Tzedekah Family Programming

And Super Sunday, too!

Webinar 3:

Programming with Collaborative Partners
February 13, 2013
Webinar Goals

To explore

• Ways of designing stand-alone PJ Family Tzedekah Programs

and

• Techniques for teaching young children and their families about the value of tzedekah

• How to create Family Tzedekah Programs based on Jumping Jenny by Ellen Bari, illustrated by Raquel Garcia Macia.
Goals of Family Tzedekah Programs

• To broaden children’s understanding of tzedekah. Help children discover that:
  - Giving tzedekah involves using one’s resources to help others and/or make the world a better place (tikkun olam)
  - Tzedekah is derived from the root- צ.ד.ק Justice, fairness

    When we give tzedekah we perform a just act; - We right the wrongs of the world and create a more just situation
Additional Goals of Family Tzedekah Programs

• Provide families with a means of integrating tzedekah into rituals of daily life

• Help Families understand underlying principles of tzedekah-
  -As Jews we have obligation to give tzedekah to individuals in need and to the community at large
Tzedekah Sources

- If there be among you a needy man, one of thy brethren, within any of thy gates, in thy land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not harden thy heart, nor shut thy hand from thy needy brother; but thou shalt surely open thy hand unto him, and shalt surely lend him sufficient for his need in that which he wanteth.

  Deuteronomy 15:7-8

- One is obligated to give a tenth of his income to charity. It is meritorious to give a fifth (Yorah Daia 249:1).
Tzedekah and Community

• *Do not separate yourself from the community.* Pirkei Avot 2: 4.

• *When the community is in trouble, a person should not say, "I will go into my house and eat and drink and be at peace with myself."* B. Talmud, Massechet Ta'anit 11a.

• *Every city in which Jews live must establish a charity agent, men who are known and trusted to go to the people from week to week and to take from everyone what they find to give, and what they allocate, and they distribute the money to the poor for the subsequent week.* Rambam Laws of Charity 9:1
Benefits of PJ Library/Super Sunday Collaboration

Perks for PJ Families

- PJ families are able to see community based tzedekah in action
- PJ Families develop stronger/deeper ties to the community
- Families are able to meet some wonderful Community volunteers

Perks for PJ Professionals

- Have access to creative, energetic Super Sunday Volunteers who will help run the PJ event
- PJ Program becomes enriched-(PJ families can participate in wide array of activities)
- PJ is able to support Federation and thank Federation for funds and support it has given PJ throughout the year.
Why Super Sunday Loves Collaborating with PJ

Perks for Federation

• PJ (with it’s skilled personnel, great programs, and good books) will help transform Super Sunday into a fun, multi-faceted community event.

• Super Sunday volunteers are able to see PJ in action and realize the benefits of the funds that they are raising.

• PJ families may decide to support and help the Federation with its important work.
Case Study: Stamford Ct.

What PJ Families Gained By Participating in Super Sunday:

- Access to fun events, good food, prizes
- Opportunity to see adults and teens working to support the community
- Chance to feel part of a community tzedekah project
- Ability to learn about tzedekah

How Federation Benefited by PJ Participating in Super Sunday

- Change in the nature of the day-Super Sunday became day for family participation
- More funds raised
- Ability to showcase success of PJ Library
Benefits for PJ Professional:

• Additional volunteers to run program
• Way to connect PJ families to the broader community
Examples from Other Communities:

• Brief Description of the Collaboration
• Benefits of PJ Collaborating with Super Sunday
• Benefits of Super Sunday Collaborating with PJ
### Planning Family Tzedekah Event:
First Step-Choose a Book

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tzedekah-Charity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bagels for Benny K, EE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brother’s Promise, The EE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Even Higher  EE</td>
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<td>Bone Button Borscht EE</td>
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<td>Horn for Louis, A EE</td>
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<td>How Dalia Put A Big Yellow Comforter Inside a Tiny Blue Box K, EE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jumping Jenny  EE</td>
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<td>Noah’s Swimathon  PK, EE</td>
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<td>What Zeesie Saw on Delancey Street  EE</td>
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Books Featuring Raising of Tzedekah Money
Types of Tzedekah Events

• **Hands-on Service Events**
  Families perform actions designed to help others
  *beach clean–up, trip to food pantry, birthday packages, collecting PJ’s, 5th night Chanukah*

• **A-Thon Events**
  Children raise/earn tzedekah through physical activities
Plot of Jumping Jenny
Jenny Continued
Why Jumping Jenny?

