mention very good friends. I have mentioned this in some of our "Incoming presidents" meetings and all attendees are really interesting when I mention this new setup. PROS Supports the overall theme of involving Jewish men in Jewish life. Innovative a fresh way of collaborating in an era of technology. Works from everywhere in the world. Trips abroad has not stopped us from having our 1-hour meeting. Cameras have increased and it is gone without leadership team then ever before. Its sole purpose is improving communication and synchronizing our opinions on issues. No decision making is done only friendly reminders on things that are in need to get done. We are held accountable to each other. We help each other to focus on specific tasks if needed. We prepare for some of the effort work that goes along with some parts of the agenda. We can strategize and have better inside before facing the issue at the board meeting. We can share access to clubs if they need it. We are using this collaboration tool when meeting with MRJ leadership.	Huge gains and efficiency in running the region and very positive atmosphere while the meeting is on. This also translates to our board meetings where we are very supportive of each other.	Would make a better FJMC among all regional boards. Supports Leadership: We are a much better team and we can be more supportive since we have established a great relationship with all three of us. Supports Innovation: We take advantage of technology and find tools that enhance our common goal of running a Western region. Supports Community: Happy board+Happy clubs; Great team work makes the regional easier and more impactful, more successful to our membership clubs. This translates to a better community.	I hope that whoever judges this initiative recognizes the value of a regional team award. Bvbncha, Benny

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24	Sheva Torah Men's Club - Gaithersburg MD (1114)	Club Administration		PayPal to the Rescue	David	Freeman	davidfreeman@gmail.com	<p>One of the biggest challenges for our club has been the collection and recording of payments (bills, Yom HaPoel donations, schol fees, event admission fees, etc.). We often found ourselves unsure what payments have been received, by whom and when. By switching primarily to PayPal and its invoice functionality for our collectors, we may pay a fee, but we have experienced significant improvements in our cash collections and overall organization.</p>	<p>Overview</p> <p>Over the past 6 months, we have transitioned all of our membership and event planning to an online format. This has helped us stay organized and has made accounting extremely easy and efficient for all of our members and people are accountable. One challenge for Sheva Torah has been how to increase our base membership as well as our community reach. This year we stepped back and took a new approach. Instead of simply requesting dues from past Men's Club members and social participants, we emailed a compelling letter explaining how the new process will work. The letter has sold all of the benefits of being a member, as well as our upcoming events. It also explains how it's not mandatory that they pay the invoice and they can easily ignore the invoice if they are not interested, opt-out from future membership requests or completely removed from our distribution. After a few days, we sent out the invoice from our PayPal account to all active men in the synagogue. The response was an outpouring of paid invoices with a handful of new recruits. After a week or so, one more time a week after that. All in all, our new experiment doubled the size of our club from 30 members last year to over 60 current members and still growing. We plan to send another reminder after Pesach now that we've physically spoken to our members over the last few months, and returned to more attention.</p> <p>Process</p> <p>Open up a Business PayPal account (https://www.paypal.com/webapps/mpp/merchant?tr=2) which will allow you to take payments in person or via the internet. This also means that you can have a credit card swiper (if you chose to) for events to take payments on the spot. It also comes with a debit card allowing for easy transactions without having to reimburse people.</p> <p>Organize your email-database. This should include first and last name, address, and phone number.</p> <p>Email the men of the congregation explaining the new process and how they can opt-in. This email should be sent about a week prior to sending the actual invoice.</p> <p>Easily create customizable (with your club logo, address, phone, etc.) template for membership dues from your PayPal Business account. These templates are easy to create, modify, and duplicate for future events.</p> <p>Import all of your email addresses into PayPal. The invoicing will allow for you to mail merge them all in, in one simple one step copy and paste process. Once imported it will give you the option to send all the invoices at once.</p> <p>From here you can manage everything through PayPal. When someone pays an invoice, it alerts you via email and marks them as paid in your account. It will also give you the option to cancel the invoice. Lastly you can send out friendly reminders with a simple click of a button.</p>	<p>Online payment, specifically the PayPal invoicing functionality, has allowed us to easily grow our club to over 200%. We expect our paid membership to rise to approximately 50% of our synagogue families. We carry over and emphasize the importance of this enhanced functionality in the growth of our club.</p> <p>Using this PayPal functionality, it is simply too easy not to do. The 3.7% fee charged by PayPal is easily recouped through the large number of new members we have attracted.</p>		
81	South Jersey Men's Club - Cherry Hill, NJ (653)	Community Outreach	Bronze	Toys For Tears	Michael	Perloff	mikep2@comcast.net	<p>Recognizing an increase in reported anti-Semitic incidents and a need for the Jewish Community to enhance its image, the South Jersey Men's Club (SJMC) expanded a program called "Toys For Tears". We distributed over 650 stuffed animals for children under stress to dozens of local, county, state, and federal agencies in the Tri-state region. Each individually packaged stuffed animal is affixed with a label which states that it has been donated by the local Jewish Community.</p>	<p>Recognizing an increase in reported anti-Semitic incidents and a need for the Jewish Community to enhance its image, the South Jersey Men's Club (SJMC) expanded a program called "Toys For Tears". We distributed over 650 stuffed animals for children under stress to dozens of local, county, state, and federal agencies in the Tri-state region. Each individually packaged stuffed animal is affixed with a label which states that it has been donated by the local Jewish Community.</p> <p>What were the goals and challenges of your program?</p> <p>Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To help members of Law Enforcement assist children in stressful situations To provide Men's Club Members an opportunity to engage in Tikun Olam activities while practicing social responsibility. <p>Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enhance relations between the Jewish and Law Enforcement communities To project a positive image of the Jewish Community to the non-Jewish community To develop personal relationships with Law Enforcement at every level <p>How does your program enhance the image of FJMC, your region, and your club?</p> <p>By providing stuffed animals in packages indicating that they have been provided by the Jewish community to Law Enforcement personnel, we are both making their job a little easier and helping children in stressful situations.</p> <p>By doing the first distribution of stuffed animals as a presentation at our club's Law Enforcement Appreciation Breakfast, the attendees learn of the role of the FJMC and its Middle Atlantic Region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is its value in building or strengthening your club? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The distribution of tasks between many members serves to build camaraderie and cooperation in the club. Our members very much take to heart the appreciation expressed by members of Law Enforcement for the time, effort, and caring for this ongoing project Artisidal feedback about how the stuffed animals have been helping makes us all feel good about this project. Who is your target audience? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internally, our members Externally, the general public and the Law Enforcement community 	<p>Approximately 10% of our membership participated. We have received nothing but positive feedback from the agencies that distribute the stuffed animals we provide. That includes heartwarming testimonial evidence that therapeutic impact on children who were victims of molestation, trafficking, house fires, traffic accidents, and other traumatic incidents. The stuffed animals have also been used to distract children when the adults are being interviewed. This has led to our membership having a general feeling of pride and accomplishment about this program.</p>	<p>Leadership - Members taking responsibility for the different aspects of this program</p> <p>Public confidence</p> <p>Innovation - Mentoring the Jewish Community on the labels</p> <p>Community - Working together with local, county, state, and federal law enforcement agencies helped build a sense of community and mutual respect.</p>	<p>We were fortunate to be able to fund this project with donations from many of our members plus some local law enforcement men and women who felt it was helping children in distress. One of our members saw suitable stuffed animals and Ziploc bags in a national chain of Dollar Stores and arranged for bulk purchases and delivery one of their local locations. We now cover agencies in parts of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware.</p>
14	Beth Torah Men's Club - Richardson, TX (1413)	Community Outreach	Gold - Chair's Choice	Dallas Kosher BBQ Championship	Adv	Zebony	advz@iadicom.com	<p>The Congregation Beth Torah Men's Club funded the now annual Dallas Kosher Barbecue Championship in 2016, spearheading a popular event that attracts a wide spectrum of people throughout the region. With the slogan "The National Cuisine of Texas Meets The Dietary Laws of The Bible", the championship event has raised the profile of the synagogue in North Texas and quickly become a significant date on Dallas' Jewish calendar, appealing to every segment of the Jewish community as a festive day of kosher food, entertainment and unity.</p>	<p>The Men's Club actually conceived and began planning for a barbecue championship in 2013, aiming for a fall 2014 event. Because of the preparation involved, we decided to postpone it for a year to ensure a more successful event. A committee of members and responsibilities is set up, as well as a Media Kit detailing the event and its background. After the planning, CIBT members traveled to Kansas City, which established a kosher barbecue championship several years earlier, to observe and learn from their experience. That helped us to plan the event, and we were fortunate to connect with a local furniture store that agreed to host us, providing a huge and better facility with a more central location.</p> <p>We also connected with the Kansas City Barbecue Society, a worldwide group that sanctions barbecue competitions, to make the Dallas Kosher Barbecue Championship a KCBS event. This added prestige to the event, as well as national publicity through their online and print media. It has also helped them promote kosher barbecue as a separate category for their competitors as many Jewish groups attend their events.</p> <p>We announced the inaugural Dallas Kosher Barbecue Championship about a year before the event. This allowed us several months before the event to reach out to Jewish institutions and organizations to encourage them to enter. A website (http://dallaskosherbbq.com) and Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=dallas%20kosher%20bbq%20championship) were set up well in advance and updated frequently throughout the year. We posted large flyers in restaurants and supermarkets frequented by Jewish customers. The local Jewish newspaper, the Texas Jewish Post, ran ads and a story before the event, and the championship succeeded in garnering advance publicity from The Dallas Morning News and local news websites and blogs.</p> <p>Local media and culinary figures were eager to serve as celebrity judges, and for the inaugural championship we were extremely fortunate to enlist Simon Majumdar, a popular chef and host on the Food Network, as the emcee. He couldn't make it back in 2016, so we had one of the best-known radio personalities in Dallas instead. To stress that this is a community-wide event, we brought the Community Homes for Adults, Inc. (CHA), an organization serving Jewish mentally-challenged adults, into the effort, dedicating a portion of the profits to the group and inviting their residents to help the preparation. It has been worthwhile and meaningful for both sides.</p> <p>The first year we drew about 1,000 people - despite threatening skies and occasionally heavy rain throughout the weekend. Attendance rose to about 1,600 in 2016, and we anticipate steady growth as the event becomes more established in the community.</p> <p>The goals of the program were to combine our love of barbecue with an event for the community that would showcase both our Men's Club and Congregation Beth Torah, in a diverse Jewish community that spans ultra-religious synagogues and kollets all the way to a gay and lesbian congregation. It is a challenge to design and carry out an event that appeals to everyone, and there are unfortunately not very many such events during the year. With the help of Dallas Kosher, the local certification group, we achieved that goal from the outset and hope to build on that success each year.</p> <p>The success of a club from a medium-sized synagogue (about 330 families, about 75 Men's Club members) in staging such a large and complicated event was a boost to the morale and confidence of the entire congregation. By having a separate barbecue committee, we accomplished this without disrupting the club and programs of the Men's Club throughout the year. Many members drew the idea of the kosher barbecue championship, and we had help from many other segments of the synagogue. But we believe we are the first Men's Club to organize an event like this, as larger organizations such as Jewish Federations usually shoulder the responsibility. We're proud to have proven it can be done, and we look forward to doing it better and better for years to come.</p>	<p>At the outset, Congregation Beth Torah's Men's Club had several goals. We wanted a major event to be held annually to help give drive participation in our club. We wanted to fundraise for our synagogue and another charitable organization. We wanted to "take CIBT on the map" by putting on a community oriented event that gained publicity for our well established but generally less well known congregation in Dallas. Finally, as Texans, we wanted a Jewish event where we could eat good kosher BBQ.</p> <p>In the two short years that we've conducted the event, we've firmly established ourselves as one of the major events on the Dallas Jewish community calendar. We've increased pride and awareness for Congregation Beth Torah, and we've motivated wide participation at all levels of our club. People, Jew and non-Jew alike, have been exposed to good kosher BBQ. Also, the fundraising aspect of the event has further cemented our synagogue's relationship with Chai House, a home of special needs adults in our community.</p>	<p>Beth Torah Men's Club programming happens year round, this is the event that engages the members throughout the year as planning for the next year starts before the last trophies are even given out. Matters of kosher and Shabbat have been organized each year, and this has widened the understanding of several club members as we've worked with our rabbis, the mesivtah from the local halachah and kashrut committee who start their smoking Saturday evening after Shabbat has ended. Truly, this event embodies involving Jewish Men in Jewish Life with equal parts Leadership, Innovation and Community—that, plus great meat!</p>	<p>We have a Dropbox folder with dozens of documents, photos and other files that was part of the planning of this event. It was truly not possible to post everything in this application. We would be willing to share our experiences with other Men's Clubs that have an interest in putting on a similar event. Indeed, we have already had observers come to our event to aid in planning their own.</p> <p>Also, we learned much of what we learned ourselves from observing KCBS BBQ competitions. There was much adaptation to make them KOSHER, but much of the checklists and planning timelines were gleaned from out teams of observers over several competitions.</p>
9	Beth Israel Brotherhood - Worcester, MA (723)	Community Outreach	Silver	World Wide Wrap - Souper Bowl Sunday	Steven	Wolfe	pharmagees@verizon.net	<p>The program began with our Brotherhood's participation in World Wide Wrap on Sunday morning, Feb. 8th, 2017. Following the service, some members participated in a new program at Congregation Beth Israel called Souper Bowl Sunday along with Social Action Committee members to prepare a meal and deliver it to a local shelter. We were motivated by the number of Souper Bowl Parties and the incredible amount of food waste that they generate. In order to plan this event, we partnered with another local synagogue (Beth Tikhav Synagogue) and involved USFons from Beth Israel as well as asking 4 youth from Beth Tikhav. There is a tremendous lesson to be learned by starting your program by Laying Tallit and Reciting the Shema which teaches us that praying and working with fellow Jews can lead to other Mitot such as the importance of Community and feeding the hungry (those who are less fortunate than ourselves).</p>	<p>We started our Souper Bowl Sunday, Feb. 8th, 2017 with our World Wide Wrap Service. We had a myriad before the start of our service, many of the men were Tefillin and there were a couple of people who had not dined before. By the end of the service, we had 14 congregants participating in the service which had the privilege to lead. I would term this year's service a success in comparison to the 2 previous years in which I planned the program with a breakfast and a speaker following the service. In preparation for the 2nd part of our Souper Bowl program, Rabbi Aviva Feldman had approached Chai House, a local Brotherhood President and past President of Congregation Beth Israel, at the beginning of December, 2016, to come up with a program to lead the hungry in response to the horrible food waste of Souper Bowl parties which seem to be the theme of the Souper Bowl games which the United States Football Hall of Fame has adopted. I was excited to join his Ravitov Committee for the event which we would call our "Souper Bowl" Program in which we would partner with Hebrew School students, teachers & parents of the Beth Tikhav Synagogue, a non-denominational synagogue located in Westborough, MA and the Social Action Committee of Cong. Beth Israel as well as USF members, adult and parent and Brotherhood members, and other congregational members of Cong. Beth Israel. E.J. Davis, President of Beth Tikhav Synagogue would be their spokesperson and attend our planning meetings along with Social Action Committee members, Howard and myself. Howard had told me a website called SouperBowl.org which works with young people and their youth groups to transform the time around the Souper Bowl into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving by mobilizing youth to care for people in their local communities who are hungry or in need. By joining in serving and giving to those in need we can reverse the negative impact that hunger and poverty have on individuals and the communities in which they live. Planning Meetings were held Dec. 7, 2016, and Jan. 5, 2017, as well as an on-site meeting on Feb. 2, 2017 and final preparations for the Event. I have included MS-Word files of Agendas and Details of those meetings for other clubs to use as a reference. Our Program began with a light breakfast organized by Committee members (Howard & myself) to begin as soon as our World Wide Wrap Service had concluded.</p> <p>Please see my MS-Word file below for full Program Description.</p> <p>The MS-Word file below with description (Thank-you note) was a Thank you note written to me by Deb Fine and Nancy Spilnick, Co-Presidents of Cong. Beth Israel.</p>	<p>Most of the adults who participated in our Souper Sunday event were Brotherhood members and their families. It was great to see all 25 of the young people working together and having a good time as well. I regret that more Brotherhood members could have been included, but of all the factors, the program was the most important. All of the young people who listened to the discussion led by Rabbi Feldman and E.J. Davis walked away with a feeling of what "hunger" is like and what we as a community can do to combat it. I can't say enough of what Rachel's Table does in the community by providing food to those who really need it.</p>	<p>Please see my MS-Word file w description (Reflections).</p>	<p>This type of program is a great way to get families involved and work together toward a common goal. There are people in every community who live with hunger on a daily basis. If we do this event again next year, I know it will be bigger and better. Hopefully, we can get more food donated and delivered to at least one more food pantry.</p>
60	Marlboro Jewish Center Men's Club - Marlboro, NJ (976)	Community Outreach		Haimsha Helper	Alan	Greenberg	Greenbergalan@yahoo.com	<p>Haimsha Helper was a program born a few years ago while listening to our Rabbi speak during a High Holiday service about giving back and then helping a friends elderly Mother with some tasks around her home she could no longer accomplish. The mission of Haimsha Helper is to help members of our community who need help either for a long term issue or short term such as recovery from a surgery to tasks in their homes that they can no longer do. It could be as simple as changing a light bulb, a battery, moving a box from the attic or more furniture. Our Men's Club members are available to help with small tasks and projects for the community who needs some extra help.</p> <p>Every week in our email to the community and our monthly Temple Talks, there is a blurb included with a brief description of what we can do along with contact info. This helps to spread the word and make our Men's Club more visible for programming other than what many know us for.</p> <p>Our target is all members of our community. It may be someone who is elderly and not able to climb a ladder to change a light bulb or take a box out of the attic. It could be someone younger who had a surgery and needs some help doing simple tasks that are no longer doable at the moment. We are able to help who ask for help, do not charge and only ask they share with their friends that Haimsha Helpers is available.</p> <p>We have no budget for this and no need to spend funds. This is a give back of time and skill, no monetary commitment from either side.</p>	<p>The concept for Haimsha Helper began a few years when listening to our Rabbi during a High Holiday service and his message about giving back. Shortly afterwards, I helped a friends elderly mother with some tasks around her home that she could no longer accomplish. A concept was born at that moment, today, the MJC Haimsha Helper has 10 or so Men from our community who are available to help with their homes with tasks they can no longer do for themselves. Whether it's a long term issue or short term such as recovery from a surgery or broken bone, we are able to help as needed.</p>	<p>While the program is still in its infancy, it has been used multiple times by many congregants. As we meet with our community, the concept is embraced, although it could be utilized more than it is. There is a need for the service, our services sometimes seem hesitant to ask for help, although with some using Haimsha Helper, the help they spread the word.</p>	<p>I feel that by giving back to our community, we embrace Jewish core values. We support our community and give back.</p>	

Serial	Club Name	Category	Award	Program Name	First Name	Last Name	Email	Program Overview/Summary	Detail Program (Note: In some cases, the description is lengthy. Please double click the cell and move down with your cursor to read all.)	Impact	FAMC	Additional Comments	
26	Beit Judeus Men's Club - Long Grove, IL (642)	Educational Programming	Bronze	Ramah Wisconsin Tefilin Project	Evan	Rumack	evanrumack@fym.org	In a long distance need of being informed, Beit Judeus Men's Club (BJMC) quickly mobilized to answer the needs of Camp Ramah Wisconsin's provide tefillin and instruction to the camp's attendees and staff. Within a very short time, both learner and donated sets of tefillin were sent, and some club members went to Ramah Wisconsin (5-12 hours away) to meet with campers and staff and to explain World Wide Wrap style the meaning, content, and mechanics of laying tefillin. CBU Word Report Supplement for Torah application.	In a long-distance need of being informed, Beit Judeus Men's Club (BJMC) quickly mobilized to answer the needs of Camp Ramah Wisconsin to provide tefillin and instruction to the camp's attendees and staff. Within a very short time, both learner and donated sets of tefillin were sent, and some club members went to Ramah Wisconsin (5-12 hours away) to meet with campers and staff and to explain World Wide Wrap style the meaning, content, and mechanics of laying tefillin. CBU Word Report Supplement for Torah application. This was an original program for FAMC. The source of the program was the reputation of CBJMC in being a club known for its intense World Wide Wrap and Bull's a Pair involvement coupled with our next generation of FAMC members who work hard and take money opportunities but want "well" feasible and important parts of our Movement, and CBJMC determined immediately that we, leaders and involved members of the club, needed to put our money and our life to action, while at the same time creating and following through on the goals and providing feasibility and responsiveness. Our first task was to determine needs. The initial emergency was that for the Summer term of 2016 Ramah Wisconsin was incorporating many young staff members from Masorti communities from many parts of the world. Ramah had also dedicated itself to sponsoring Ramah age children in the upper grades who had particular financial challenges. One glaring result of these two Ramah initiatives is that it turned out that a good number of the participants lacked access to sets of tefillin, and Ramah had no significant inventory of tefillin to the overwhelming need. Ten days before Ramah 2016 was to commence, the problem became apparent. The Executive Director of Ramah, Rado David Soffer, had occasion to be in a discussion with the Rabbi of CBU, who at the time was serving as chairman of the Ramah Movement, both vertically and horizontally. Here, an emergency call came from one of the most important people in the movement, and CBJMC could formulate a plan to help. What followed was a frenzy of activity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Contact Rado Soffer to ascertain the scope and immediacy of the program. 2) Recruit CBJMC members to work on the following tasks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Identify how many sets of tefillin might be available at CBU for IMMEDIATE use and shipment up to Ramah Wisconsin. This included not only bringing inventory of tefillin, but checking each set for completeness and condition, determining right or left handedness, making sure an appropriate bag could be included for each set, and appropriately labeling each set. Several CBJMC and other CBU congregants were drafted in a matter of hours before Shabbat to meet on the next Sunday to accomplish these tasks. b) Identify how many permanent sets of learning Tefillin Ramah needed immediately for that summer and for the future. After several telephone conversations with several Ramah staff members, it was determined at least 12 sets would be needed. CBJMC then and there pledged to do what it could. c) Publicize the need. Over Chabot our CBU members mobilized throughout the region to publicize the contact from Ramah and to make community announcements of the CBJMC plans for the following day, both to get help with inventorying the CBU tefillin and to begin communicating tzedaka and financial commitments. d) Do the work to get learners immediately. On Sunday, the school committee assembled for an instructional on what to look for in sets of tefillin, condition, how to identify identifying sets, how to appropriately unwrap and wrap sets for dignified transport. The inspection yielded 9 sets of tefillin in perfect condition and had the additional educational goal and ritual goal of identifying sets, receiving completion and repair, a project for another day. By the end of the day 9 sets were packaged and labeled. Ramah Staff picked up the sets at CBU on Tuesday to make sure they were at Ramah. e) Expand the project to purchase new sets. By noon Sunday it was clear that buying CBU tefillin was not going to be the long-term answer, as CBU would not have that many sets back. A plan was developed as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Contact FAMC National Office/Store. Explain the need, determine what inventory the Store had, negotiate for volume price, negotiate for shipping and determine potential logistics. 	With all due humility, this emergency project, which morphed into an inter-organizational outreach education and FAMC publicity tour, was outstanding in its development of pride in our organization at CBU, pride in the FAMC mission statement actualized with both money and time, accruing praise and accolades from every facet of the FAMC, CBU, Regional FAMC, and especially the Ramah communities. It reinforced that Jewish laymen can react to a Jewish need and promptly and selflessly engage for their community. It has been an important part of activating our message to our next generation of FAMC members who work hard and take money opportunities but want "well" feasible and skin oiled action. It is our mission, intent and hope that the connections forged among these groups can be built upon so that there is more and sustainable Conservative organizational cooperation and instant mobility of action.	CBI Men's Club expanded the horizon of Camp Ramah Wisconsin and its staff to include FAMC and its involvement in providing and teaching tefillin practices. Because of project, they were able to learn first hand what FAMC and its member clubs can do to help the Jewish community.	The entire application narrative is in the file noted above under "Admission Program Planning."	
