



Yad b'Yad Hand-in-Hand

A Synagogue-Based Inclusive Program for Teenagers with Developmental Challenges

Supporting Westchester teens from all communities for over 12 years.



Located at Congregation Kol Ami 252 Soundview Avenue White Plains, NY 10606 www.nykolami.org 914.949.4717

#### Our Mission

Yad b'Yad (Hand in Hand) is an academic and life skills inclusion program for teens and young adults (ages 13-21) with learning, cognitive, and emotional developmental challenges. Based in Westchester County, this program provides a curriculum that increases their "social savvy," knowledge, and integration of critical life skills.

When children reach adolescence, the gap widens significantly between those with developmental challenges and their peers. A key part of our program is to have Yad b'Yad students team up with middle and high school peer mentors to bridge this gap. Whether it's over dinner, in the classroom, as a part of our Youth Group, or on trips, the bonds created by this partnering are priceless.

Graduates of our program are thriving after successful transitions to colleges, vocational programs, independent living, and jobs.

### Teaching Team

Our Head Teacher has a Master's Degree in Special Education, Applied Behavior Analysis and School Administration with 16 years of teaching experience. Students benefit from an engaging, lively and meaningful program with the support of teaching assistants and activity specialists (examples: Drama, Dance, Yoga and Cooking).

## Program Benefits

Every Wednesday evening, 6:00-8:00pm, Yad b'Yad students practice social skills with peers during our weekly Youth Dinner (6:00-6:30pm), open to all 7-12th graders in our Religious School.

Other benefits include:

- Trips into the community to reinforce skills learned in class
- Multi-sensory specials, including drama, Israeli dance, yoga and cooking
- Opportunities to participate in Kol Ami Youth Group activities, such as Midnight Run preparation, Holiday celebrations, RAC (Religious Action Committee) trip, and more.
- Involvement in various Temple programs, such as Shabbat dinners and Confirmation.
- Opportunities for Tikkun Olam and social outreach interwoven throughout the curriculum
- Parent education, support and connection through key networking transition programs

# Registration Process

Each prospective family must complete a screening process. This includes a personal interview and an intake questionnaire, which provides us with more insight into your child's particular strengths and learning needs.

Admission to the program is rolling. You can join at any time within the school year. The fee for the full 2018-19 school year is \$1,495. Temple Membership is not required.

For more information or to arrange an intake appointment, please contact:

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