

Dear members,

Once again we are lucky to have our friends from Yachad returning to our community this year, the Shabbat of March 10th. To those of you who have hosted in the past, please confirm you can host again, how many people, etc. To those of you who are new to our community or have yet to enjoy this wonderful experience, we welcome you to sign on to host one/two or however many people your home can accommodate.

### Who are our Yachad friends?

Yachad / NJCD is an organization dedicated to enhancing the life opportunities of individuals with disabilities, ensuring their participation in the full spectrum of Jewish life. Each year we welcome approximately 100 young Yachad members and their dedicated, tireless, advisors to our community for a memorable and meaningful Shabbat experience. Together with the Westchester Day School 8th graders we remind ourselves of what is the purest definition of "chesed." Not only are we helping to create a spiritual and warm Shabbat experience for these kids but we are giving their parents and families a well deserved "break," knowing that their children are enjoying the beauties of Shabbat in a community that truly cares about them.

### What is involved with hosting?

**ALL** of their meals will take place at HIWP. We only ask that you provide:

- 1) Beds, linens and towels (if you only have sleeping bags please advise ASAP)
- 2) Light breakfast food (i.e: donuts, muffins, cereal) for Saturday morning
- 3) Written walking directions to and from the shul from your house

Each Yachad member is accompanied by at least one advisor who supervises the Yachad members at all times.

They will sleep at your home Friday evening and spend all of Saturday at shul, the park and an Oneg.) They will return to your home Saturday evening after Shabbat to collect their belongings.

### We will also need to know :

Do have a lot of steps that need to be climbed to get to a bedroom(s)?  
Do you have pets?  
Do you have "wheel chair accessibility?"

### What if you live too far to host?

We welcome your help with driving Friday night when they arrive at HIWP and need to get to their respective host families and Saturday night when they need to return from HIWP to their hosts' homes. If you have helped with this in the

past, you KNOW how hectic this can be. All that is required is a little patience, time and a GREAT sense of humor!

**Oneg host**

If you live relatively close to HIWP and are willing to host an Oneg for the kids on Saturday, please advise. If the weather is inclement, the Oneg will take place at HIWP.

Please feel free to contact me or Deborah Weinberger with any questions. Your prompt response is greatly appreciated so that we can begin coordinating kids and advisors with hosts. This event (amongst many others of course) is one of our shul's finest moments.

Thank you very much!

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For more information about Yachad contact: <http://www.njcd.org>