69	Beit Chaim Men's Club - Thousand Oaks, CA (1036)	Educational Programming	Gold	"Under the Golden Dome" Sunday Service by @poc	Mark	Zucherman	mark@zmbg.com	As part of our Sunday Speaker Brunch program, we look for a variety of interesting speakers and topics that are both interesting and engaging to our community members. Jewish / Muslim relations are a difficult and important topic that affects us greatly. Our Club decided that we should reach away from a difficult topic and reached out to Islamic leaders from our local Islamic Community Center to speak and answer questions about Islam and how they as Muslims view Jews and the Jewish religion. We felt that it was important to have a leader of the Muslim faith come and address these important topics with us directly. This direct personal interaction and dialog could help build local relationships and better understanding of the major issues that affect our community and Israeli and relations with her neighbors. The tough questions that our Club Members and local community asked to be addressed in the event included difficult questions about core Islamic values and the relationship between Islamic theology and terrorist organizations, such as ISIS.	In this past Sunday brunch topic on Jewish / Muslim relations would have been considered too difficult or controversial to do so well. Like many Shul or congregation committees of members that cross the entire spectrum of ideological opinions, we would have to manage the topic with great care to keep our Sunday Brunch serene as informative and engaging without unproductive debate or political discourse. This program was a great success. We are coming back to the idea that we really wanted to increase our understanding of the Islamic faith we need to have a Muslim or leader of the Islamic faith come and speak with us. We are extending VP of Events, Elad Shurman and interested club members to search for possible local Islamic Speakers in our area. Ultimately we were out in contact with Arel Albi, Director of the Public Affairs in the Islamic Center of Reseda Mosque. We knew that the Sunday Brunch to be successful, our speakers had to present with confidence in the speakers and their ability to sensitively yet accurately address our audience. Elad and others made an agreement with Arel and Arel Albi, CBU on a Wednesday afternoon to meet the speakers and explain and review the topic and types of difficult questions we would like them to try and address to our community. Our advance team felt comfortable and confident that they could deliver a meaningful, substantive presentation on Islam and how they, Jewish, relate. Questions that were submitted to the speakers ahead of time and address included the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the core Islamic values? 2. How do Muslims feel about Judaism? 3. What are the major phases of Islamic history? 4. What is the Hajj? 5. What movements are characteristic of Muslim prayer? 6. Does Islamic theology drive ISIS? 7. What is behind the Sun/Shah duhduh? 8. Have Muslim leaders issued fatwas against terrorists? 9. How can our communities work together? In order to have a well-run and organized brunch presentation, we elected to forgo the typical live Q&A from the audience. Instead we asked for questions to be written on provided cards at the table and selected questions for our speakers to answer as time permitted. We believe that this program positively raised and elevated our Sunday Brunch program visibility both within our Shul and local community. We have also demonstrated that our Men's Club can and has played a positive and vital role in educating our community and fostering a meaningful dialog between Muslims and Jews. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the goals of the program? To enhance the appreciation of worldwide Jewish culture through food and educational presentations. The event not intended to be a fundraiser, but if we make a little money... 2. Are there specific problems or challenges that address a regional / national / cultural community aware that not all Jews share the same cultural customs. 3. How does this program enhance the image of FAMC, our region, and our club? Kol Rahm Men's Club always promotes FAMC in our congregation as a support. And it is the encouragement and inspiration of FAMC that our club produces such programs. 4. What is its value in building or strengthening our club? It shows that our men's club is not just a private social club, but is seen as part of its mission to present Jewish-themed activities for the entire congregation to learn from and enjoy. 5. Who is the target audience? Kol Rahm congregation members of all ages. 6. How does this program support FAMC's mission - involving Jewish Men in Jewish Life? Of course, producing this program involves men of our men's club, and in the process will have learned about Jewish cultures unlike our own. 7. Describe the source of the program and its unique aspects. It began when one of our members who is a professor of Japanese Studies at Washington University in St. Louis suggested to my predecessor president that the men's club by a dinner and presentation about Japan that includes Japanese cuisine and the professor would talk about his Japan (where he had lived for many years) and his experiences as a Jew there. 8. Is this an original program or an adaptation of an enhancement of a previous program? This is an original program. 	This Sunday brunch presentation was very well received by our Shul and community. While we viewed this topic and presentation as "not without risk," we were able to successfully engage and conduct the Speaker dinner very successfully. By reaching out and stretching ourselves into this potentially controversial and difficult topic, we demonstrated that we are capable of fully caring out our mission of Leadership and Innovation when it comes to educational programming in our community.	By not shying away from the difficulties of this topic, we demonstrated the strength of our organization and willingness to go the extra effort to create meaningful and interesting engagements with our Club and community. This is vital important to stay relevant in today's demanding environment where there are many options on how you choose to stay informed on important issues.		
20	Kol Rahm Men's Club - St. Louis, MO (633)	Educational Programming	Silver	Mazon HaClum	Max	Brown	darbyzay@ih@gmail.com	Mazon HaClum is designed to educate our congregational community regarding Jewish traditions and customs worldwide. The program begins with a meal of traditional cuisine with Jewish communities around the world. In addition, guest speakers share their experience with the appropriate community. The presentation includes slides, video and music. We have presented Jewish in Japan, A Taste of India and are planning A Night in Casablanca – the Food of Jewish Morocco.	"What are the goals of the program?" To enhance the appreciation of worldwide Jewish culture through food and educational presentations. The event not intended to be a fundraiser, but if we make a little money... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the goals of the program? To enhance the appreciation of worldwide Jewish culture through food and educational presentations. The event not intended to be a fundraiser, but if we make a little money... 2. Are there specific problems or challenges that address a regional / national / cultural community aware that not all Jews share the same cultural customs. 3. How does this program enhance the image of FAMC, our region, and our club? Kol Rahm Men's Club always promotes FAMC in our congregation as a support. And it is the encouragement and inspiration of FAMC that our club produces such programs. 4. What is its value in building or strengthening our club? It shows that our men's club is not just a private social club, but is seen as part of its mission to present Jewish-themed activities for the entire congregation to learn from and enjoy. 5. Who is the target audience? Kol Rahm congregation members of all ages. 6. How does this program support FAMC's mission - involving Jewish Men in Jewish Life? Of course, producing this program involves men of our men's club, and in the process will have learned about Jewish cultures unlike our own. 7. Describe the source of the program and its unique aspects. It began when one of our members who is a professor of Japanese Studies at Washington University in St. Louis suggested to my predecessor president that the men's club by a dinner and presentation about Japan that includes Japanese cuisine and the professor would talk about his Japan (where he had lived for many years) and his experiences as a Jew there. 8. Is this an original program or an adaptation of an enhancement of a previous program? This is an original program. 	Our congregants greatly anticipate the Mazon HaClum programs. The program began with Shabbat and Shabbat. One of our congregants is a professor of Japanese studies at Washington University in St. Louis. He became involved in assisting in decorations, food selection and he was the guest speaker. He described his many visits to Japan and shared interesting the crowd with haluk readings. And of course, the attendees enjoyed a delicious dinner of kosher sushi and sake – some for the first time. The next year we presented A Taste of India. This event was catered by a kosher Indian restaurant. Our guest led chav yaga exercises and presented slides of site and her husband as they provided medical care for the poor in India. He is a doctor and a nurse. This year we will be presenting A Night in Casablanca, the Jewish cuisine of Morocco. One of our congregants is Moroccan, as well as a gourmet cook. The impact is that the Mazon HaClum program as a two-fold educational event helps add to the stature of the Men's Club as a mission-driven cultural organization, not just a social club.	Our Mazon HaClum programs support FAMC's mission by involving our Men's Club members in researching Jewish customs, foods and items from Jewish communities that are foreign to us in the United States. Our Mazon HaClum programs involve the men in our Men's Club in planning and executing a special event. By having subcommittees, the responsibility of leadership is divided among the committee instead of given to just one person – the general chair. The program is innovative because it is designed to not only bring the favors of far-ranging Jewish communities, it also offers to our community an educational component about those other Jewish communities around the world.	We intend to mount a display of our Mazon HaClum program at the FAMC conventions in July that includes the steps of producing such an event, photos and marketing materials, as well as ideas for about Jewish communities around the world.	
71	Beit El Temple Men's Club - West Hartford (217)	Educational Programming		A Secret Tunnel: The Greatest Escape of the Holocaust and What we can Learn from the Human Spirit on 9/11	David	Diamond	daviddiamond2@comcast.net	Local college professor and temple member, Dr. Richard Freund, a world-renowned archeologist, led a team which discovered a tunnel used for the escape and survival of 11 Jews during the Holocaust. The discovery, filmed for a PBS documentary on the show NOVA, was reported in an article in the New York Times and received extensive media coverage worldwide. Immediately after the New York Times article was published, representatives from the Men's Club and Chai Society (in a group for members aged 55+) had a brief phone conversation and immediately agreed to move forward with a breakfast presentation by Dr. Freund.	The idea for this breakfast program was generated by a prominent article in the New York Times about the discovery of an escape tunnel which saved the lives of 11 Jews during the Holocaust. Local college professor and temple member, Dr. Richard Freund, a world-renowned archeologist, led the team which made the discovery. Dr. Freund had presented at both Men's Club and Chai Society programs in the past. Men's Club program he received a phone call from a Chai Society rep who suggested they collaborate for a breakfast program with Dr. Freund. We immediately agreed to move forward, and confirmed Dr. Freund's availability before finalizing a program date. Our goal was to collaborate together and be the first to showcase the amazing discovery led by Dr. Freund. Our target audience was not just members of our temple, but the entire community, including those affiliated with the university where Dr. Freund was a professor. The program was valuable in showcasing how our own community to provide valuable educational programming. Having worked together many times previously, the Men's Club and Chai Society easily shared the various tasks involved in running a program. With about 150 people in attendance, it was one of the most successful breakfast programs we've had.	With 150 attendees, including many from the community, the program showcased how the Men's Club and another programming arm of the temple can collaborate to provide high-quality programming.	This program clearly relates to innovation. It connected people of all ages, from college students to seniors, both within our temple and in the community.		
74	Beit El Temple Men's Club - West Hartford (217)	Educational Programming		Breakfast Program: Images of America - Jewish Community of Hartford	David	Diamond	daviddiamond2@comcast.net	The Jewish Historical Society of Greater Hartford (JHSGH) had recently published a book "Images of America - Jewish Community of Hartford", which had photos and stories of people who grew up in the Hartford area. The Men's Club, in collaboration with the temple's Library Committee as well as the JHSGH, had a breakfast program which included the stories of four temple members who grew up in the area.	The Men's Club and Library Committee had an annual collaboration at a breakfast program for the prior 2 years. The Men's Club provides the breakfast and books were sold to raise money for the Library. Typically, the author of the book provided a presentation, and signed books after the program. We decided to be creative and do something a bit different this time. We collaborated with the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Hartford who had recently published a book about growing up in the community. The book included several people who became famous in various fields. Most of the people, however, were ordinary people, often children of immigrants, who grew up in the early Jewish neighborhoods in the Hartford area. Many of these people were temple members, and there were four who were identified as being willing to tell their stories. The program gave everyone a greater appreciation of the Jewish history of the area, connect generations, and raise money for the Library through book sales. A collaboration such as this shows how the Men's Club can successfully work with groups both within the temple as well as in the community. The program reinforced and strengthened the temple's perception of the Men's Club as an essential arm of the temple who is always willing to work with others. The partnership between the Men's Club and Library Committee has always worked well. The Men's Club has the funds and manpower to offer a breakfast. The Library Committee handles the book and presenter.	This program connected people of different generations and was greatly appreciated by both those who grew up in the community as well as those who moved to the area more recently.	The program clearly connected people of all ages to the Jewish community. It also helped in forming meaningful long-lasting relationships based on camaraderie, common interests and core values.		
53	Temple Israel Brotherhood - Sharon, MA (738)	Educational Programming		Brotherhood Breakfast Series	Harold	Wassel	haroldwassel@gmail.com	The Brotherhood Breakfast Series brings in celebrities and speakers of interest to our greater community. We plan at least three breakfasts each year that raise awareness, raise funds, and encourage participation from our membership and from the local area.	Temple Israel Brotherhood of Sharon plans at least three breakfasts per year. Typical breakfasts feature local known celebrities or experts, including sports personalities or TV and News reporters and anchors. We also feature breakfasts on topics that some of our members wish to discuss. There are generally three goals with these breakfasts: 1) bring together a broad audience so that we can promote the Brotherhood and all of our programs; 2) Engage that broad audience in a social and/or educational event that everyone enjoys; 3) Raise funds. This was the main goal, then we met the greater goals of the club and the FAMC. A successful breakfast relies on an interesting speaker and an interesting topic. We have had breakfasts with as many as 200 people and with as few as 25. The larger breakfasts have usually been sports-related. We recently hosted Michael Haley, a sports writer and talk show host in the Boston area. Another recent breakfast featured Maria Stephanos, an anchorperson for one of the local news networks. One of the lessons we have learned is that a speaker with broad recognition across multiple groups will guarantee a more diverse audience that includes women and children, not just the men. This can help you to be more successful and determine whom to target for your speakers. Sometimes, the goal of our breakfast is more along the lines of the first and second goal than the third goal. If you plan appropriately, especially in the area of food based upon reservations, even a small breakfast can break even or make a small amount of money. Conversely, a very large breakfast can be extremely successful in the first two goals and not raise any money if not planned properly. Fortunately we have never lost to a large amount of money on a breakfast, and in fact, often find them to be profitable.	The impact of our club is that helps us to bring the community together for an interesting speaker, a good breakfast, a chance to socialize, and to promote the types of programming that we bring to the community. Some of the more popular breakfasts might be the only event that a Temple member attends other than the High Holiday Services. We don't take that for granted. We also try to focus on the speaker and his/her content and appeal to an audience other than men. This is good for us as a club and also good for our Temple. Anything that brings in families or occasional program attendees helps to promote the Temple as much as us.	The planning and execution of the program are two of the main areas where we involve Jewish Men in Jewish Life. We have a common mission in our club to promote social action, mitzvot, Jewish Life, and don't take that for granted. The Breakfast Series brings club members together to plan the program and to deliver the program. There's nothing better than getting 18 guys together in the kitchen preparing for a breakfast. Anyone can get vegetables to layout a tray of pastries. While they're doing that, we talk to one another and learn about each other. It builds a sense of Community.	As mentioned above, this event has enabled us to provide educational programming in a social setting, making it accessible to a wide variety of our congregation members. Our Scotch, Steak and Seder program has proved to be extremely popular and people are already asking about next year's event. It has promoted social interaction among our members, particularly across generations as it is easy for people of different ages to enjoy different Scotch varieties. Moreover, it has enabled us to promote religious education without making people feel like they're "dragged" to an event.	