- Fun, engaging story
- Encourages action
- Inspires children to think about what they can personally do to raise tzedekah money
- Paves the way for tzedekah fair activities
Activities to Accompany Jumping Jenny

- Introductory Crafts Project
- PJ Library Book Reading
- Post-Reading Discussion
- A-Thon Activities
Book Based Post- Reading Discussion Questions

• How many jumps was Jenny able to do?
• Why did Jenny want to do 1000 jumps? What was Jenny going to do with the money that she earned from her jumps?
• Why did the children in Uganda need money?
• Do you know any Hebrew words that describe what Jenny did?
• She did a mitzvah—a good deed. The mitzvah which she did has a special Hebrew name. It’s called tzedekah? Does anyone know what tzedekah is?
Jewish Values Sound byte and Discussion Questions

- The word *tzedekah* comes from the word *tzedek*-It means justice or doing the right thing.
- If we meet someone who is poor and has very little food or clothes or toys—what’s the right thing to do?
- When we help someone by giving them money or something which they really need (like food or clothes) we say that we’re giving *tzedekah* or practicing the mitzvah of *tzedekah*.
- Have you ever given *tzedekah*? What did you give?
- How many of you made *tzedekah* boxes today? What will you do with your *tzedekah* boxes? What will you do with the money that you collect in your boxes?
Transitioning to Tzedekah Fair

Today, you’re going to have the chance to be like Jenny and her classmates. You’re going to have the opportunity to participate in a tzedekah fair. You’re going to go from booth to booth performing different tasks and earning points. We’re going to write your points down on this special scorecard.

We have all kinds of booths at our fair. We have one where you can jump, not with a pogo stick but with a jump rope and earn tzedekah money for each jump that you do. Other booths have to do with tzedekah and tzedekah boxes. At one booth you’ll see how many tzedekah boxes you can knock over with a ball.

When you leave today, you’ll add up the points on your scorecard and receive money for your points. What will you do with the money you’ll receive for your points? Will you keep it for yourself?
Post Reading Activities: Tzedekah Fair

Overview:

- Children travel from station to station, performing various tzedekah related tasks and earning points for the number of activities accomplished.
- Points are recorded on a paper which children wear around their necks.
- When children feel as if they have completed enough tasks, they receive money for total number of tasks performed. This money can be deposited in child’s own tzedekah box, or donated to a Federation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coin Flip</td>
<td># of times coin landed in tzedekah cup</td>
<td>Penny Pitch # of pennies tossed into floating cups</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coin Stack</td>
<td># of coins in largest stack successfully carried on head</td>
<td>Skillful Toes # of coins transferred</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diving for Quarters</td>
<td># of quarters retrieved</td>
<td>Treasure Dig # of coins found</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tzedekah Box Toss</td>
<td># of boxes knocked down</td>
<td>Soft Coin Transfer # of soft coins (pom poms) transferred</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jump Rope Challenge</td>
<td># of consecutive Jumps</td>
<td>Total Number of Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tzedekah Dash</td>
<td># of coins placed in tzedekah box</td>
<td>Total Tzedekah Donation</td>
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My Name: ___________________________
Tzedekah Fair Activities

**Tzedekah Dash**
In one minute, how many coins can you deposit into the tzedekah box?

**Coin Stack**
How many coins can you carry stacked on your head, while walking from a start to a finish line?

**Penny Pitch**
How many pennies (out of 10) can you successfully toss into the floating cups?
Introductory Activity: Making Tzedekah Boxes

Materials Needed:
Craft Boxes/Banks
Glue/q-tips/bowls
Decorating Items
Adaptations for Mixed Age Groups

• Tzedekah Box Activity:
  
  Offered many different types of decorations
  Children selected materials and how
  to apply them based on age and skill level

Tzedekah Fair Activities

  – Different types of activities
  – Within each activity, had adaptations for age groups
Other Tzedekah Programs