

Report to the Community



Welcoming the stranger:

Rose Community Foundation Supports Jewish Outreach

"What makes outreach outreach is it brings Judaism to where people are, both physically and metaphysically, rather than forcing them to come to where institutional Judaism is."

—Dr. Kerry Olitzky, Executive Director, Jewish Outreach Institute.

*I*n these days of population mobility and interfaith marriages, the Jewish community needs outreach organizations to welcome all individuals and families into local Jewish life. At this time, 45 percent of Denver and Boulder Jews are uninvolved and have no institutional connection.

With this participation gap in mind, Rose Community Foundation provides grants to Denver and Boulder organizations that support new and expanded outreach programs — to welcome the stranger — and connect Jews to Jewish life and to each other. The following programs have received outreach grants.

- **Allied Jewish Federation's Jewish Resource Center** is a clearinghouse of information and opportunities for involvement in the metro area Jewish community. Their Internet gateway contains information on events, classes, jobs, volunteer opportunities, and the weekly Torah portion. www.jewishcolorado.org
- **B'nai B'rith Youth Organization's** strategic plan strengthens and invigorates this youth-led teen organization. www.rmrbbyo.org
- **Boulder Jewish Community Center** is a place where all members of Boulder's Jewish community meet, study and learn. www.bjcf.org
- **Boulder Jewish Festival** holds an annual outreach event in June with booths and entertainment showcasing the Boulder Jewish community. www.boulderjewishfestival.org
- **Colorado Agency for Jewish Education (CAJE)** offers a variety of avenues for high-school-aged youth to get or stay involved in Jewish life through Keshet, which means bridge or connection. www.caje-co.org/teen
- **Denver Community Kollel** offers its Partners in Torah study program and holiday celebrations to underserved Jews living in north and west Denver. www.denverkollel.org
- **Greater Denver/Boulder Outreach Roundtable** has initiated several grassroots Jewish social groups that address the needs of unaffiliated and intermarried Jews who are not connected to Jewish institutions. **303-316-6480**
- **Hillel Council of Colorado** reaches out to students on three campuses and develops student leadership. www.hillelcolorado.org
- **Robert E. Loup Jewish Community Center's Shalom Baby** welcomes Jewish newborns and their families to our Jewish community with programs and classes for parents on child development, lifecycle events, and classes for their children. www.jccdenver.org/childrenyouth/shalombaby.htm
- **Rose Youth Foundation** offers opportunities for Jewish teens to learn about philanthropy firsthand. In its first year, 26 teens from 18 Denver-area schools participated in awarding \$15,000 in Rose Community Foundation grants to organizations with programming for Jewish youth. Rose Youth Foundation invites Jewish youth in grades 8-12 to participate in this annual program. www.rcfdenver.org/RYP/index.htm
- **Stepping Stones** provides children in unaffiliated interfaith families with a nurturing environment to explore their Jewish heritage. Stepping Stones is expanding and replicating, with its first expansion program in Boulder. www.steppingstonesfamily.com
- **Taste of Judaism**, a three-session introduction to Judaism, is offered by five congregations, followed by personalized help that connects participants to more Jewish learning and community organizations. **303-388-4013**
- **The Jewish Experience** provides learning opportunities to Jews ages 25 to 45 in the Lowry neighborhood with programs such as the Discovery and Gateways seminars and home study sessions. www.thejewishexperience.com



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