67	Midway Jewish Center Men's Club - Boylston, MA (889)	Educational Programming		Scotch, Steak and Seder	Jason	Saltberg	jsaltberg@ohlanet.com	Our Scotch, Steak and Seder program is a way to bring the men of our club together socially while also creating an opportunity for learning with us radio about how to make our seders more meaningful.	Our Scotch, Steak and Seder program, which we created a program to be held 1-2 weeks before Pesach when we have a steak dinner with the steaks grilled by our Men's Club, has been a tremendous success. Following our Scotch, Steak and Seder program, we have had a number of single men interested in social interactions among our members. People who are able to make our seders more meaningful. This is not intended to be a model seder. Rather it is an opportunity to share ideas with our seders better. It also includes the distribution of some gifts of Scotch and potatoes which has resulted in group singing during the few years that we have run this event. Although I'm nicknamed "Man Seder", we have opened participation to women.	Our Scotch, Steak and Seder program has proved to be extremely popular and people are already asking about next year's event. It has promoted social interaction among our members, particularly across generations as it is easy for people of different ages to enjoy different Scotch varieties. Moreover, it has enabled us to promote religious education without making people feel like they're "dragged" to an event.	As mentioned above, this event has enabled us to provide educational programming in a social setting, making it accessible to a wide variety of our congregation members. Our Scotch, Steak and Seder program has proved to be extremely popular and people are already asking about next year's event. It has promoted social interaction among our members, particularly across generations as it is easy for people of different ages to enjoy different Scotch varieties. Moreover, it has enabled us to promote religious education without making people feel like they're "dragged" to an event.		
11	Shomei Torah Men's Club - West Hills, CA (1058)	Educational Programming		What the Survivor and Historian Know	Gavin	Rosenberg	gavinrosenberg@outlook.com	This or a MyM, was soaped made from the bones of our fellow Jews that perished in the Holocaust? The Men's Club at Shomei Torah hosted a reading of a play by Jeff Cohen that brought to light that there are those in our communities that question that this was indeed a fact. We were fortunate to have an wonderful cast read the play "The Soap Myth", including notable treasures Ed Aker and Tovah Fichtelberg, and did they keep the audience of 200+ on the edge of our seats. The goal of this program was to make us aware that there are people that question certain facts (were they a myth) that we as many) never even question. The outcome of the play was not to dispute the fact that soap was made from bodies but rather to be sure that the future generations focus on the bigger picture. Lastly how could we not welcome Ed and Tovah to our synagogue.	The Holocaust The play "The Soap Myth" is a hit cultenary after WWII in the signing of a assassinate survivor, a young investigative reporter finds himself caught between reporter first hand caught between numerous versions of the same story. Played against the backdrop of descriptive and journalistic integrity, the critically acclaimed Soap Myth by Jeff Cohen questions who has the right to write history—those people who have lived it and remember, those who study and protect it, or those who would seek to distort its very existence? And finally what is our responsibility once we have opened participation to women. As our communities age we need to make sure that the subsequent generations are aware of the terrible loss of Jewish life in the Holocaust. The survivors went to hell and back, what did they not see? It is possible that they could be incorrect that soap was not made from the bodies of dead Jews? To all in attendance this was impossible. The play highlights that as we misspade that the Jewish communities my continue to educate our children, the Holocaust can be a one time in the history books. The names Ed Aker and Tovah Fichtelberg are names that many of recognize as Ed is an Jewish actor, voice actor and a former president of the Screen Actors Guild. He is primarily known for his role as Lou Grant during the 1970s and early 1980s, on both The Mary Moore Show and its spin-off series Lou Grant, making him one of the few television actors to portray the same leading character in both a comedy and a drama. Tovah is an acclaimed Jewish actress, singer & playwright that has been a Broadway star for more than four decades, earning four Tony Award nominations. We Emmy Award nominations.	This was not an easy play to set through. For all in attendance, they had never entertained the idea that people were murdering the last that there is a possibility that soap was made from those that perished in camps. Upon the conclusion of the play we had the opportunity to question the actors and most importantly the creator of the play. Whilst we do not want to discount this fact that was a Holocaust survivor in the audience who personally saw a funeral procession with a box of soap after the war, we need to keep the horror of the Holocaust alive so that it will never be forgotten and will not occur again.	Shomei Torah Men's Club has over the years had dozens of programs and happen to be located in Los Angeles and a member of our men's club was approached by the writer of the play that he wanted to read the play for a community such as ours. Through the reading and the fact that so many questions and comments told us that it was thought provoking. This was a community wide event, we encouraged our members to come with their wives and did. This was not a money maker, we are fortunate as a club to have funds to make such decisions, this one turned out a great success!		

Serial	Club Name	Category	Award	Program Name	First Name	Last Name	Email	Program Overview/Summary	Detail Program (Note: In some cases, the description is lengthy. Please double click the cell and move down with your cursor to read all.)	Impact	FJMC	Additional Comments
9	Milkey Jewish Center Men's Club - Syosset, NY (850)	FJMC Other	Bronze	Mensch of the Month	Jason	Sattberg	jsattberg@ohelnaac.org	The Mensch of the Month program is a new program at our synagogue. Our club's mission statement is to promote the observance of Jewish mitzvot and cultural activities among our members and strengthen ties with the Jewish community. In a synagogue with over 700 families, this program helps give recognition to some of the great things they do for our community and the world to better place. This is an opportunity to honor our members who go out of their way to show kindness and generosity to others. The Mensch of the Month is selected by the Men's Club from nominations submitted by Milkey Jewish Center's congregants and friends. The Mensch of the Month is recognized in Milkey Jewish Center's publications, receives a gift certificate to a local leather restaurant and is honored with an allyah or other appropriate recognition during Shabbat morning services. All new and previously submitted nominations are considered at each selection meeting.	The Mensch of the Month program is a new program at our synagogue. Our club's mission statement is to promote the observance of Jewish mitzvot and cultural activities among our members and strengthen ties with the Jewish community. In a synagogue with over 700 families, this program helps give recognition to some of the great things they do for our community and the world to better place. This is an opportunity to honor our members who go out of their way to show kindness and generosity to others. The Mensch of the Month is selected by the Men's Club from nominations submitted by Milkey Jewish Center's congregants and friends. The Mensch of the Month is recognized in Milkey Jewish Center's publications, receives a gift certificate to a local leather restaurant and is honored with an allyah or other appropriate recognition during Shabbat morning services. All new and previously submitted nominations are considered at each selection meeting.	The Mensch of the Month program has been well received in our synagogue. Congregants look forward to the monthly announcement and are happy to be able to congratulate their fellow members for the good things they do, either within the synagogue or in the larger community. Moreover, the program generates positive publicity for our club within the synagogue. Where honorees are recognized for their philanthropic or volunteer activities outside of the synagogue, it has the added benefit of bringing publicity to these worthy organizations that they support.	FJMC: The program is designed to recognize our congregants for the good work they do. None of our recipients ever expected to receive the award. It is merely our way of saying thank you for the great things that they do. In keeping with the ideals included in the FJMC's tagline, the program helps us recognize the leaders in our congregation for the great work they do in the community.	
20	Temple Israel of Natick Men's Club - Natick, MA (733)	FJMC Other	Gold	Veteran Affairs	Ben	Hochberger	suben00@yahoo.com	The overall goal of the program was to encourage congregational awareness and support of Jewish-American military veteran issues including, but not limited, appreciation for the military contributions of congregants. This was a new line of programming that involved appointing a Director of Veterans Affairs who continues to oversee the program's two annual events: (1) a Dessert and Discussion event with a military/veterans theme and (2) an annual Veterans Day program.	Source: This is an original program that was born out of a presentation one club member made on his experience in a deployment to Iraq. His presentation was so well received by interested congregants that it has grown from there. Goals: The goals of the program were to increase congregational awareness and support of Jewish contributions to military service, particularly by our members. A collateral benefit has been to increase awareness of the local and national Jewish War Veterans (JWW) organization, whose goals we ally with closely. This has been particularly beneficial to our Men's Club members, some of whom have joined that organization where they have found camaraderie and support. The JWW was established, among other reasons, to relate the perils of war that Jews do not serve in the military. Challenge 1: The only information we had about the military contributions of our congregants was anecdotal. To overcome this, we broadcast a message seeking service data from congregants, which brought many responses. We created a spreadsheet from this. Most of the veterans turned out to be members of the men's club. This information has been useful for program scheduling moving forward. Challenge 2: As in our society, our congregants share many misperceptions and misunderstandings about the military experience. To educate and inform we have drawn large audiences by carefully selecting either (1) intriguing topics or (2) familiar congruents to be speakers about whom the audience has learned things they never knew. Club Value: These programs enhance the Club's image for patriotic service to (a) the congregation, (b) professional and lay leadership, and (c) the local JWW chapter by featuring our club members. These programs also allow us to recognize the contributions of our members of all ages for their service.	Impact: These programs have recruited several new club members and increased participation of existing club members. Club members have commented that they appreciated being recognized by congregational leadership for their service.	FJMC: The Dessert & Discussion event celebrated club members' contributions to the larger Community in which we exist. The presentation on escaping the Holocaust through Shanghai described the fragile nature of rescuing and relocating the Jewish community to the new world following World War II.	This program has proven to be an excellent way to learn about extraordinary experiences of fellow Men's Club members that we never knew and, in some cases, extend long overdue appreciation. Areas to Improve: 1. Assign photographers and videographers for events to capture them more comprehensively. Ensure all media are universally viewable and transportable. 2. Recruit help for prep/presentation of Dessert for Dessert & Discussion event.
65	Beit El Temple Men's Club - West Hartford (217)	FJMC Other	Silver	Men's Club Membership Dinner	David	Diamond	daviddiamond2@comcast.net	The overall goal of the program is to give back to Men's Club members by providing a dinner and to also promote the theme of doing mitzvot for the community. The dinner was funded by a very generous donation from the family of a man who was all about doing mitzvot in his 50+ years and who our Men's Club. In the spirit of mitzvot, at the dinner program, we recognized the best Bar/Bat Mitzvah project accomplished by a student in our child's religious school. We also identified a local organization important to the community that the Men's Club would support in the upcoming year.	The source of this program was a donation of \$5,000 in the fall of 2011 from the family of Dan Miller (a 50-year member of Men's Club) with a request for us to do something in honor of his memory. Dan had passed away about a year earlier. Our board discussions started in the fall and we decided to have an annual dinner for Men's Club members, with the theme of performing mitzvot. We estimated about 40 attendees, with the cost of a dinner catered by the local kosher market. Most members paid about \$1,000. The funding would thus support the first 5 years of what will be an annual program. We selected a date in the spring to have the dinner; one that was convenient for Dan's son to attend. Several months before the program, we identified a cause important to the Jewish community that the Men's Club would support. This cause was the rebuilding of "Jonathan's Children", a playground designed to be totally accessible to people of all abilities. The original Jonathan's Children Drive was built in 1996. There is a big need for it as a child with a disability. The boy who founded it, who were temple members, knew that there were children whose handicaps prevented them from enjoying playgrounds the same way that able-bodied children could. This was their inspiration to raise money to build the original playground, with the support of our local community. The playground had been in the ground for 20 years but the equipment had deteriorated to the point where it was unsafe and it had to be torn down. The same family, club temple members, spearheaded a project to rebuild the playground, and one that would last much longer. The Men's Club invited the mother of the boy to speak to the dinner to discuss the project and raise awareness. We also decided that we'd recognize the best Bar/Bat Mitzvah project at the dinner. About 2 months prior to the dinner, we reached out to the Education Director of our religious school who gave us the name of a girl he felt deserved this honor. This girl, who herself had overcome cancer, made blankets for children with cancer. About 5-6 weeks prior to the dinner, invitations went out to about 125 Men's Club members. This included about 100 paid members as well as 25 additional men who had joined the temple since the year before (and were automatically Men's Club members). Although we were not passing along the costs associated with the dinner to invited Men's Club members, we asked for \$5 for them to RSVP to attend. We felt a small token cost would increase the chances that they'd actually attend. Our synagogue's professional staff and other invited guests were not asked to pay \$5 to attend. Our goals included supporting the Miller family request to do something to honor Dan, give back to our Men's Club membership, and to promote the concept of doing mitzvot.	This program enhanced the value the Men's Club provides to its members, offers yet another opportunity for these Jewish men to connect with one another, and further enhances our Men's Club image of looking for opportunities to help causes important to our community.	This Jewish Temple supports FJMC's mission, involving Jewish Men in Jewish Life, through innovation and community. Our Men's Club members are of all ages and this program connected them. By supporting the Jonathan's Dream fundraising campaign, this helped foster community involvement.	We came close to our estimate of getting about 40 attendees for this dinner, and we were a bit under our cost estimate of \$1,000. While the generous contribution of \$5,000 will fully fund this dinner for at least 5 years, we anticipate having this continue indefinitely, to be funded through other sources. By making personal phone calls to every invited Men's Club member, we succeeded in bringing several additional people to the dinner who would not have done so without the phone call. This result reinforces the value of personal connections.
32	Temple Beth Shalom Brotherhood - Farmingham, MA (722)	FJMC Other		Brotherhood Catering	John	Cherny	john.cherny@gmail.com	The TBS Brotherhood kitchen crew has brought our members together by providing cooking and catering for our overall congregation and other Jewish organizations. Over food we have bonded as a Brotherhood and brought the community together for kiddushes after our TBS Shabbatey Shabbat services, for congregational dinners, barbecues, and while catering for all mitzvot. From food sculptures to smoked brisket and crowds of 200 to 200, we step, cook, set up, serve, and even clean up.	It is said that to eat a man's heart is through his stomach. In the case of the TBS Brotherhood, this is true of whole congregation. Food has been the catalyst to heal the hearts and minds of all our temple members. Originally started to fulfill a need to provide affordable community meals after Shabbat services, our Brotherhood catering has become much more. Our food has given people a reason to share tables, linger for conversation with new faces, and enjoy a sense of belonging. It has brought Brotherhood members of all ages into the kitchen, regardless of their culinary expertise. There is a job for everyone, and no event can be done accomplished alone. This has brought in members who have not been active in the past as they see the camaraderie and the fun we are having when we are all together. The exposure of our Brotherhood has increased exponentially due to attention the catering has brought. Some of that is due to the quality we provide, and some can be attributed to the way we brought people together. As an added bonus, since we are all volunteers, any money we receive for our mitzvot meals we cater are funds we have raised for our Brotherhood. Each event is handled through one coordinator who does menu planning and assigns tasks. We work out the specifics and then meet to discuss and then reach out to the members asking for help in the kitchen and/or the day of the event. We have catered events for multiple organizations in our synagogue, and any size from 20 - 250 people, and have become known for catering the kiddush luncheons. We are providing a service that is truly unique. Our latest event was the Takanat Olam luncheon hosted by the USY chapter. We had 75 people and we had the kids help in the kitchen to prepare the dinner. This event was so successful the USY kids want to help with more events. Our main goal of this program is to bring our members together around food, and who doesn't love Jewish cooking?	This program has had a large impact on our Brotherhood in that we have found a way to provide many things to many people in our congregation. We have new and former members joining the Brotherhood, we are supporting other organizations by helping them with their events, we are saving families money with a cost efficient option for their events, and we are creating a community feeling in our synagogue.	Going to synagogue was a religious obligation and now we are providing a social aspect of our community and we have seen the Brotherhood membership increase from low 20's to 30 and we are planning on 50+ when next year begins in July.	
33	Temple Israel Brotherhood - Sharon, MA (738)	Fundraising	Gold	Comedy Night - Auction Kickoff	Harold	Waisel	haroldwaisel@gmail.com	Our annual online auction is one of our primary fundraisers. This past year, we held a kickoff event for the first time in several years. The Comedy Night featured three comedians, a live auction, and an extravagant dessert selection. Our goal was to bring together members of the broader community for a fun evening while publicizing our goal.	Program goals - create an exciting and entertaining kickoff event for our club's annual online auction. Over the years, our auction evolved from a completely ineffectual auction event, to a partial live event, to a fully online event. We also realized that many more people had social aspects of the live events. The Comedy Night provided an opportunity to publicize our online auction while bringing together our extended community for a fun evening. That helped us to address the social aspect of past live events. In addition, by publicizing within our typical mailing lists and to the extended community through social media and local press, we were able to get our Brotherhood's name out in the broader community. We are very fortunate to have a large group of members who help plan and execute our events. Bringing these members together for a fun evening, even if we're "working" the event, helps to build camaraderie and support FJMC's mission of involving Jewish Men in Jewish Life. It also fulfills two of our club's missions: to build communal ties, and to build fellowship and camaraderie through social interaction, education, performing mitzvot, and a commitment to tikkun olam. Showing a profit was not one of our primary goals of this event. We purposely kept ticket prices low (\$20/person) so that more people would attend. Ironically, one of the comedians said "I don't know why you didn't charge \$30!"	The Comedy Night brought in about 125 attendees. One of the nice things was that about 30% of the attendees were people who rarely, if ever, came to Brotherhood events. We learned from that the following: 1) Saturday nights are a good time to have a program. People want to go out. 2) Keeping the pricing low attracted people who might not otherwise attend one of our events. Many were from the temple, but others were friends of friends not affiliated with the club or Temple. This helped us to market our club and our synagogue outside of the usual community. 3) You don't need to have a huge meal to attract people. We served snacks, a nice dessert spread, beer and wine, coffee and tea. 4) All of the components required different volunteers. The live auction required the Auction Committee, the food required a kitchen crew, we needed registration tables, and a cleanup crew. There were many opportunities for people to volunteer to help with the event, and I brought many of our club members together to ensure the evening was successful. 5) The evening was profitable with the inclusion of the live auction.	As noted in the details, the program certainly supported the Community part of the FJMC tagline. We brought together members of our extended Temple Community to participate in a fun event. In addition, our own club benefited in terms of the volunteers who participated in making the event a success.	
