

Rabbi Greg Wolfe | Steve Cohen & Mitchell Singer, Co-Presidents | Pia Spector, Executive Director
Ardyth Sokoler, Director of Education and Youth | Rhoda Rohnstock, Director of Gan Haverim Preschool

July 8, 2020

Shalom Haverim,

Please find enclosed your 2020-21 Partnership Pledge Form and related documents.

We truly want to thank you for your financial support of CBH over the years. Your doing so continues to help CBH be a true “community” of which we can all feel proud.

This year, the ongoing pandemic is likely to cause CBH to suffer a decrease in expected revenue, due to both an anticipated loss of rental income and a reduction in our Gan Haverim preschool enrollment as a result of the requirement for increased social distancing in the classrooms. With this in mind, the Board and the Finance Committee have worked hard to put together as austere a budget as possible for the coming year. Nevertheless, even with the purse strings tightened, we have determined that payment of our projected operating expenses over the next twelve months will require an average pledge per partner household of **\$2,200**.

This number is not based on anything other than an honest and straightforward assessment of what is needed to balance our budget for the coming year, and allow CBH to continue to provide a spiritual home for Jews in Yolo County and the surrounding region. At the same time, we recognize that this average pledge may be more than some of our partner households are able to contribute. And so, if you are fortunate enough to be able to contribute an amount exceeding \$2,200, you would be truly aiding the entire CBH community.

Please also keep in mind that, beginning this year, we intend pledge requests to be the only time each year when partners are asked to contribute to CBH operating expenses. Going forward, it is the Board’s intention that fundraisers such as spring Galas be devoted exclusively to capital improvements of our campus, or other non-recurring expenses. So please don’t hold back on pledging whatever you are willing to contribute toward CBH operating expenses at this time, because absent unforeseen circumstances, we won’t be asking you to contribute to operating expenses until pledge time next year.

Also, please always keep in mind that the easiest way by far to bolster CBH’s financial health generally is by *adding new partners*. We obviously have plenty of room, and each new partner will not only help financially, but is likely to add to our community in many other ways. So once again this year, please give some thought to whether you know anyone at all who might be

interested in at least trying out what CBH has to offer. We now have a one-year introductory membership program for new members that is extremely affordable — the CBH office has all the details.

Another simple way you can help CBH financially is by paying your pledge by using the e-check form that is included with this letter, instead of using a credit card. Last year, CBH had to give away approximately \$15,000 of our partners' contributions to a credit card processing company, a sum that obviously could be put to much better use if it remained in house.

The e-check form, which authorizes funds to be deducted from a designated bank account in whatever manner you indicate, is incredibly easy to use, and costs CBH a fraction of what credit card processing costs.

Alternatively, you might consider using traditional checks, or using the bill pay service that is available through almost every bank, both of which essentially cost CBH nothing at all.

Finally, regardless of the amount you can pledge at this time, *please* consider making a *non*-financial contribution to our community, by volunteering to join one of our many committees. Not only will you be helping CBH to be governed as you believe appropriate, but doing so is a great opportunity to make new friends, get to know your fellow congregants better, and learn more about CBH governance generally. If you have any interest at all in becoming more involved, please contact Carmia Feldman, the chair of our Committee on Committees, at carmiafeldman@gmail.com.

Please return the enclosed forms by July 31st. Doing so will help us best determine the resources we will have to work with, and plan for the upcoming fiscal year as prudently and expeditiously as possible. If you have any questions, please contact Executive Director Pia Spector at 530-758-0842 or director@bethaverim.org.

Once again, thank you very much for your support and dedication to CBH and our Jewish community.

Steve Cohen, co-President Mitch Singer, co-President Amy Abramson, Treasurer
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