26	Temple Israel Brotherhood - Sharon, MA (738)	Fundraising	Silver	Lift Your Spirits	Gary	Kernach	GKEMACH@COMCAST.NET	A relatively new event which we learn about as well as taste whiskies from around the world. Discussion includes the manufacturing, business issues, and the nuances which make the whiskey business both mysterious and enjoyable for many. Also spend time on many Jewish aspects with respect to heritage and Kashrut.	This event, "Lift Your Spirits", started three years ago and is open to both members and non-members as fun, social evening to learn some of the intricacies of world-wide single malt and blended whiskies. We enjoyed a complete steak dinner prepared and served by the Temple Israel Brotherhood chefs. The evening is hosted by a speaker - Temple Israel Brotherhood member who is an expert in both the production of whiskey and the business of marketing and distributing distilled spirits in the U.S. The attendance has grown each of the three years, from 40 people in the first year to over 100 this past year. A pianist is on hand to play music during the event. We also have a raffle and a small auction. Lastly, each participant receives a free Glencairn glass as a gift to take home. The speaker makes a presentation and leads the attendees through a tasting of 7-8 whiskies from around the world. People ask questions and learn about the many facets of the whiskey business. At the end of the night, the participants have the opportunity to purchase any of the whiskies at a discount from a local retailer. The retailer, in turn, forwards a percentage of the proceeds from the bottles purchased back to the Brotherhood.	Attendees talk about "Lift Your Spirits" all year and it has now become a featured event on our annual calendar. Last year, "Lift Your Spirits" raised \$3,000 for our Brotherhood. It's a unique night out for folks who attend and we find the mix of people who have some knowledge of whiskey blended with those who know very little makes for a great dynamic!	This is a Brotherhood event which brings together all arms of the Temple - our Rabbin and Cantor attend - as well as reaching out to others beyond our community. It is innovative in that we prepare and serve a wonderful steak dinner and make the whiskey tasting interesting for all, regardless of expert.	We call it "Lift Your Spirits" and not anything with "Whiskey" in the title on the advice of legal and insurance experts. We keep the tables to avoid 1.8 ounces per whisky and the speaker makes a preemptive make an announcement warning about the dangers of drinking and driving. Several designated drivers are available including the speaker. We intentionally conduct the tasting portion of the evening first, followed by dinner so there is a significant gap in time between the consumption of alcohol and anyone getting in their car.
64	Beit El Temple Men's Club - West Hartford (217)	Health and Wellness	Gold	Walk Around Reservoir	David	Diamond	daviddiamond2@comcast.net	A peaceful, outdoor/reserve surrounded by a 3.6 mile walking path is only a two minute drive from our shul. The goal of this ongoing program is to provide an opportunity for participants to exercise and decompress by walking around the reservoir.	In July 2015, an active board member of our Men's Club shared that he went on regular walks around a reservoir located just a two minute drive from our shul. These walks were done with his friends and family members. He suggested that we publicize these walks as a Men's Club event to encourage others to participate. The goals were simple: Fitness and camaraderie. Building connections with others. Offering an alternative to our programs for those who do not want to be in our temple, with a presentation and/or food. The program addressed the challenge of people not getting enough exercise and not having enough opportunities to connect with others. The program benefited our club by reinforcing our belief and actions that our purpose is not just to serve Men's Club members. It's not just to serve temple men. It's to incorporate our reach through the temple and beyond. The walks would be held every Tuesday and Thursday starting 9:45am, weather permitting, and would be held year round with the exception of the period from Thanksgiving to early April. After the walks, if there was interest, people would get together for coffee and refreshments. A brief mention of this program idea at a board meeting resulted in a publicity submission to the shul, and it was quickly put on the calendar. This new program received very positive feedback from our shul's professional staff.	This program is an example on how you can get a real "bang for the buck" without investing a lot of time or money. It took a simple idea from someone who was already doing something who wanted to reach out to the community through our Men's Club. No planning, no meetings, and zero cost involved. While the walks have averaged about 112 dozen participants, that translates to over 900 cumulative walks around the reservoir in less than a two-year period. Measured this way, the Walk Around Reservoir is by far the most successful program the Men's Club has ever been part of.	The program encourages Jewish men to connect with each other in ways that other programs cannot. With a small group of people walking together for over an hour, the opportunity is there to develop meaningful, deep connections with one another. As a twice weekly program over the course of nearly 8 months, this opportunity is continuously reoccurring. The program clearly relates to two of the FJMC taglines: (1) Innovation: developing programming that better connects people of all ages to the Jewish community. (2) Community: forming meaningful long-lasting relationships based on camaraderie, common interests and core values.	
54	Beit El Temple Men's Club - West Hartford (217)	Hearing Men's Voices	Bronze	Joke Night	Martin	Melnick	martymelnick@net.net	New twist on HMY. Medical research has proven that laughter is a very positive ingredient to personal health and wellness. The goal of our program was to use a HMY format to bring an evening of laughter and bonding with the men of our congregation. Partial goal was to engage younger men. The challenge was how to limit serial joke tellers from dominating the program - see detailed description. Results: engaged younger men, began to use anecdotal and had a program with non-stop laughter for 2 1/2 solid hours.	The goal of our program was to use a HMY format to bring an evening of laughter and bonding to the men of our congregation. Laughter is a known positive medicine to the human condition helping to provide health and well-being. The challenge was how to limit serial joke tellers from dominating the program. I knew we had a number of members that could do two hours of comedy all by themselves. These personalities would not stop to produce funny stories and go over the top. The HMY format solved this challenge. Using the HMY format we passed a joke book "The Friars Club Encyclopedia of Jokes" from attendee to attendee limited the serial joke tellers to one per turn which made it comfortable for every attendee to participate multiple times. This was brilliant, as an attendee came up and they did not have a joke or ran out of material the book was used for them to select and share and feel comfortable. This made it possible for every attendee to participate on every turn. None stop laughter for two 1/2 solid hours. Our programs usually go two hours and members are ready to leave. On this night no one wanted to leave and agreement was to continue another half hour. This program attracted three men under forty that had never attended a men's club event before. The attendance was much larger than our average HMY program. The best sign of a successful program is the post program comments. The entire group requested another program to be planned ASAP and we got agreement to do it again in next year's program planning. The program was free to Men's club members and as part of the program we provided a way to know each other social dinner of cold cuts before the program. This dinner solicited opportunity provided additional bonding time with the attendees.	Very positive impact as our men's club has 81 members and this HMY had 15 attendees 5 of which were not members of men's club but joined at the program. We made a connection with 3 men under 40 for the first time. Most importantly every attendee requested the program not only to be extended another 30 minutes and all attendees requested we do this program annually. Community: This program brought us together as a community and helped up get a prospective and respect for the talent of each member of the group.	Highly recommend this program to every FJMC club it is a win, win	
72	Beit El Temple Men's Club - West Hartford (217)	Hearing Men's Voices	Gold	The First Kiss	Martin	Melnick	martymelnick@net.net	HMY that takes quotes from Torah that create deep emotional discussion about what we want from our fathers and what our sons and daughters want from us.	All of our HMY programs begin with a dinner provided by the Men's Club. The old adage if you feed them they will come and for our club this works very well. Our goal was to attract our usually HMY following and attract younger men as we hope a discussion including children would be attractive. The title The Kiss is a biblical topic about Jacob and Isaac: "the blessing", so this HMY also dovetails Torah learning into the program while the attendees get to share very personal emotional relationships. The program attracted 12 men two of which were not men's club members but joined at the program. One attendee was under forty with children. The program was very well received and most attendees thanked us for a wonderful night of brotherhood. The core of the program originated in the FJMC Hearing Men's library of books and was modified for this HMY.	Attendees love the community we are creating and always ask when is the next HMY program. Our Rabbin speaks from the BSM on the impact of the FJMC program.	Bringing Torah to touch our members is priceless. One new member was under forty. The emotion and participation was exceptional. The core HMY attendees love the community we are creating and always ask when is the next HMY program. Our Rabbin speaks from the BSM on the impact of the FJMC program.	Very successful HMY with 12 attendees two of which were not members of the Men's Club. Attendees requested additional programs like this one which is a good feeling that we are doing something right.

Serial	Club Name	Category	Award	Program Name	First Name	Last Name	Email	Program Overview Summary	Detail Program (Note: In some cases, the description is lengthy. Please double click the cell and move down with your cursor to read all.)	Impact	FJMC	Additional Comments
20	Temple Israel Brotherhood - Sharon, MA (75)	Hearing Men's Voices	Silver	Making Prayer Personal	Neal	Fineman	nealfineman@gmail.com	Temple Israel Brotherhood (an Hearing Men's Voices) club to explore prayer utilizing the Hearing Men's Voices model. The overall goal was to get men talking about their experiences with prayer. Another goal was to inspire another club to not start Hearing Men's Voices but to also join the FJMC since they are currently a non-affiliated club.	The overall goal was to get men talking about their experiences with prayer. Another goal was to inspire another club to not start Hearing Men's Voices but to also join the FJMC since they are currently a non-affiliated club. The overall goal was to get men talking about their experiences with prayer. Another goal was to inspire another club to not start Hearing Men's Voices but to also join the FJMC since they are currently a non-affiliated club.	Temple Israel Brotherhood (an Hearing Men's Voices) club to explore prayer utilizing the Hearing Men's Voices model. The overall goal was to get men talking about their experiences with prayer. Another goal was to inspire another club to not start Hearing Men's Voices but to also join the FJMC since they are currently a non-affiliated club.	The average number of attendees for each HWV discussion was 12. This included members of Temple Israel Brotherhood as well as members of Aharath Torah Men's Club, Aharath Torah Men's Club not affiliated with FJMC at this time. When officers of the New England Region as well as myself met with the President and with other officers of their men's club to discuss how the New England Region can assist Aharath Torah Men's club, it was agreed that a Hearing Men's Voices between the clubs would be the best vehicle to assist Aharath Torah with community building as well as programming. Both the New England Region as well as the officers of Aharath Torah also agreed that Aharath Torah's participation in the HWV series would be a valuable integral part of a FJMC program and how FJMC can well benefit their club.	This Hearing Men's Voices session focused the series on our relationship with prayer in its many forms. By exploring how Jewish men derive meaning, insight, value, and connection with Judaism and themselves. We believe we made prayer more personally meaningful to the participants. All the sessions were held at our homes since we believe that prayer truly starts in the home and that the home provides a nurturing environment to share our experiences.
21	Temple Ramat Zion Men's Club - Northridge, CA (1020)	Hearing Men's Voices		TRZ's Hearing Men's Voices Series	Rek	Mark	trzmcs@israelcentral.com	TRZ started its Hearing Men's Voices program several years after the 2013 convention, but it has grown immensely since then. From doing 2 per year initially, we now do a HWV program every month at our meetings since the 2016/2017 year. Our first series was 6 months long and was themed around work, loss of work, family, and how they all affect each other. We also explored retirement and what it takes to retire, what there is to be happy and excited about in retirement. The next series has been based on spirituality. What is spirituality, how the Jewish way of life affects each of us each day, when we look at spirituality to get us through the tough times and how it enhances to good times. These two series, which have run for 6 meetings each, were written by our President, Rick Mark.	The program is headed by Rick Mark. He so far, has written all of our content for these programs. I feel. The goal is to educate our varied age of members with different aspects of Jewish life and itself. We deal with lifecycle events, jobs and joblessness, family and family planning, retirement and retirement planning, business advice and networking within our club, life and business mentoring, how to deal with certain challenges raising young children, teens, college bound and older kids that are moving into adulthood, teenager relationships, marriage, and a certain level of Keviv, as well. We have dealt a lot with the rising challenges of working, loss of work, and financial difficulties many of our members are or have experienced. Supporting children who are out of work and re-energizing them, and working towards retirement - guidance from our older members to our younger members. We have developed what has turned into a group mentoring initiative that is working so beautifully. We simply start each program by creating a circle with our members and reading the guidelines for the session. Privacy is key to us all being able to share from our deepest needs and this is what makes the program so successful. We introduce ourselves at each meeting with a fun fact or other quick answer question that each member answers as an ice breaker - such as Name and favorite colors of each family members or your worst kugel move or best dish you can cook, or biggest party fall out. This really loosens everyone up and then we get serious. The club has gotten so much closer to each other over the last year especially. Many of us have been friends for decades but never shared many of these things together and stronger and more personal bonds have been created, and those who have been sitting on the sidelines are now far more engaged. Handshakes have turned into hugs for all of us. The biggest problem we've had is everyone wanting to contribute so much that time becomes an issue, and we never cut anybody off, so sometimes we go late so everyone is allowed to share, and sometimes people have to leave, so we accommodate everyone as best as we can, and nobody ever leaves without sharing. This program has really only been marketed within our club, not our Temple as a whole, but we are changing that for 2017/2018. We regularly have at least 20-30 participants in this program that started out with 4-6.	Virtually all of our club members attend our Hearing Men's Voices program. We have even gotten a few new members who attended the program and were so impressed with what we were doing that they had to join that night. We're expanding deeper into our general membership this coming year, as more younger members are finding our Club to be of value because of programs like this.	We believe that we are expanding the openness of our community and building stronger Jewish bonds with our members. Because of these programs, we are seeing an expansion in our leadership with new found members from our younger Temple members, and we are building our Club future at the same time. By creating custom programming for our members, we are innovating new ways for them to relate to what a Men's Club can offer them.	If you are not doing Hearing Men's Voices programming now, you are missing a key element to Jewish life that you can easily bring to your club and its members. The level of openness that immediately changes your level of club involvement is seconds to notice. These programs also help to bridge the age gap, because most older members are very welcome to help, mentor, listen and provide advice when needed. Simply putting everyone on the same page is a huge benefit.
16	Temple Israel Brotherhood - Sharon, MA (75)	Israel/Masorti	Bronze	Dor Hadash of Budapest	Mark	Popovsky	markpopovsky@gmail.com	The goal of this program was to identify a first-year, full-time spiritual leader (rabbi) for the Masorti community (Dor Hadash) of Budapest, Hungary and provide the funding to support a minimum of a year stay.	Background: During the period of 2012-2016, the Brotherhood of Temple Israel (TI) of Sharon (Mass.) connected with and developed a close working relationship with the Masorti community (Dor Hadash) of Budapest, Hungary. To foster that relationship, the following was done: 1) Regular Skype calls with the leadership of Dor Hadash; 2) Hosting of 2 leaders at the 2013 FJMC Convention and in Sharon with special programming around the "story" of Hungary's Jewish community; 3) 2 trips to Budapest by the TI Brotherhood leaders, which included attendance at Shabbat services; 4) Multiple joint World Wide Web (via internet) programs. We asked Dor Hadash what would be a "game-changer" opportunity for their community and our relationship. Their answer: find a first-year, spiritual leader who would reside in their Masorti community. Narrative: We developed a job description for a rabbi for the Budapest community, taking into account their unique history and needs. A 2-year budget was developed with plans to raise the \$60,000 that would be necessary to support the position. Potential sources of funds were identified with the active support of Rabbi Charles Simon. We brought Masorti Europe (spiritual and lay leadership) into the process, as well as Masorti Olam, recognizing the need of its involvement and support. Masorti Europe identified a potential candidate for the position - a 4th year rabbinical student at the Ziegler School in Los Angeles. We contacted the individual and learned of her keen interest in the position and her background, which aligned well with the needs of Dor Hadash. TI Brotherhood leaders interviewed her twice and obtained and checked references, which were excellent. We discussed the candidate with Dor Hadash and they were enthusiastic about her prospects. We agreed on a process to assess the candidate and agreed that the final decision was in the hands of the community. We "introduced" the candidate to Dor Hadash on a 3-way Skype call. Because that call went so well, the Brotherhood proceeded to the background, knowing that for this to work, Dor Hadash needed to own the process. The candidate had 2 interviews with Dor Hadash leadership as well as an outreach email. After some weeks, the candidate decided to withdraw from consideration. This was done for personal reasons but the reluctance of one of Dor Hadash leaders to embrace this candidate may have been a factor. TI Brotherhood will continue to support this goal at another juncture. We believe that this approach could have been successful and that other FJMC-Masorti community relationships could adopt the approach used here.	Our outreach to the Jewish community in Hungary has widened our appreciation of the broader Jewish community worldwide and has increased our sense of obligation to help other communities. We have solidified the Temple Israel community in the same way.	This program supports FJMC mission in three ways: 1) Leadership: We view ourselves as leaders within FJMC and want to contribute in any way possible to the movement; 2) Innovation: We believe this may be the first time that a local club attempted to find a rabbi for a community in Europe; 3) Community: This effort is a continuation of a multi-year journey in which we have reached out to another, fragile Jewish community in order to strengthen it.	
46	Olam Tikvah Men's Club - Fairfax, VA (1147)	Israel/Masorti	Gold	Masala Mechaya Indian-Jewish Night	Robert	Watts	rob@watts.org	The goal of the program was threefold: 1) Raise awareness of the Indian Masorti community and raise funds to assist that community; 2) Raise awareness of and further promote Hindu-Jewish interfaith relations in the Fairfax County area; 3) Raise general funds for Club assistance to the synagogue and its programs. The program consisted of a night of fun and culture, with an authentic Indian leader menu prepared under the supervision of a chef from an award-winning local Indian restaurant, short by a leader in largest Fairfax-Hindu Temple Durga, an Indian Jewish staffer from the AICJ, and a video greeting from Shivraj, FJMC and Masorti representative in Mumbai, and dance performances and teaching by a dance troupe from the Temple Durga.	Detailed Summary: What were the goals of your program? Are there specific problems or challenges that it addresses? This event was both a benefit for Masorti Judaism and a promotion of interfaith dialogue, which does not seem to have a specific Torah Award category. The goals of the program were the following: a) Raise awareness of Masorti Judaism and FJMC activity in distant places such as India, which has a contribution to the benefit of the Masorti community in India, which has an ancient and significant presence. b) Enhance the interfaith dialogue in a very ethnically and religiously diverse area. The Hindu population of the region has grown significantly, and has been supportive of interfaith activities, but there has been little direct contact between the Jewish and Hindu communities. c) Raise awareness of relations between Israel and India, the world's largest democracy, which have improved significantly in recent years. d) Continue the tradition of the Men's Club holding a large, fun-filled and community-building annual event. e) Raise enough funds to make a significant contribution to synagogue youth programs and the synagogue general budget, which was in the red. *Specific Problems or Challenges if Addressed: a) Continue to build the finances of the club and its ability to support key programs as well as the synagogue as a whole. b) Provide an exciting, interesting cultural event that could attract a wider range of members and non-members, as well as interest younger members. c) Create a spirit of fun for the club and the community. *How does your program enhance the image of FJMC, your region, and your club? eThe program showed the support of the FJMC for Masorti Judaism and enhanced the connection with the Masorti community. The Olam Tikvah Men's Club made a \$500 contribution to Masorti Olam to be used for India. eThe region's image was also enhanced by the show of support for Masorti Judaism. eThe club's image was greatly enhanced by holding a successful fundraiser that provided entertainment for the community, supported Masorti Olam, supported the Rabbi, who is a leader in the county interfaith dialogue, and established ties with the local Hindu community, which has been very active in interfaith dialogue. People are still talking about the great food and entertainment at the event. eAs a result of the event, the Men's Club was able to make a standing commitment to support the budget of Olam Tikvah, which has been in the red, with a \$3000 contribution.	The program followed a very successful one the year before, and helped bring the Men's Club together in cooperating on a large undertaking. Both of our rabbis participated as it touched on topics important to them. It also happened into (and brought to the fore) untapped skills of some members. Our member-chef was thrilled by the chance to learn about and to cook something other than bagels and egg casseroles (one non-bracket Hindu). We had a first timer at Convention 2017. About 20 of about 85 club members participated in running the event, and about 100 members of the community attended, plus about 15 guests from the Indian community. The Hindu Temple Past President, Sant Gupta, even donated to be a sponsor of the event. The event helped solidify the reputation of the club as a competent, creative group, able to well-manage large events of interest to the community.	As said earlier, the program forged bonds among the men who worked together to pull it off, and also gave them pride in supporting the community. The program also provided resources to the Masorti community, and therefore helped create closer ties and promote involvement of the FJMC in that community. It involved Jewish men in global Jewish life. It was also innovative in drawing in many elements to providing a rich and entertaining experience with Indian dance and food, but also inform the community about the importance of Masorti and the interfaith dialogue.	Rather than create a new video, we included video excerpts from the actual event, including comments by then Club President Bob Watts describing the origins of the program.
47	Congregation Beth Shalom Men's Club - Northbrook, IL (84)	Israel/Masorti	Silver	Israel / Masorti Programming	Scott	Rogoff	rogofflaw@gmail.com	We believe in strong Israeli education as part of our overall Men's Club mission. Therefore, we schedule many events every year spotlighting different aspects of Israel and bring in speakers to help highlight these topics.	Israel in-Doght: What You Need to Know - We co-sponsored five breakfast events with the synagogue's Israel Committee featuring renowned educator and Former Editor of the Jerusalem Post, Carl Schnap, providing in-depth discussions of the key issues facing Israel, including: 1) Election Update, What Does it Mean for Israel and Us; 2) Eye in the Sky: When High Heels (and Jewish Values) Meet the Real World; 3) A Great Miracle is Happening: Themed Encounters with the Titans Behind Israel's Tech Boom; 4) Post Election Post Mortem: A Discussion on how the results of the election will affect Israel and the U.S.; and 5) Israel - Democracy, Theocracy, or Some Unlikely Hybrid? These events typically draw 100 people for a breakfast and discussion. Israel Army Veterans Breakfast (June 2016) - In conjunction with American Friends of Israel War Disabled Foundation, we hosted a Sunday brunch dinner honoring 10 disabled Israel War Veterans who had been hosted by CBS families and were touring both Chicago and the U.S. Nearly 200 people attended. JUF Breakfast featuring Miri Eisen (January 2017) - Along with our CBS Programming Department and JUF, we co-sponsored Miri Eisen, a retired IDF Colonel, former Israeli Spokesperson and currently a senior fellow at the Center for International Commerce at Bar Ilan University, Colonel Eisen spoke to over 350 people, who we enthusiastically fed with our signature Sunday morning breakfast, about "Israel-Shuggling in the Public Diplomacy Arena". Men's Club co-sponsored bringing in Sayed Kashua, a Palestinian citizen of Israel, author and journalist, for his books and humorous columns including a satirical weekly column in Hahbar for the Israeli newspaper. We did a two day program where we viewed several of his Israeli television show episodes one week and the next week brought them in to discuss "The Arabs in Israel: Living with Dual Identity". In addition, we donate over \$2,000 a year to Israel relief organizations through our annual fundraising Texas Hold'em Poker event.	Our Israel programming regularly brings in over 100 people to our breakfasts -- probably more than any of our other regular events or breakfasts. These bring in younger people and people that are not necessarily involved with Men's Club in other areas.	Israel advocacy is something that younger people are interested in and it has been a way of getting younger members involved in Men's Club and going to Men's Club events. It is also a good promotional tool for everything else that men's club does in our synagogue and community.	We co-sponsor many of these events with the synagogue or other arms of the synagogue to try and get people who might otherwise not attend.
26	Temple Israel Men's Club - Great Neck, NY (841)	Jewish Observance	Bronze	Minyan Attendance App	Brent	Greenspan	blgreenspan@ gmail.com	A real time notification system to alert congregants as to when there is a need to fill the quorum of 10 people for a minyan. The app differentiates between morning and evening minyanim as different groups of congregants have availability during those times.	Phase 1: Define the problem scope. During this phase there were several conversations with the clergy to carefully scope the problem that we needed to solve. While we identified several problems and prioritized them. We agreed that the most important issue was to address how to notify congregants in real time, that more people were needed in the chapel in order to convene the minyan. In order to do this, we had to develop a solution that was platform agnostic (i.e. Worked on iOS and Android) and available 24/7 day chat so that all of the participants in the groups would know when we had collected enough comments from people who would attend. Phase 2: Identify all the shared solutions. We did not want to develop any proprietary applications. We did not want to assign administrators to manage entitlements (i.e. decide who would have access to the system). We wanted an app that was free to use. We decided to purchase that was initially developed by Slype and later purchased by Microsoft. Phase 3: define a deployment approach. We drafted a series of communications to our congregation in order to publicize our approach and recruit congregants to enroll. This included a process that interested congregants could follow in order to provide their email address and cell phone numbers and we approached a member of the Men's Club to set up congregants on the system. Note that use of programs does not require entitlements - extremely minimal but there is no need to manage entitlements/credentials. Phase 4: This is still largely undefined however the goal is to address situations where we cannot use the system when its use is prohibited such as on Shabbat mincha and yom tov. We are considering leveraging the system to communicate with our "minyán community" in advance during times when we expect it might be difficult to pull a minyan together during those times in order to see who could be available. The app has been deployed for almost 1 year. We feel it has enhanced the image of our club and the congregation in a number of ways: - We have significant reduced the number of instances when we have not been able to convene a minyan. - We used the social media aspect of groups in order to define a community of congregants who are committed to supporting the minyan but whose schedules have precluded them from planning to be present in the chapel in advance. - The simplicity of the design and ease of deployment and operation allow for this to be shared among the FJMC community at no out of pocket cost.	This was a stunning success. We feel we made significant progress in addressing the minyan attendance issue. We were successful in encouraging our Men's Club members to be early adopters in order to help this solution gain appropriate momentum.	This is an approach that can easily be shared with other clubs. Our feeling is that if this type of approach can be leveraged to address this piece of the minyan attendance issue, perhaps more congregations could become focused on the unreserved entitlements of the broader problem like ensuring a minyan on Shabbat mincha, Thanksgiving evening, yom tov.	

Serial	Club Name	Category	Award	Program Name	First Name	Last Name	Email	Program Overview Summary	Detail Program (Note: In some cases, the description is lengthy. Please double click the cell and move down with your cursor to read all.)	Impact	FJMC	Additional Comments	
16	Temple Israel Men's Club - Charlotte, NC (1705)	Jewish Observance	Gold	Hanukkah Father Child Dance	Richard	Freiberg	rwfreib@wtdvmar.net	The overall goal of the program was to incorporate a father/child dance with a Hanukkah observance and do what many Jews do on Christmas Eve which shared a common date with the first night of Hanukkah and eat Chinese food. But we took 2 unique twists. The first was instead of catering in we cooked a Kosher Chinese meal for 160+ attendees (more than sold out) and combine with a DJ for an evening of fun while maintaining enough Jewish songs and tradition including Havdalah, singing and learning led by our clergy. Attendees ranged from 1-93 so we had a complete demographic. We were more than a little surprised at the range of ages and how they all interested together. This program involved many in the planning and implementation stages so we more than achieved the mission of involving Jewish Men in Jewish Life and considering we hoped to attract 140 or so even adding another 20+ attendees did not in any way detract from the overall experience for all parts of our club. Budgeting for 140 attendees we ordered and cooked enough food for close to 170 and we backed into what to charge attendees based on having a very knowledgeable and experienced chef who set a menu, ordered and picked up the food and led a lay team in the actual execution in the kitchen and coordinated service and clean up.	The overall goal of the program was to incorporate a father/child dance with a Hanukkah observance and do what many Jews do on Christmas Eve which shared a common date with the first night of Hanukkah and eat Chinese food. But we took 2 unique twists. The first was instead of catering in we cooked a Kosher Chinese meal for 160+ attendees (more than sold out) and combine with a DJ for an evening of fun while maintaining enough Jewish songs and tradition including Havdalah, singing and learning led by our clergy. Attendees ranged from 1-93 so we had a complete demographic. We were more than a little surprised at the range of ages and how they all interested together. This program involved many in the planning and implementation stages so we more than achieved the mission of involving Jewish Men in Jewish Life and considering we hoped to attract 140 or so even adding another 20+ attendees did not in any way detract from the overall experience for all parts of our club. Budgeting for 140 attendees we ordered and cooked enough food for close to 170 and we backed into what to charge attendees based on having a very knowledgeable and experienced chef who set a menu, ordered and picked up the food and led a lay team in the actual execution in the kitchen and coordinated service and clean up.	There was a buzz in the community about the event as attendees generally have little to do after home candle lighting with most restaurants and businesses closed. This was an initial effort of this type and our goals of attracting a younger audience to "bring" with us not to just young was an integral part of our focus as we having some Jewish respect through Havdalah and getting our clergy in more of a social setting to lead on the ritual components.	We believe this initial community event will be an annual event to expand on all aspects from the demographics, to the meal, to the ritual component, to the entertainment and involvement of all ages on the dance floor were most favorable events giving us inspiration to draw on to expand and even improve in the future.		
24	Temple Emunah Brotherhood - Lexington, MA (714)	Jewish Observance	Silver	High Tech Chanukah	David	Gesler	davidgesler@gmail.com	We made our 12 ft tall Chanukah with floodlights more like by making the individual lights flicker like candles. This involved assembling a series of digitally controlled A/C dimmer switches that were controlled by a raspberry pi computer. We also setup the raspberry pi as a web server, which allowed turning on a new light each night via a web app on a smart phone. This project can be applied to any Chanukah that has 120 V lights.	The goal was to create a visible display for Chanukah and engage the community, which has a number of people interested in technology. The key behind using flicker circuits to control each light is that the lights appear to look like candles. An initial Google search did not yield any visible solutions for off-the-shelf flicker circuits for a 120 V circuit. In order to get the appropriate flicking effect for a 120 V light, we had to find digitally controlled A/C dimmer circuits. None of these circuits needed to be integrated into a box with 9 outlets for plugging in the individual flood lights. This program enhances the image of our men's club and the FJMC because it shows men taking initiative in their community. In this case, a 12 foot tall Chanukah at Temple Emunah was improved to look like flickering candles. Through this project, several men's club members were able to work together to accomplish something that may seem small, but took a lot of time to get right. Upon completion of this project, many other members of the men's club became interested in what can be accomplished around the temple with raspberry pi's and other tinkering electronics. The target audience was the entire temple community. This project got men together to provide the community with a Chanukah more representative of candles flickering. This project was an original idea from one of the newer men's club members, who has a strong technical background. This is a new program, but builds on an existing 12 foot tall Chanukah that had simple on or off flood lights.	The participants in this project were all technology-oriented individuals who enjoy tinkering. This project gave several brotherhood members a chance to build something together that has great visibility at the temple. There was certainly a sense of camaraderie and accomplishment when the hardware and software were successfully integrated together to provide our existing hanukkah with lights that flicker like a candle. Since the main Chanukah at Temple Emunah is 12 feet tall, it is quite visible by all congregants present. Congregants were quite impressed that the hanukkah looked more reminiscent of actual candles, which led to kudos and positive exposure for the Brotherhood.	While this project does not require an advanced degree in engineering, it is helpful to have project members who are technically inclined. There are electrical hardware assembly shops with 120 V power connections that require being careful to avoid a short circuit (or injury, if wired improperly). There is also a software component that involved programming a raspberry pi computer in python.		
8	Midway Jewish Center Men's Club - Syosset, NY (890)	Jewish Observance		Monday Mivyan Madness	Jason	Salsberg	jsalsberg@olshan.com	Since its founding in 1963, Midway Jewish Center has offered a daily morning and evening mivyan. In order to stay thank you to our mivyan attendees and encourage more people to attend and to assist in our distal mission of promoting social activities among our congregation's members, the Men's Club launched a new program called "Men's Club Monday Mivyan Madness." Following evening mivyan on the first Monday of each month, the Men's Club hosts a dessert reception. All members of the congregation are invited to attend mivyan and join us for a little social time afterwards.	The goals of Monday Mivyan Madness are to (i) thank our congregants who regularly attend mivyan, (ii) encourage more people to attend mivyan and (iii) promote social interaction among our congregants. In addition, it is another opportunity to create positive publicity for our club within the synagogue.	The program has been well received by our congregants. Our regular mivyan attendees, who are often older and not otherwise as involved with the synagogue's social activities as they once were, are particularly appreciative of being included at a time when they are already at the synagogue and to have an opportunity to meet other members. As most, if not all, of the Men's Club executive board usually attend, it provides us with the additional opportunity while we are all together to address any open matters without needing to call a meeting or waiting until the next scheduled meeting.	We are very proud that our synagogue offers both a daily morning and evening mivyan. Giving more people a reason to attend mivyan is in perfect alignment with the FJMC's mission of involving Jewish men in Jewish life.		
31	Temple Emunah Brotherhood - Lexington, MA (714)	Jewish Observance		Temple Emunah Brotherhood High-Tech Hanukiah	Scott	Lerman	scottlerman@gmail.com	We made our 12 ft tall hanukiah with floodlights more like by making the individual lights flicker like candles. This involved assembling a series of digitally controlled A/C dimmer switches that were controlled by a Raspberry Pi computer. We also setup the Raspberry Pi as a web server, which allowed turning on a new light each night via a web app on a smart phone or computer. This project can be applied to any hanukiah that has 120 V lights.	The goal was to create a visible display for the hanukiah and to engage the community, which has a number of people interested in technology. The key behind using flicker circuits to control each light is that the lights appear to look like candles.	The participants in this project were all technology-oriented individuals who enjoy tinkering. This project gave several brotherhood members a chance to build something together that has great visibility at Temple Emunah. There was certainly a sense of camaraderie and accomplishment when the hardware and software were successfully integrated together to provide our existing hanukiah with lights that flicker like a candle. Since the main hanukiah at Temple Emunah is 12 feet tall, it is quite visible by all congregants present. Congregants were quite impressed that the hanukiah looked more reminiscent of actual candles, which led to kudos and positive exposure for the Brotherhood.	Bringing the giant Temple Emunah Brotherhood Hanukiah to life with flickering lights helped the program participants support Temple Emunah's mission of providing a great community experience for the holidays. This project required key project members to lead the effort by designing the hardware and software, in addition to supporting the community.	The source code and package for the Raspberry Pi is available at http://brotherhood.sierman.net/hanukiah/	
77	Temple Israel Brotherhood - Sharon, MA (738)	Joint Programming	Gold	The Combined Temples Charity Golf Tournament	Irv	Kempner	ikempner@aol.com	This is our 9th year of running the www.combinedtemplesgolf.org charity golf tournament. TCTCGT golf tournament has become our club's number one fun and fund raiser and provides a venue for other Temple clubs and NJO's who are too small to put off a golf journey on their own to participate and revenue share (net profit after expenses) in direct proportion to the number of golfers and sponsors that each club/NJO brings to the event. For example we charge \$100 per golfer, our direct cost is \$100 per golfer for food and golf. Each club gets the remaining \$50 related to their clubs based on the number of golfers they bring to the event. Bring 10 golfers and you make \$500. Here is an example of our communication to participants outlining the event and the beneficiaries: Dear Golfers and Friends of The Combined Temples Charity Golf Tournament, I am pleased to invite you again to participate as Players and/or Sponsors to our 9th ANNUAL COMBINED TEMPLES CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT on Monday August 21, 2017, 7:30 AM at Brookmeadow Country Club, 100 Everenden Rd Canton, MA. This year we expect another sellout crowd with South Area Temples, YMCA, World Boston and AJC participating. The following are examples of the many community services supported by this event: -Delivering hot meals to shut-ins in conjunction with "Meals on Wheels" -Providing volunteers to Participate in "Habitat for Humanity" -Contribution to "Family Table Food Bank" -Participating in the annual "Walk for Hunger" raising money to feed the poor and homeless. -Providing Scholarships to Teens participating in the March of the Living Heritage trip. The cost to play in the tournament is \$100 per person or \$600 per foursome and includes Bagel Deluxe Breakfast, NY Deli Luncheon, Goody Bag, and a round of Great Golf for a worthy cause. This year's tournament features chances to win a New Car and major Hole-in-One prizes on all four par 3 holes provided by AutoGroup 24 and Herb Chambers Lexus of Sharon. We will offer \$1500 in Golf raffle prizes and Gift Certificate awards for the top 3 winning bowlers. You can easily register to Play and/or sponsor tee signs or pin flags online at www.combinedtemplesgolf.org or by filling out and mailing in the attached Brochure. We hope to see you again at Brookmeadow Country Club on August 21, 2017 as a Player and/or Sponsor. So Please Sign Up NOW! Irv Kempner, Josh Oshin, Jim Slovin, Harold Weiss, Steven Strago and Larry Lenz Temple Israel Brotherhood Golf Tournament Committee	Dear Golfers and Friends of The Combined Temples Charity Golf Tournament, I am pleased to invite you again to participate as Players and/or Sponsors to our 9th ANNUAL COMBINED TEMPLES CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT on Monday August 21, 2017, 7:30 AM at Brookmeadow Country Club, 100 Everenden Rd Canton, MA. This year we expect another sellout crowd with South Area Temples, YMCA, World Boston and AJC participating. The following are examples of the many community services supported by this event: -Delivering hot meals to shut-ins in conjunction with "Meals on Wheels" -Providing volunteers to Participate in "Habitat for Humanity" -Contribution to "Family Table Food Bank" -Participating in the annual "Walk for Hunger" raising money to feed the poor and homeless. -Providing Scholarships to Teens participating in the March of the Living Heritage trip. 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Irv Kempner, Josh Oshin, Jim Slovin, Harold Weiss, Steven Strago and Larry Lenz Temple Israel Brotherhood Golf Tournament Committee	Our turnout had grown for raising \$700 in year one to a \$40,000 in total revenue last year with a net after expense of \$13,000. This amount is shared proportionally among the Temple Clubs/NJO's participants to fund various charitable priorities. Our golfer numbers vary from 110 to a maximum of 128 per year. Our renewing sponsors now include Merrill Lynch, Nissan 24, Inland of Norwood, Prime Motors, Eastern Bank, Roche Bros., Herb Chambers Lexus and numerous other small local businesses, medical, legal and other service providers who love the event, the networking exposure and the fellowship for spending 1/2 day with friends, congregants and customers.	Club Impact 1. Number one fund raiser in our Club that allows us to fund numerous Jewish projects/programs throughout the year. 2. About 70 Temple Israel Members participate as Golfers another 20 pin golfers to help as volunteers and sponsor/golfer/tee item solicitor. 3. we put in another 48 golfers from area clubs and NJO's 4. This has become the largest and most popular Jewish Charity golf event conducted in the South Area (Sharon, Stoughton, Randolph, Canton, Norwood, Foxboro)	The Men's Club at the OJC has received a great deal of recognition for bringing the Keruv initiative in and pursuing it. The male lay leader is a former Men's Club treasurer. The FJMC has also received a lot of recognition from the pulpit by the Yellow Candles, HMY (and to varied Hearing Our Voices on Yom Kippur). The synagogue turns to us for leadership on a variety of issues. The FJMC has also received a lot of recognition from the pulpit and in our synagogue bulletin. Our biggest struggle is getting millennials on board. The results have been mixed and we are always talking to them, trying to get the ideas which will get them more engaged.	The Men's Club visibility has increased even further and now has some members who are not Jewish. There are also some Jewish men in interfaith marriages who have joined and want to do more to take the lead in their families and the community. One of our members who is married to a non-Jewish woman has successfully run for a position on the Board of Trustees. They recognize that much of what we do relates much more to their role as a parent and role model.
30	OrangeTown Jewish Center Men's Club - Orangeburg, NY (1886)	Keruv	Gold	Keruv - Building Our Community	Barton	Bookman	banbook42@gmail.com	The OJC Keruv program has several goals. First is to create an organized program to attract interfaith families. Second, to give members of the OJC "tools" to become more welcoming and inclusive to interfaith families. Third, to create a supportive environment for those in the community (whether OJC members or not). PROGRAM GOALS: -Develop organized and cohesive ideas for bringing interfaith families to the OJC. -Increase opportunities for inclusion with congregants (immediate and extended) families (children, grandchildren, cousins, etc.) -Provide a forum for shared experiences about interfaith involvement in holidays -Develop programming with suggestions and ideas for holidays -To market the OJC as a welcoming center for interfaith families -To change the website with an interfaith connection on the main page as well as a hyperlink that shows the mission statement and details honors and ways for interfaith families to be involved in the synagogue. -To create make it easy for interfaith families to become part of the OJC through a combination of buddy families, specific classes, and general involvement in OJC activities. Some obstacles included: -Getting the rabbi on board. -Forming the committee with a broad range of people from different groups within the synagogue - Men's Club, Sisterhood, Synagogue Executive Board, Welcoming, Religious School, Chesed The Rabal Committee was deliberately split so we did not want to deal with rival questions - they would come after there are more interfaith families. -Going through all documents to make sure that they align as far as membership in the synagogue and various committees. The Men's Club at the OJC has received a great deal of recognition for bringing the Keruv initiative in and pursuing it. The male lay leader is a former Men's Club treasurer. The FJMC has also received a lot of recognition from the pulpit and in our synagogue bulletin. The Men's Club visibility has increased and now has some members who are not Jewish. They recognize that much of what we do relates much more to their role as a parent and role model. There are multiple target audiences for our Keruv program. 1. Interfaith families looking for a home. 2. Existing interfaith families in the synagogue. 3. Congregants with children, grandchildren or other relatives in interfaith situations. 4. Congregants who want to know more. The Keruv program has more indirect than direct effect on the FJMC mission. Currently the Hebrew School has about 20 children from interfaith families. The principal is an integral part of our	The OJC Keruv program has several goals. First is to create an organized program to attract interfaith families. Second, to give members of the OJC "tools" to become more welcoming and inclusive to interfaith families. Third, to create a supportive environment for those in the community (whether OJC members or not). 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Having Men's Club Shabbat engages Men in Jewish life through active participation and leadership roles in Shabbat services. The addition of a guest speaker reinforces learning in topics that are pertinent and brought provoking to our members. Implementation of the "man of the Year" program on the clubs highlight one individual's activities that can be viewed as a role model to other members. All of these contribute to the FJMC tagline of Leadership, Innovation and Community.	
87	Eitz Chaim Men's Club - Marietta, GA (1711)	Men's Club Shabbat	Gold	Men's Club Shabbat	Alan	Lightstone	alightstone1@gmail.com	The Men's Club Shabbat weekend took the concept of Men's Club Shabbat and expanded it into a multi club weekend long event aimed at Shalom Resilience programs. The key aspects of the weekend - daily night services followed by Rabbi Simon Shabbat dinner catered by the Men's Club and an after dinner discussion facilitated by Rabbi Simon. Men's Club Shabbat services and after service discussion led by Rabbi Simon and Sunday brunch at Congregation Beth Shalom where Rabbi Simon led an annual discussion and both Congregation Beth Shalom and Eitz Chaim awarded our first Men of the Year awards. Next year the objective is to expand to a citywide Shabbat. Although we had initially desire to have other congregations involved in the weekend discussion of dates became an issue which simply points to the need for increased up-front coordination between the various congregations.	The following were the goals of the Shabbat weekend: 1) Expansion of Men's Club Shabbat to a weekend long learning and recreational activity, 2) Introduce the concept of multi congregational approach to the weekend building toward a citywide event and 3) implementation of the "Man of the Year" program. The combination of these three activities helped to strengthen our club because more members became involved in meaningful activities. Engaging with club members in our region only reinforces the bonds and members that were made at retreats and also expands these bonds to additional members that did not attend the retreat. Bringing club members together to lead services, participate in interesting learning experiences facilitated by Rabbi Simon and the ability to have one of their peers recognized solidifies the bonds between Jewish men in Jewish life. Although we had initially desire to have other congregations involved in the weekend discussion of dates became an issue which simply points to the need for increased up-front coordination between the various congregations.	The Shabbat weekend was an excellent start at building a citywide program next year. Throughout the weekend there was excellent attendance for each of the discussion sessions led by Rabbi Simon. Hearst comments from the recipients of the "Man of the Year" award made the evening ceremony meaningful to all.	Through establishment of these multi club activities members can experience all other Jewish men in the community which further the objective of getting involved in Club activities.	Having Men's Club Shabbat engages Men in Jewish life through active participation and leadership roles in Shabbat services. The addition of a guest speaker reinforces learning in topics that are pertinent and brought provoking to our members. Implementation of the "man of the Year" program on the clubs highlight one individual's activities that can be viewed as a role model to other members. All of these contribute to the FJMC tagline of Leadership, Innovation and Community.	
50	Chev Shalom Men's Club - Maitland, FL (1316)	Men's Club Shabbat	Silver	Men's Club Shabbat	Alan	Ruznick	alanzuznick43@gmail.com	Men's Club Shabbat is observed annually at Congregation Chev Shalom. Men's Club Shabbat is an opportunity for the members of the Men's Club to lead Shabbat morning services and extend honors and leadership roles in the Shabbat morning service to its members. The goal of Men's Club Shabbat is to have the Men's Club members participate in the Shabbat morning service on a given Shabbat morning each year. Men's Club Shabbat has been a regular program of the Congregation Chev Shalom Men's Club for many years. Men's Club Shabbat is an opportunity for the members of the Men's Club to lead Shabbat morning services and extend honors and leadership roles in the Shabbat morning service to its members. Men's Club Shabbat is an opportunity for the entire congregation to learn more about Men's Club and the important role that it plays in the congregation. The Men's Club also sponsors the Kishit luncheon following services. The program fully supports FJMC's mission to involve Jewish men in Jewish life.	The goal of Men's Club Shabbat is to have the Men's Club members participate in the Shabbat morning service on a given Shabbat morning each year. Men's Club Shabbat has been a regular program of the Congregation Chev Shalom Men's Club for many years. Men's Club Shabbat is an opportunity for the members of the Men's Club to lead Shabbat morning services and extend honors and leadership roles in the Shabbat morning service to its members. Men's Club Shabbat is an opportunity for the entire congregation to learn more about Men's Club and the important role that it plays in the congregation. The Men's Club also sponsors the Kishit luncheon following services. The program fully supports FJMC's mission to involve Jewish men in Jewish life.	The impact of Men's Club Shabbat on Congregation Chev Shalom Men's Club is immense. As mentioned earlier, it is an annual program of Congregation Chev Shalom Men's Club. It is one of the highlights of the year for the Men's Club and showcases its leadership within the synagogue community. Almost half of the Men's Club membership participates in Men's Club Shabbat in one capacity or the other, which also demonstrates the impact of this program.	Men's Club Shabbat fully supports FJMC's mission to involve Jewish men in Jewish life. The program demonstrates both leadership and community in the synagogue by having the members of Men's Club lead all aspects of the Shabbat morning service. As a religious institution, it is imperative that the members of the Men's Club maintain a spiritual connection to the synagogue and community.		

Serial	Club Name	Category	Award	Program Name	First Name	Last Name	Email	Program Overview/Summary	Detail Program (Note: In some cases, the description is lengthy. Please double click the cell and move down with your cursor to read all.)	Impact	FJMC	Additional Comments
12	Temple Israel Men's Club - Charlotte, NC (1709)	Programming for Younger Men	Bronze	Havahlan and NCAA Final Four Game	Richard	Freiberg	hwregz@windstream.net	The overall goal of the program was to establish a collaborative program between Brotherhood and our Torah on Tap group of the under 45 crowd who's interest is in more of a social setting. College basketball is a major interest in North Carolina and the joint committee chaired by one of the under 45s developed this idea getting the backing of the group and to make it pass our Rabbinic test we opted for only the second semi final game to be preceded by Havahlan. The chair has become most interested in our club and we hope to be an up and coming leader thereby attracting more friends in that age demographic and we are currently developing similar programs for the future.	The overall goal of the program was to establish a collaborative program between Brotherhood and our Torah on Tap group of the under 45 crowd who's interest is in more of a social setting. The program chair has become most interested in our club activities (simultaneously co-chaired our Brotherhood Shabbat service) and we hope we will be an up and coming leader thereby attracting more friends in that age demographic. We are currently developing similar programs for the future. The largest challenge we faced was the timing of the event (Monday final game conflicts with the Shabbat meeting), so the Shabbat meeting will be preceded by Havahlan. Given the major interest with college basketball in NC and the overwhelming desire of the younger group to plan and attend this event themselves as opposed to the Super Bowl which is generally more of a family focus. Our club has faced numerous challenges with attracting a younger audience and this program was developed to use as a template for similar future events whether focused on sports or family type events. The potential upside to our club is increased membership, increased visibility within our shul and perhaps most importantly attracting and cultivating our future leadership. Our target audience is mostly men from age 30 up to our seniors, though for this initial program from a budgetary standpoint we only opted to make this a shul event although we had other spirited discussion and debate about opening it up to the larger community including our MRJ neighbor (of course because one of our members is hosting there were also space restrictions as well). The final attendance for the event was 30 so we exceeded what we hoped for a Saturday evening and the ages ranged into the upper 80's down to the 30's.	There was a buzz in the community about this event as mentioned before. This was an initial event of this type and the goals of attracting a younger audience to "get with us" not so young was integral part of our focus as we having some Jewish spirit through Havahlan and getting our Rabbi in more of social setting.		
41	Temple Israel Brotherhood - Sharon, MA (726)	Programming for Younger Men	Gold	Dad's Day Out	Ellet	Feldman	hedydad@verizon.net	The goal of the program was to develop programs that would be of interest to younger men. Our hope was if we developed programs that would include the dads and their children they would gain respect and learn about the Brotherhood. When they came, they met other younger men and learned about our club.	Please see the attached file.	Though there has only been one Dad's Day Out program, we are very pleased with the first results. Nine young men participated in a Brotherhood program, many for the first time. The participants were so pleased that two of them were recruited to the Dad's Day Out Committee, one of the just joined this past Shabbat. We now have a contact to reach younger men through these programs. Lastly, the Brotherhood might have recruited a possible new leader with the addition of the Dad's Day Out Committee chairman as a member of our Board of Directors.	We believe that our Dad's Day Out programming fits the FJMC mission perfectly. This is an innovative way to reach younger men, so doing we will involve them in our Brotherhood community. It is imperative that we get more young men involved for our club to grow and succeed. In time, it is our goal to develop some of these young men in leadership positions in our club.	We believe that this program model is one of the best ways to engage younger men.
51	Congregation Beth Shalom Men's Club - Northbrook, IL (643)	Programming for Younger Men	Silver	SUKKO/OutdoorFest	Scott	Ruggoff	scgriffw@gmail.com	Each year in the past we have traditionally done a Sukkah in the Sukkah event during Sukkot, but we wanted to do a different event and try and pull in younger members and do a less expensive event. We also wanted to do an alternative event to the traditional sukkah and scotch in the Sukkah event that so many other Men's Clubs do each year during Sukkot. Thus, Sukko/OutdoorFest.	Our goal of the program was to attract younger men and do a fun program that is different than what other Men's Clubs, and our Men's Club, typically do. Since Sukkot was in October, we decided to turn the event into an Oktoberfest style program. We purchased various different brands of beer from throughout the United States and the world, provided each attendee with a commemorative Sukko/OutdoorFest mug to sample the beer and served up kosher style brats, sausages and other Oktoberfest style food. This also happened to coincide with the Bears-Packers game and, coincidentally, with a Cubs-Dodgers NLCS game. We had over 100 attendees, including several men in their 20s and 40s who otherwise don't attend, or only sporadically, attend our events. Everyone sampled a lot of beer, enjoyed the grilled sausages and had a fabulous time. Our leadership spent the night working the room and engaging the younger attendees who are sure to be future CBS Men's Club Board Members and leaders.	Not only was this a great social event for our Men's Club, it enabled us to meet and engage younger men who otherwise don't attend most of our other regular events.	Once again, this was a great opportunity to show off how much fun participation in Men's Club can be as well as making it attractive to younger men.	
60	Temple Beth OY-Both Torah Men's Club - Clark, NJ (930)	Shomerai HaAretz	Gold		Michael	Milner	milnermichael_102@aol.com	In November of 2013 the Temple Beth OY-Both Men's Club Torah pledged to provide Shomerai HaAretz Tu B'Shvat programming for the Temple Pse-H Hebrew and Hebrew schools. The purpose was to involve the fathers in men's club projects and the students in protecting G-d's earth. Combining the theme of conservation, the 2016 and 2017 project is energy conservation using the incandescent light bulb as a starting point. "Why is my light bulb HOT?" The discussion expanded to how to conserve energy at home and what conservation ideas do you use at home. Can you find energy saving examples in the Shul? The parents are praising the program and it has increased the interest of potential families in joining the synagogue. The fathers are becoming active in Men's Club programs.	On January 31 2016, Michael Milner with help of Frann Friedman led the Hebrew School class in an energy conservation project "Why is my light bulb HOT?" by comparing heat from INCANDESCENT, CFL and LED 40 watt equivalent bulbs. They explained that heat from the bulbs is wasted energy not converted to light, defined watt and lumens. Then a discussion was held, questions asked, who overruled the incandescent bulb, how does it work. How does fluorescent and compact fluorescent light emitting diode lights work? The students then wrote energy conservation and energy wasting ideas on the flip chart. They were given a list of energy conservation ideas collected from the power company (PSE&G). On February 12 2017, Martin and Elzama Goldman led the Yehuda, a pre-school class, in an energy conservation project. "Why is my light bulb HOT?" using INCANDESCENT, CFL and LED 40 watt equivalent bulbs. They explained that heat from the bulbs is wasted energy not converted to light. The children were encouraged to suggest energy conservation and energy wasting actions by selecting prepared cards to post in the project collection bin on the flip chart. They then took pictures of energy heroes. A poster will be prepared of both sessions to display in the Shul at NNUR meetings. Materials needed: A. Temple Beth Tashiv Green Team Initiative, Hebrew School Energy Hero, work sheets, Buffalo, NY 1) Indoor garden- 1st grade 2) 2nd - 8th grade 3) 6th- 8th grade B. Conservation Light bulb demonstration board Materials: Board 18" x 18" minimum 7' W x 24" L; 3 or 4 porcelain lamp holders; 4 ft. lamp cord; 40 watt equivalent light bulbs, clear incandescent, CFL, LED, Demo is right to left (clear LEDs are now available); small flash light that shows the individual LEDs, far left. Lamp holders are used in parallel, no switch needed in parallel. Photo included. Cost of Materials: Available at Hardware store. \$30.00 Class of energy saving ideas (local electric Co., PSE&G ect) D. Flip Chart, marker pens, and seal	The environmental projects enrich the school's curriculum. The parents express their appreciation, the fathers are participating in Men's Club activities. The students look forward to the programs and are implementing the activities at home. The down side is the actual class room time to introduce the projects is very limited. All the pre and Post publicity was internal, the temple news letters and e-mails.	The project fulfills the educational objectives of FJMC: Shomerai HaAretz, teaching the next generation to protect the earth by conservation of energy. The regions can use it as a demonstration of the retreats for clubs. When the children are attentive the parents (fathers are impressed).	TBO BT won gold at and silver SHVA 2016 convention different topics NOTE: The form does not let me add more material photos, PSE&G notes
75	Forest Hills Jewish Center Men's Club - Forest Hills, NY (822)	Shomerai HaAretz	Silver	Hill Benkowitz	Hal	Benkowitz	redzonhal@aol.com	E-Waste Recycling and recycle a Bike. These are two separate programs to save and protect the environment. We collect electronic equipment from anyone who wishes to get rid of any old electronic equipment. We collect old bikes that are never used or broken and parts are used to rebuild bikes and the used bikes are then donated or repurposed sold to under privilege families.	The E-Waste Recycling and the Recycle a Bike programs are design for families to remove unwanted electronic devices and protect the environment. Items that are collected: televisions, computers, computer screens, tape decks, phones, stereos, radios electronic games and devices. We arrange for people to drop off their electronics and we arrange to have an environmental organization to come and collect and dispose this equipment as not to endanger the environment. Much of the equipment is then sold so that organizations can need these items. Some in up in plays, television programs, movies and parts are used in rebuilding other projects. Recycle a Bike families bring unwanted usable bikes and broken down bikes. These are also collected by an environmental organization to repair broken down bikes and donate and sell to under privilege families. Goal to save the Environment and get rid of unwanted items out of the house and help families in need. Our Club is enhanced that not only families in our synagogue can clean homes, but the community of Queens. We collect from everyone who needs about our collection day. We had a church from southern part of Queens deliver over 1000 computers for recycling, they were happy to find an organization running a electronic collection event. The same can be said about our recycle a bike, people are happy to hear that many of the used bikes and those that are rebuilt are given to families that can't afford to purchase cycles. Our program shows that we care about the environment and we care about the earth that we are user and must return to the giver G-d in the condition that we give it to us to use. We have been doing this program for 4 years, but we added to recycle a bike last year. There may be other clubs in other regions, but I believe we are the only one in the Metro Region that has established a program. We collect from people from all over Queens.			
86	Temple Aishah Men's Club - Woodard Hills, CA (1941)	Synagogue Service Project	Bronze	Torch Award	Michael	Shoklapper	mike.shokl@mccampbell.net	The High Holiday Honor software system was developed by the Men's Club to replace the existing way of manually going through the list of member names and assigning honors to member based on written and/or verbal requests. This software is completely automated/computerized and even generated the email invitation to each of the members who received an Honor. The previous process took about 2 weeks to accomplish whereas this software will process all the needed inputs and reports in less than 5 minutes. This system also automated the creation of Service Orders which was synchronized with the Honor system. The SVI system created all the necessary report to manage the activity during the High Holidays.	The goal of the High Holiday Honor software system was to develop a computerized solution to replace the existing way of manually going through the list of temple members and assigning Honor. The program is based on written and/or verbal requests. This software is completely automated/computerized and even generated the email invitation to each of the members who received an Honor. The previous process took about 2 weeks to accomplish whereas this software will process all the needed inputs and reports in less than 5 minutes.	The previous High Holiday Honor assignment process took about 2 weeks to accomplish whereas this software will process all the needed inputs and reports in less than 5 minutes. This computerized solution also avoided human errors.	This Volunteer management system has also an application which has been very helpful to recruit and manage our volunteers for the High Holiday Lishring and the annual Purim Carnival.	
17	Tifereth Israel Synagogue Men's Club - San Diego, CA (1105)	Synagogue Service Project	Gold	TISMCK Brick Garden	Bill	Sperling	BillSperl@aol.com	Fundraiser of selling inscribed bricks that are placed in our Tifereth Israel Men's Club "Brick Garden". This program was submitted for both Holidays on Feb 23, 2016. A designated area at the left of the synagogue's entrance was suggested. The goal is to sell inscribed bricks. The proceeds after expenses are to be divided between the synagogue and Men's Club. We are raising money to honor and remember members and friends of the Tifereth Israel Synagogue family. The bricks have been placed in a conspicuous spot on the Tifereth Israel grounds: just off the main roadway leading to the main entrance. A donation of \$180 to TIS Men's Club will purchase a 4x8 brick that will be a permanent remembrance. Proceeds will support Men's Club and Synagogue programming. The inscription sheet has 4 boxes vertical and 21 horizontal boxes. Each letter, insignia, or space takes up a box. Families look at the inscriptions and need to keep them pertinent and short. Both Bill and I review them before we mail them. It takes about 10 days for them to email us a confirmation. We are given the option to correct it and/or we approve it they begin the printing. We make a payment by credit card. We have set up an Acceptiva account with our front office where the congregants can pay by credit card and add a 3 % charge to offset processing fee, or by check, without an additional charge. We put a very nice sign together (picture enclosed). It took 2 weeks. Once Bob and I approve the writing on their email and check the family's original request, we give the vendor our credit card number and go for the order. It takes about 3 weeks from the original submission to receive the brick. We poured a concrete foundation over the area we planned to lay the bricks. Rather than placing mortar around them we set the bricks on the concrete and filled in the spaces with top soil. We placed holes in the concrete so water would not collect on top when it rains. We have had heavy down pours and the area remained dry and stable. The center of the area has a 8x8 brick recognizing the Men's Club. We have sold 115 bricks to date and sent 112 bricks to the synagogue. We placed flowers around the periphery and provided pictures to demonstrate how tasteful the area is. Family members come by often to remember their loved ones or smile for those that were honored. This is very nice fundraiser and everyone involved is pleased with it results.	We are raising money to honor and remember members and friends of the Tifereth Israel Synagogue family. The bricks have been placed in a conspicuous spot on the Tifereth Israel grounds: just off the main roadway leading to the main entrance. A donation of \$180 to TIS Men's Club will purchase a 4x8 brick that will be a permanent remembrance. Proceeds will support Men's Club and Synagogue programming. The inscription sheet has 4 boxes vertical and 21 horizontal boxes. Each letter, insignia, or space takes up a box. Families look at the inscriptions and need to keep them pertinent and short. Both Bill and I review them before we mail them. It takes about 10 days for them to email us a confirmation. We are given the option to correct it and/or we approve it they begin the printing. We make a payment by credit card. We have set up an Acceptiva account with our front office where the congregants can pay by credit card and add a 3 % charge to offset processing fee, or by check, without an additional charge. We put a very nice sign together (picture enclosed). It took 2 weeks. Once Bob and I approve the writing on their email and check the family's original request, we give the vendor our credit card number and go for the order. It takes about 3 weeks from the original submission to receive the brick. We poured a concrete foundation over the area we planned to lay the bricks. Rather than placing mortar around them we set the bricks on the concrete and filled in the spaces with top soil. We placed holes in the concrete so water would not collect on top when it rains. We have had heavy down pours and the area remained dry and stable. The center of the area has a 8x8 brick recognizing the Men's Club. We have sold 115 bricks to date and sent 112 bricks to the synagogue. We placed flowers around the periphery and provided pictures to demonstrate how tasteful the area is. Family members come by often to remember their loved ones or smile for those that were honored. This is very nice fundraiser and everyone involved is pleased with it results.	We have in the first year of the program raised several thousand dollars to benefit our club and the synagogue. The program is very successful and appealing to the membership at large as a benefit to the grounds and a good choice for donations.	Our club has increased in stature at the synagogue by proving we can have successful fundraisers that get as much closer to competing with the sisterhood in terms of dollars donated to the shul. The location of the brick garden is very obvious but blends in nicely with the surrounding landscaping. This gives us great visibility. Many high powered members have purchased bricks which exceeded our expectations.	This program creates a permanent future for your men's club on the grounds of your synagogue. There is a "tree" attribute among congregants ordering bricks, providing a steady stream of donations.
18	Temple Israel Men's Club - Charlotte, NC (1709)	Synagogue Service Project	Silver	Schach Collection for Sukkah Building and Scotch and Cigars in the Sukkah	Richard	Freiberg	hwregz@windstream.net	The overall goal of the program is both to introduce the mechanics of constructing the Sukkah to students and their families and secondarily to have a meaningful bonding/educational component about the Sukkah where our Rabbits taught our members which included several members of a neighboring MRJ shul about the significance of the festival all the while bonding over cigars and scotch. The program had 2 different audiences. The collection of Schach catered to men's club members and school students and included both building the Temple and cigar. Sukkahs as well as shul members. We parceled the work in 2-hour shifts starting at 8:00 AM to coincide with the school schedule. As this was dependent on the number of students involved we designed what for the two programs they should participate in unless their parents participated also which several did. The evening event we got a sponsorship from the Tifereth of Charlotte which generously provided 25 cigars to give away for the novice Cigar Aficionado's. This was the second time we hosted a scotch and cigar night. The event was well attended by approximately 40 members including several members of the MRJ shul next door. The program format included the evening minyan in the Sukkah followed by a Dvar Torah from Rabbi Ezring. Afterwards we all had a group discussion with all sorts of topics of interest and good participation by everyone there. The feedback was all positive and I knew we were on the right track with the event when David Miller told me he missed his monthly cigar game in favor of our event. Just goes to show people will prefer a good cigar and a single malt whisky.	The overall goal of the program is both to introduce the mechanics of constructing the Sukkah to students and their families and secondarily to have a meaningful bonding/educational component about the Sukkah where our Rabbits taught our members which included several members of a neighboring MRJ shul about the significance of the festival all the while bonding over cigars and scotch. The program had 2 different audiences. The collection of Schach catered to men's club members and school students and included both building the Temple and cigar. Sukkahs as well as shul members. We parceled the work in 2-hour shifts starting at 8:00 AM to coincide with the school schedule. As this was dependent on the number of students involved we designed what for the two programs they should participate in unless their parents participated also which several did. The evening event we got a sponsorship from the Tifereth of Charlotte which generously provided 25 cigars to give away for the novice Cigar Aficionado's. This was the second time we hosted a scotch and cigar night. The event was well attended by approximately 40 members including several members of the MRJ shul next door. The program format included the evening minyan in the Sukkah followed by a Dvar Torah from Rabbi Ezring. Afterwards we all had a group discussion with all sorts of topics of interest and good participation by everyone there. The feedback was all positive and I knew we were on the right track with the event when David Miller told me he missed his monthly cigar game in favor of our event. Just goes to show people will prefer a good cigar and a single malt whisky.	We have a new Rabbi in charge of our religious school who is thrilled to work with our club as part of her overall agenda to reinvigorate the school. After the 2016 WWWW which preceded her arrival the goodwill of making their own Tzitzit had excited the students to be willing to work our club. For the minority of members wanting a Sukkah but knowing where to go this was invaluable and by involving the parents of our students we have opened a potential pathway to our club.	Clearly this program involved Jewish Men in introducing them (as well as their wives and children) to gathering and constructing a Sukkah. For me relocating here from NY about a year and a half with a thriving club I had never heard about gathering Schach and actually constructing a Sukkah and this was both educational and our club involved many members from the event timeline and made this a real community event so that our club became more visible in our shul and community.	
6	Temple Israel Men's Club - Charlotte, NC (1709)	World Wide Wrap	Bronze	World Wide Wrap 2016	Richard	Freiberg	hwregz@windstream.net	Our goal was to get participation from clergy, education leaders, lay leaders, the religious school and explore Tefillin. In addition to teaching the young and not so young to wrap we wanted to make this an both a community and interdenominational coordinated event through "Sharing the wrap and learning" to different clergy and then holding a Q&A. In addition the students of our Religious School made their own Tzitzit which they showcased at a future Shabbat service. On Sunday February 7 at 8:30 AM the Men's club held the 17th Annual World Wide Wrap & Goseckel Hall with over 100 participants and also via Skype connection with: Temple Israel Center in White Plains, NY Temple Beth El in Lancaster, PA Congregation Bnei Israel in San Jose, Costa Rica Rabbi Murray Ezring, Rabbi An Isenberg-Graedel of Temple Israel Center, Rabbi Rami Pevkovitsky and Daniels Sautzer of Temple Beth El and Rabbi Darío Fegun of Congregation Bnei Israel all spoke after our respective Sunday morning services about their Congregation, the relevance of the Mitzvah of tzitzit in the context of the Wrap with other Congregations around the world. Our goal was to get participation from clergy, education leaders, lay leaders, the religious school and explore Tefillin. In addition to teaching the young and not so young to wrap we wanted to make this an both a community and interdenominational coordinated event through "Sharing the wrap and learning" to different clergy and then holding a Q&A. In addition the students of our Religious School made their own Tzitzit which they showcased at a future Shabbat service. For many Conservative Jews the lack of ritual and other knowledge often acts as a barrier or impediment to a greater level of involvement by parents and their children and has undoubtedly been one of the contributing factors in leaving our shuls post-brain mitzvah. Our goal is to slowly reverse that alarming trend by providing an interactive, fun and intimate forum to teach. By offering this program our club, and therefore our region and FJMC benefits from bringing clergy, schools, young families, lay leaders and Brotherhood together in an informal, intimate learning session which was enjoyable by over 100 people. Post-wrap only exceeded 30-40 so although our Temple has over 600 family units increasing participation as we did is a home run for all of us. As such, we (Brotherhood) by being a sponsor of this event is slowly reversing that alarming trend by providing an interactive, fun and intimate forum to teach. Our target audience was mainly school age children and their families although the event was open to all members. The interaction played a key role as we gain more visibility into what we bring to the Temple and was instrumental in establishing and building relationships. The program involved Jewish men (and women) into Jewish ritual. For many in attendance, they never learned any of this when they were in religious school. What this brings is the beginning of growing confidence in attending services as we hope to run more learning events in the future. We have traditionally run this program only focusing on wrapping without the educational components. We have found that many of our members do not come to Temple during the Days of Awe. For them it is important that we (not only) bring them to the synagogue but also to their shuls and other payments and introducing them to learning opportunities in a family format to encourage attendance on a more frequent basis so we don't lose 75% of them post-brain mitzvah.	By offering this program our club, and therefore our region and FJMC benefits from bringing clergy, schools, young families, lay leaders and Brotherhood together in an informal, intimate learning session which was enjoyable by over 100 people. Post-wrap only exceeded 30-40 so although our Temple has over 600 family units increasing participation as we did is a home run for all of us. As such, we (Brotherhood) by being a sponsor of this event is slowly reversing that alarming trend by providing an interactive, fun and intimate forum to teach. 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For them it is important that we (not only) bring them to the synagogue but also to their shuls and other payments and introducing them to learning opportunities in a family format to encourage attendance on a more frequent basis so we don't lose 75% of them post-brain mitzvah.	The wrap originated here in Charlotte years ago so this program obviously is an integral part of FJMC. In terms of innovation just the educational component of a tradition long forgotten by many is viewed positively by clergy who seek different ways, not always successful in bringing the tradition to the schools and their families. From a community perspective this program brings the community together and as I look to the future we will be coordinating this next year with the Reform Temple next door through our joint efforts.	Perhaps most importantly in creating their own individual tzitzit the students pride was evident during the event, the Shabbat service and when we visited their class when each student unprompted called this project their most enjoyable one and one that actually made them desire to attend classes.	

Serial	Club Name	Category	Award	Program Name	First Name	Last Name	Email	Program Overview/Summary	Detail Program (Note: In some cases, the description is lengthy. Please double click the cell and move down with your cursor to read all.)	Impact	FAMC	Additional Comments
84	Beth Elmeith Bais Yehuda Men's Club - Downersville, ON (404)	World Wide Wrap	Gold	World Wide Wrap	Stan	Greenberg	sgreen@psj.org	The overall goal is to encourage the congregational community to become involved in fulfilling the mitzvah of tefillin, and in teaching what we know. The program consisted of several threads of outreach - to the religious school older grades, to the minyanaires who wrap every day, to a community-wide "Tefillah community" and of course to our members, several of whom have not wrapped tefillin since their Bar Mitzvah.	Our World Wide Wrap program has grown over the last few years and brought in new energy and excitement and expanded the Temple community which participates. The goals of the program were and continue to be to make our students aware of the mitzvah of Tefillin, and to remind our older Temple and Men's Club members of and experience the mitzvah. The culmination of the year is the experience of being together as a community with the intention of fulfilling the mitzvah and of feeling the tefillin on our minds and next to our hearts. There are several threads for the year - 1) congregation-wide tefillin, 2) preparation for the video tefillin, and 3) preparation of the event itself. We contacted the religious school to ask for participation of the fifth grade - to have the classes come to the sanctuary to be taught and practice wrapping tefillin. We also coordinated with the Temple community to have the Sunday morning minyan start later than normal so that there was time for the minyanaires to teach and assist the students, and other temple members to wrap. The children made tefillin in the past with wooden blocks and ribbon and this was a challenge in the past as one year elastic ribbon was used, and it contracted and squeezed some arms uncomfortably, so some parents did not want their children to participate. In addition there have been changes in the school administration so some of the information was not communicated properly. In 2015 the Oklavu Kasali Jewish Community of Kenya, a struggling new community of Jews by choice and our partner, was sent four sets of tefillin from our congregation, and we planned for them to go with us when we were wrapping. This happened using a package of tefillin from the World Wide Wrap in 2016. Yehudah Kimani, the community leader and several congregants were taught by our Rabbi and our MC Board member using a minyan Skype connection how to wrap tefillin, and say the prayers. As this was the first time they had wrapped our congregation joined with them in saying the Shema/Kaddish - issues with time that they decided to wrap at the same time that we did, which was in the early evening for them - as well as the uncertainty of the internet connection - it was lost once or twice during the event. However, Yehudah Kimani, our community leader was able to address our congregation before the start of the service, and they stayed on Skype with us until the end of the service. With the assistance of our Men's Club and several other communities spearheaded by our board member Alan Pransky, Yehudah Kimani was able to come to the United States from May to August 2016. Yehudah joined us for a Yom Haatzma barbeque, and then spoke to the Board and guests and attended the Men's Club Board meeting. In addition, he attended Shabbat services, read from the Torah for the first time in the USA and addressed and engaged the entire congregation. For 2017 we further expanded the reach of the World Wide Wrap as a Temple cruise was going on the time of the wrap. This required a three way Skype conference between Yehudah, Alan Pransky, and a Rabbi from the Oklavu Kasali Jewish Community of Kenya had forty sets of tefillin which allowed their youth to also practice wrapping tefillin. Members of Temple Torah Emet were able to provide a minyan for someone saying Kaddish for Yonatan. During the three way conference we planned to say the Shema together, but the internet connection was not good so we decided to say the Shema separately. We also coordinated with the Temple community to have a permanent building for prayer and study. 2017 also increased the cooperation within the Temple as we received support from the minyanairat with assistance in wrapping. This year children were taught tefillin in class, the FAMC information film was shown, and we learned a KAF to sing that was performed after the service. The event portion of the day was also changed in the last few years. We printed as a large poster the Tefillin-cheat sheet we borrowed from another club. We also have them as small cards for people to keep with their tefillin. Our chair also created large tefillin certificates to be used on the tables during our brunch. This year we had the attendees sign one of the certificates and we later mounted our photograph of participants on one side of the certificate. This will become a new yearly tradition for us. Brunch after the service included WRAPS provided by one of the program was our annual World Wide Wrap continued with the annual Super Bowl pool fundraiser, perhaps our biggest fundraiser of the year. This year was special in that the member who initiated the WWVW at our Shul passed away over the past year at a relatively young age, so we permanently renamed the program in his memory, purchased and donated 4 sets of ribbon bag embroidered with Chev Shalom Men's Club and a memorial to our departed member, and presented the new tefillin sets in the presence of his widow at the beginning of the program. We then proceeded with our cabinet instruction and assistance by our rabbis, followed by the morning minyan for our children. After minyan we proceeded to a well-attended brunch combined with a roundtable of speakers offering general, practical investment advice (as opposed to trying to sell products). The Super Bowl pool - which had been started weeks earlier - then proceeded later that day as the game progressed. So in one day, we accomplished an annual program meeting the mitzvah needs of our congregation, offering timely practical advice and socialization, and our major fundraiser.	Our World Wide Wrap program has grown over the last few years and brought in new energy and excitement and expanded the Temple community which participates. The goals of the program were and continue to be to make our students aware of the mitzvah of Tefillin, and to remind our older Temple and Men's Club members of and experience the mitzvah. 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However, we did have an increase in tefillin in the second year of our partnership with Kenya.	Obviously this program helps to support involving Jewish Men in Jewish Life and it reconnects many who do not regularly wrap tefillin in the infirmary). Over 100 people in 2 countries participated in the WWVW. Perhaps more importantly, we had a bit of secrecy on the bottom of one of the girls in the infirmary).
85	Temple Torah Emet Men's Club - Westborough, MA (1344)	World Wide Wrap	Silver	World Wide Wrap	Ita	Brandl	embrandt@gmail.com	The overall goal is to encourage the congregational community to become involved in fulfilling the mitzvah of tefillin, and in teaching what we know. The program consisted of several threads of outreach - to the religious school older grades, to the minyanaires who wrap every day, to a community-wide "Tefillah community" and of course to our members, several of whom have not wrapped tefillin since their Bar Mitzvah.	Our World Wide Wrap program has grown over the last few years and brought in new energy and excitement and expanded the Temple community which participates. The goals of the program were and continue to be to make our students aware of the mitzvah of Tefillin, and to remind our older Temple and Men's Club members of and experience the mitzvah. 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However, we did have an increase in tefillin in the second year of our partnership with Kenya.	Obviously this program helps to support involving Jewish Men in Jewish Life and it reconnects many who do not regularly wrap tefillin in the infirmary). Over 100 people in 2 countries participated in the WWVW. Perhaps more importantly, we had a bit of secrecy on the bottom of one of the girls in the infirmary).	
86	Chev Shalom Men's Club - Maitland, FL (1316)	World Wide Wrap		World Wide Wrap	Neil	Baker	nbaker@yahoo.com	Through this annual program, we accomplished, in a single day, meeting the mitzvah needs of our congregation through a presentation of background and instruction for putting on tefillin and the morning Shabbat service, recognizing the recently-deceased individual responsible for bringing the program to our Shul as an annual event and including his widow in the program; convening a high-quality brunch offering socialization among members and guests coupled with a roundtable panel program offering timely practical (investment) advice; and conducting our major fundraiser.	The goal of the program was to teach congregants and members of our Jews By Choice program the meaning of how to put on tefillin. The FAMC World Wide Wrap program was expanded to accomplish these goals and to provide an opportunity to participate in and learn about a morning minyan service. A goal of the program was to make tefillin more affordable for those who wanted to purchase them, including members of our Jews By Choice club and Bar and Bat Mitzvah students. This was done by Men's Club providing a \$55 per pair subsidy of the FAMC price of each of 10 pair of tefillin purchased through the program. A bagel breakfast was provided after the morning minyan for all of the participants. All goals were accomplished. The event was very well attended - approximately 50 people including many members of our Jews By Choice program and many Bar/Bat Mitzvah families.	Extremely well received, fosters goodwill in the local Jewish community. This program produces one of our better brunches during the year.	Frankly, self-explanatory.	
87	Anshe Emet Men's Club - Chicago, IL (608)	World Wide Wrap		World Wide Wrap - Minyan Education Program	Barry	Balk	sbmguy03@yahoo.com	FAMC World Wide Wrap program was expanded to not only include detailed instruction on how to put on tefillin, but also the meaning of tefillin as well as how to participate in a morning minyan service. Our Jews By Choice club and Bar and Bat Mitzvah students were invited to attend. Men's Club also provided a \$55 per pair subsidy of the FAMC price of each of 10 pair of tefillin purchased through the program. A bagel breakfast was provided after the morning minyan for all of the participants.	The goal of the program was to teach congregants and members of our Jews By Choice program the meaning of how to put on tefillin. The FAMC World Wide Wrap program was expanded to accomplish these goals and to provide an opportunity to participate in and learn about a morning minyan service. A goal of the program was to make tefillin more affordable for those who wanted to purchase them, including members of our Jews By Choice club and Bar and Bat Mitzvah students. This was done by Men's Club providing a \$55 per pair subsidy of the FAMC price of each of 10 pair of tefillin purchased through the program. A bagel breakfast was provided after the morning minyan for all of the participants. All goals were accomplished. The event was very well attended - approximately 50 people including many members of our Jews By Choice program and many Bar/Bat Mitzvah families.	This program provided valuable instruction to many congregants and members of our Jews By Choice program. It also permitted several individuals to purchase their own tefillin due to the Men's Club discount who otherwise would not have purchased them.	World Wide Wrap is a fundamental FAMC program. We expanded the program to provide additional tefillin learning and purchase opportunities for individuals who would not have otherwise had them. The program also provided an introduction of how Jewish men participate in morning minyan.	
88	Or Tzion Men's Club - Scottsdale, AZ (1074)	World Wide Wrap		WW Wrap Enhanced Program	Scott	Vreberg	scottvreberg@hotmail.com	This year we enhanced our World Wide Wrap program by integrating the concept of sweetness. As the famous saying goes: "The Torah is sweet as honey," so did we make use of candy to enliven our program, giving children from our religious school (grades K-6) a meaningful, active and fun introduction to the very important mitzvah of wearing tefillin.	Or Tzion Men's Club had a goal to enliven and enrich our already successful World Wide Wrap program. While we knew the Build-A-Pair portion of the program incorporates active learning, we felt that we could add engagement for our religious school students in the program, making the "Tefillah That Brings" video and learning about tefillin. After they watched the video and observed our Men's Club members wrap tefillin, the children got a chance to do the same, using a combination of fruit roll-ups (Fruity by the Foot) and Starburst candies ("Buffy"), to replicate the "Tefillah". The students were excited because they'd get to enjoy a sweet treat after wrapping their "tefillin", and this seemed to motivate them to approach the mitzvah with seriousness - most of the children wanted to wrap accurately, and the Men's Club members in attendance helped them with this. It created engagement for both the students of our religious school and our Men's Club, and fostered connections between the kids and adults, as we shared a fun, meaningful and sweet Jewish ritual experience together. Both girls and boys at the religious school were included so that the everyone had an opportunity to enjoy and develop an attachment to the important mitzvah of tefillin. The activity was led by our Associate Rabbi Nate Crane, a Men's Club member, and was strongly attended by our Men's Club members.	The World Wide Wrap Program brought together people of all ages from the children in the classes, to men's club members of all ages. Some interacted with the younger children that wrapped the fruit roll-ups and Starburst by helping them with wrap and showing them how to wrap tefillin with their own sets of tefillin. Others were able to assist the older children by helping them to "Build A Pair". All in all, people of all ages taught and learned about tefillin in Jewish Life. We are already brainstorming on how to build upon this already successful program.	When asking our OTM members for their assistance in this program, we found an overwhelming response to help teach our youth about tefillin. This brought to both fathers and grandfathers and got them involved. So it truly was an experience of involving Jewish Men in Jewish Life. We are already brainstorming on how to build upon this already successful program.	
89	Anshe Emet Men's Club - Chicago, IL (608)	Yom HaShoah Yellow Candle	Bronze	Yom HaShoah - Yellow Candles	Barry	Balk	sbmguy03@yahoo.com	Anshe Emet Men's Club worked with the Simon Wiesenthal Center in developing a Yom HaShoah Yellow Candles program focusing on the Jewish community of Greece and the Holocaust. The program began with a lighting of 6 Yellow Candles commemorating the 6 million Jewish dead from the Holocaust. Introductory remarks were presented by Anshe Emet Senior Rabbi, Michael Segel, and Simon Wiesenthal Midwest Regional Director, Alison Stone. Men's Club 1st Vice President, Barry Balk, presented a brief history of the tragedy of the Jewish community of Greece and an introduction to the featured film, "May Your Memory Be Live". The film was produced by Yehuda Varsani, and documents the experiences of Greek Holocaust survivor, Ovadia Baruch, in his own words. Hazan Alberto Mizrahi beautifully outlined some of the Holocaust experiences of his own Greek family and sang a special Ladino song honoring the Holocaust victims of Greece. Approximately 70 Yellow Candles were sold so attendees could take them home and light them in remembrance of Yom HaShoah.	Anshe Emet Men's Club has become the lead synagogue group for the Annual Yom HaShoah program for the last 3 years. Our Yom HaShoah program in particular has brought a substantial amount of prestige and recognition to our Men's Club with the congregation and among the clergy and staff as a viable and important component of synagogue life. Working with the Simon Wiesenthal Center in developing a Yom HaShoah Yellow Candles program has provided an additional community outreach aspect to the program and has been mutually beneficial to both organizations. By coordinating the annual Yom HaShoah program with the sale of FAMC Yellow Candles and distributing the candles at the event, it has greatly increased both congregational attendance on Yom HaShoah and purchase of Yellow Candles. The topic this year was especially informative and educational to our members and non-members.	This event has brought a substantial amount of prestige and recognition to our Men's Club as a vital component of synagogue life and a valuable congregation partner. Focusing on the Holocaust and the Jewish community of Greece provided some insight into a much overlooked aspect of the Shoah. It also made the program more personable due to the history of our Cantor. We also saw some initial involvement by our Religious School in promoting Yellow Candles.	Our Yom HaShoah program has stimulated Men's Club members and non-members to be more involved in learning about the history and lessons of the Holocaust. The event also has promoted awareness and purchase of FAMC Yellow Candles.	
90	Beth Shalom Men's Club - Santa Clarita, CA (1104)	Yom HaShoah Yellow Candle	Gold	Yom HaShoah Remembrance Ceremony	David	Simon	dsimon@csbcso.org	Congregation Beth Shalom's 2017 Yom HaShoah program focused on Kindertransport, the heroic British effort to save Jewish European children from the Holocaust. Our Men's Club found an actual Kindertransport woman (then girl of course) after a nationwide search and we combined a talk show interview format with actual documentary footage, our young school kids lighting candles in the shape of a Jewish star, Kindertransport letters read by the kids and a special Yom HaShoah lightbox that lit up the sanctuary with the words "Yom HaShoah". 150-160 people, including many children, attended and the local newspaper did a major story on the event.	Goals: broaden the reach and impact of our YH program to go beyond just adults and seniors. Challenges: what would bring in more kids to our program with more suitable content. The program connects one of the most important activities the Men's Club undertakes with our membership and the community. It is branded as a Congregation Beth Shalom and FAMC activity. Engaging as many MC members as possible strengthens our club by giving members ownership of parts of the program with a theme and message that is relevant, suitable for all ages, and connects with the makeup of our group and the congregation. Target audience is not just our older members but most importantly the youth of CBS. Young folks are often not taught about the Shoah or specific events of 1933-1945 and it should be part of our mission to shed light in a meaningful and impactful way so our young people can carry on the chain of remembrance of this dark one in our history. This supports FAMC mission by presenting a significant educational, religious, and social program that in part reflects the mission of FAMC in terms of connecting the role of FAMC to those not a part of the Men's Club to show them and others one of many programs and projects that strengthen our club, the congregation and the community. This program and our other programs reflects the FAMC motto: "Leadership, Innovation and Community". Source of our program: SEE ABOVE WITH THE PROCESS WE USED TO COME UP WITH THE PROGRAM	Our Kindertransport Yom HaShoah Program resonated among many of our audiences so that a heretofore unknown (by most) chapter of the Shoah was brought to light in a positive way involving heroes and survival and children. We had our entire school in attendance with children of all ages who asked questions of our Kindertransport survivor. It candles and read Kindertransport letters from kids their own age in 1938-39. The program brought in newer members to assist and non-members in the audience received a different view of our Men's Club. Many members of the Men's Club had their kids participate in the program and that was most gratifying.	As an active member of FAMC, our Congregation Beth Shalom Men's Club is building identification with FAMC and making our members aware of the mission and goals of FAMC. We are active in incorporating the theme of FAMC's goals: Leadership, Innovation and Community into our Club's activities and our Yom HaShoah program was innovative, involved our synagogue community and through our media outreach and local press coverage, provided outreach to our Santa Clarita community at large.	The challenge with Yom HaShoah and other Men's Club programs is to consistently think about reaching millennials and children as they are the next generations of Men's Club members and leaders. Our religious and non-religious speakers and programs attempt to reach this goal, and for this particular Yom HaShoah program we had one of our largest multi-generational audiences ever.
91	Bnai Anshora Men's Club - St. Louis, MO (631)	Yom HaShoah Yellow Candle	Silver	Yellow Candle - Do a Mitzvah, Meet a Member	Creighton	Cohn	sohnrcj@yahoo.com	We wanted to provide Yom HaShoah Yellow Candles for our synagogue members that live alone, have limited mobility, are disabled, or are in senior living facilities where flames could not be used and also help those same people stay connected not only to Yom HaShoah, but also to our club and synagogue. Therefore, we purchased small electric tea lights and replaced the actual yellow candles in the Yellow Candle kits with the actual tea lights and they had the same look and feel as the actual yellow candles. We had them delivered to the homes and facilities to talk to and visit with the recipients and turn on the electric candles for them.	Our main goal was to create meaningful volunteer opportunities while also expanding Yom HaShoah observance to those that were homebound and/or unable to use candles and fostering a connection between those people and our club and shul as well as access generations of our club members. Many times people are asked to volunteer and it is a mundane task and/or they feel unappreciated leading to a less than fulfilling volunteer experience. This program gave volunteers an opportunity to go and meet and assist the elderly and spend some time together with them about a variety of topics, not just Yom HaShoah. We tried to have the volunteers go to an inter-generational learning, which also added to the camaraderie among club members, especially those of different ages. A benefit of this was that often the older member of the team already knew the younger members and recipients. Some teams knew each other already and others did not, but they not only got to spend time together to know each other, but were also doing a mitzvah at the same time. This helped to strengthen our club by getting more people involved in it, enhancing Jewish observance of Yom HaShoah, and also illustrated that we are leaders at our shul and community in this area. I gave without saying delivering the candles involved the volunteers in Jewish Life and the recipients also become involved as they had not previously been able to light candles on Yom HaShoah. This was rather inexpensive. The only cost expense over the regular Yellow Candle costs were the electric tea lights which can be purchased on line from places like Amazon.com for about \$3.00 each. We used about 75 lights each year.	We felt this had a great impact on our club, shul, and community by increasing observance of Yom HaShoah. It positively impacted our club directly by getting previously uninvolved (or less involved) members involved and built relationships between members of different generations.	This directly involved Jewish Men in increasing observance of Yom HaShoah and doing the mitzvah of visiting the sick and elderly. It also created a mentor relationship between some of our older and younger members and bridged some gaps between our older and younger members. All of the volunteers felt enhanced by the experience and are looking forward to doing it again. Additionally, there were many new volunteers that some of the more active members of the club gave us their "spots" so that new volunteers could have the experience.	

Serial	Club Name	Category	Award	Program Name	First Name	Last Name	Email	Program Overview Summary	Detail Program (Note: In some cases, the description is lengthy. Please double click the cell and move down with your cursor to read all.)	Impact	FJMC	Additional Comments
69	Congregation Beth Shalom Men's Club - Northbrook, IL (643)	Youth Programming	Gold	Men's Club programming specific to our younger members	Scott	Rogoff	rogoffsw@gmail.com	Men's Club believes that if we do programming for our young members it will attract those parents and therefore bring in a younger demographic and next generation of Men's Club leaders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Ere - Thanksgivng program featuring Jesse White Tamblers - Every year we do a program on Ere/Thanksgiving specifically geared towards kids and their families. This particular program is a program we try and do every 2-3 years because the Jesse White Tamblers draw over 300 people consistently to the event. •Chabees & Kiddies day at the Chicago Wolves hockey game in association with our Young Family Programming group - This multi-generational events successfully brought 15 families (about 40 people) to a Chicago Wolves (NHL) hockey game at the Allstate Arena. •Ere of the year program for families at the JCC Garcon Gateway to Science - This was the first time we tried to do this event where we had breakfast for families while they went through different stations at the Garcon Gateway to Science that overlaps with Jewish values. This event drew 10 families and demonstrated that we should do an end of the year family event. •Sukkah Decorating - Every year Men's Club builds our sukkah (including an indoor "Sukkat"). The Sunday before Sukkot we co-sponsor a young family program for families to come and decorate the Sukkah. •Rum Carnival - Every year our Men's Club serves lunch during our congregation Purim Carnival as a way to network with the men that are bringing their families to the synagogue. •Tom Beth Shalom - This synagogue-wide event is the kickoff event for the year for young families and Men's Club grills hot dogs and serves lunch again as a way to bring young families. •Family Bingo Night in association with Shalom - This annual events regularly draw over 100 parents and children for a fun program that continues to be a success. We also make money at this event because it is a low cost event that everyone enjoys. •Chabees and Kiddies morning with chef Laura Frankel who taught our children and their parents how to cook up various forms of creative and innovative avocado toasts including how to make such avocado toasts on matzah so that it is kosher for Passover. We brought this event in through the Jewish Book Council and were able to bring in a big name like Laura Frankel to do family programming. •Maccabiah games with the School, Youth Department and Young Family Programming. - Because we piloted the end of the year Garcon Gateway to Science program, we then expanded the program and brought in additional games at the synagogue to do a much larger Maccabiah event at Beth Shalom as our end of the year event. We hired a professional who runs Maccabiah games, a video game truck to appeal to older kids, providing food, etc. 	We were successfuly able to attract and draw younger dads and introduce them to the mens club. These events typically draw over 100 people.	The focus of FJMC and future of our mens club is involving younger men. With everyone's busy schedules, we have found that doing more family oriented programming is the best way to attract younger men. Therefore, we have worked hard to program to younger families so that we can get to the younger men.	
70	Ner Tamid Men's Club - Rancho Palms Verdes, CA (1050)	Youth Programming	Silver	Tarbut (Culture)	Warren	Starling	warster10@gmail.com	Tarbut (culture) is a religious school program for students to learn about Judaism around the world through the culture of amaroos (art), musica (music), bishul (cooking) and kishoret (journalism). The CNT Men's Club sponsored this program. 110 religious school students in 2nd through 7th grade participated in this program. There were 3 cultural explorers making up the program: Sephardic Jews tarbut, Ashkenazi Jews tarbut, and Mizrahi Jews tarbut. For each session, students spent 6 weeks learning about and preparing food appropriate to the culture, learning the background of cultural music and selecting songs to perform, creating art depicting the representative of the culture, and learning about families and communities within the culture and then creating newsletters, photos and video depicting what they had learned. At the end of each session there was a showcase for the entire Ner Tamid community where the students displayed/performed/shared their work in these 4 areas.	<p>Tarbut is a religious school program for students to learn about Judaism around the world through the culture of amaroos (art), musica (music), bishul (cooking) and kishoret (journalism). As an example of the program, the first session covered Sephardic Jews. As part of this session, students spend six weeks doing the following: (1) learning and preparing Moroccan Jewish food (Branli), (2) studying the Sephardic Diaspora and creating a mural depicting life after the Inquisition (Croncoff), (3) learning the background and history of Sephardic music, and selecting a song to perform or write (Musica), and (4) learning about Sephardic Jews in our families and community, and creating a newsletter with articles, photos and video (Kishoret). The two other session themes were Ashkenazi Jews and Mizrahi Jews.</p> <p>What made this program successful was the fact that all aspects of the program required the students to learn and use key words in Hebrew, to work together as a team on projects, and to bring together other students, their families and interested Ner Tamid community members for their showcases. Also, the food was great! A student survey at the end of the school year showed that this program was hands down their favorite part of the religious school curriculum. The students indicated that they had fun and learned a lot.</p> <p>As sponsors of this program, the CNT Men's Club received synagogue-wide recognition, including recognition from the fathers of the involved students.</p> <p>This program idea was brought to Men's Club by the Director of our religious school. We like what we saw and determined we would get involved. We covered all costs for supplies, which were acquired by the religious school staff. All work on the projects was done by students in the classrooms and the showcases were presented to the entire Ner Tamid community in our community center.</p> <p>Attached is a file showing the program budget, a file with a week-by-week program description and a file showing the program handout for a specific showcase.</p>	Based on feedback from the students, this program had a very positive impact on the students and their parents. The students considered this a favorite part of their curriculum and their parents shared in the program but helping with some aspects of the showcases preparation and just being present for their children when the students conducted the showcase. CNT Men's Club received accolades from the religious school staff and the clergy for sponsoring this program.	The program actually involved very little direct activity by CNT Men's Club members; our primary role was providing the funding. However, it was certainly considered an innovative program within the synagogue and directly supported our synagogue community of students and their parents.	