

Let's

**Talk
About
antisemitism**

**SUNDAY, MAY 7 2023
TEMPLE BETH ZION**

PARENTS & ADULTS | 9 am - 1 pm

EDUCATORS | 1:15 - 3 pm

TEENS | 3 - 6 pm

LiNK
Jewish Buffalo

Buffalo
Jewish
Federation



*This program is made possible through the generosity
of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation*

Harold Grinspoon
FOUNDATION 

“antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.”

- *International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance*

“antisemitism does not work like most forms of racism, which denigrate their victims as inferior. antisemitism is special in that it often perceives its target-Jews-as having too much privilege and assails them for it.”

- *John-Paul Pagano, Tablet Magazine*

antisemitism

“Once I thought that antisemitism had ended; today it is clear to me that it will probably never end.”

- *Elie Wiesel, Holocaust Survivor*

“The scourge of antisemitism still marches around the world, and we must never forget the horrors which an unchecked hatred can lead.”

- *President Joe Biden*

Antisemitism and hate of all forms have surged in recent years, highlighting the critical need to improve tracking, response to, and prevention of hate crimes, white supremacist violence, and the spread of online hate. The Buffalo Jewish Federation (BJF) addresses antisemitism throughout Western NY through education, fostering relationships and skill building to give individuals confidence to recognize, confront and call out hate.

This is not a simple task. It requires Jewish Buffalo to raise the visibility of Jewish life and celebrations, education, and to be prepared. We are fortunate that BJF is well positioned to address this work through LiNK Jewish Buffalo, the Jewish Community Relations Council, and the Holocaust Resource Center with support from Secure Jewish Buffalo and our law enforcement partners. Ours is a multi-pronged approach focused on: 1) Education - sharing the rich diversity of Jewish culture and practices and the important lessons of our people's history; 2) Relationships - building relationships with other faith and ethnic communities and educational, political, and civic leaders from throughout Western NY to work together as a broader and stronger community; and 3) Using both of these to give us confidence to recognize, confront and call out hate.

BJF and its teams work together to be a voice and a response to anti-Jewish hate. We have created a website with curated actionable information at buffalojewishfederation.org/addressing-antisemitism and have partnered with the Kraft Foundation to participate in the national Stand up to Jewish Hate Campaign.

Today, we will learn from local and international experts about how we can address antisemitism in our communities. We invite you to be in conversation together with us as we stand up against hate.

We are thankful to the extraordinary volunteer councils that support LiNK, the Holocaust Resource Center, and Jewish Community Relations for leading these efforts.

Let's Talk About antisemitism Planning Team

Marni Marciano, *Chair*

Kirstie Henry

Wendy Weisbrot

Daryl Helfman

Brenda Feldstein

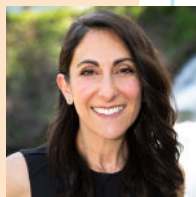
Shiri Kester

Lauren Bloomberg, *Director of Holocaust Resource Center Engagement*

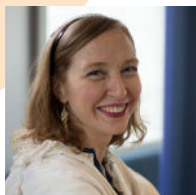
Mike Steklof, Ed.D., *Senior Director, LiNK Jewish Buffalo*

Time	Description	Location
9:00 am	Check in and Breakfast	Lobby and Chapel
9:30 am	Welcome - Marni Marciano, Mike Steklof, Ed.D.	Chapel
10:00 am	antisemitism 101 Keynote - Rabbi Julia Appel	Chapel
11:45 am	Workshops	
	How to Talk to Your Kids about antisemitism Presenter: Kirstie Henry	Stage
	Let's face it, no one wants to have to tell their child that there are nasty people in the world who will try to hurt them just for being themselves. We raise our kids to be good people, to help and accept others, and to do the best they can to treat those around them fairly and with respect. We know discussing antisemitism with young children can be challenging. If your kids hear about events on the news, they may have big questions and need extra emotional support. During this workshop, we will explore how to have these difficult conversations with your children. Designed for parents of younger children.	
	antisemitism in the Workplace Presenters: Rick Steinberg, Ph.D. and Harvey Sanders	Auditorium
	Workplace bias against Jews often arises not from illegal or even obvious unequal treatment or openly hostile remarks, but from fleeting and subtle microaggressions that may reflect ignorance rather than conscious prejudice, often from well-intentioned coworkers who nonetheless may leave a colleague feeling unwelcome, alienated, or unsafe. During this workshop we will explore how to deal with these issues in the workplace.	
	Calling People In: Fighting antisemitism Through Relationships Presenter: Rabbi Julia Appel	The Benjamin and Dr. Edgar R. Cofeld Judaic Museum
	"Fighting" antisemitism may sometimes involve filing complaints, creating protests, petitioning, or involving police or other authorities. However, in some instances of antisemitism we may encounter, another approach is more appropriate: engaging directly with the people involved. We will discuss what a relationship-based approach to addressing antisemitism might look like, building relationships across differences to increase understanding and collaboration and turning incidents into learning opportunities for all involved.	
	Safety and Security Presenters: Susan DeMari and Miriam Abramovich	Chapel
	The bedrock of our work against antisemitism is keeping our community safe and secure against violent attacks so that everyone can participate meaningfully and safely in Jewish life. Since Spring 2019, Secure Jewish Buffalo has proactively worked in partnership with local, state, and national law enforcement to keep us safe and secure. Explore with Susan DeMari and Miriam Abramovich how the Federation works to strengthen the communities' physical plants, train our leaders, and provide a sense of empowerment and increased vigilance that will ensure a more secure Jewish Buffalo.	
	antisemitism and Social Media Presentor: Macie Clawson	Sanctuary
	Hatred against Jews on social media is often expressed in stereotypical depictions of Jews that stem from Nazi propaganda or in denial of the Holocaust. antisemitic social media posts also express hatred toward Jews that is based on the notion that all Jews are Zionist and Zionism is constructed as innately evil. antisemitism on social media can be expressed through emojis (such as the combination of a star of David and a rat which likens Jews to vermin), troll attacks, and dislikes. Join local social media experts to explore the dark world of antisemitism and social media. Designed for parents of older kids and teens.	
12:45-12:55 pm	Check Out Activities	Auditorium
1:15-3:00 pm	Lunch and Learn for Jewish Community Educators by invitation only	Auditorium
3:00-6:00 pm	Teen Program	Auditorium

Presenter Bios



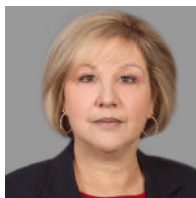
Miriam Abramovich (she/her) currently serves as Chief Operation Officer for the Buffalo Jewish Federation. Working at the intersection of Jewish engagement, learning, and leadership, she has spent over 20 years [9 in Buffalo] catalyzing thousands of individuals and families to live, learn, and lead Jewishly. Miriam holds a BA in Theater Arts from Skidmore College and a MA from Brandeis University's Hornstein Jewish Professional Leadership Program where she was a JCC Association Graduate Scholar and a Eugene J. Ribakoff Leadership Fellow. In 2020, Miriam was awarded the Judith and Daniel Kantor Professional Service Award. Miriam and her husband Sam are parents to two teens who are proud to call Buffalo home.



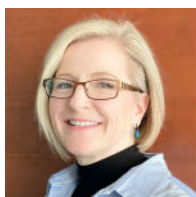
Rabbi Julia Appel (she/her) is the Senior Director of Innovation at Clal – the National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership. She has developed and led trainings to address antisemitism for a variety of settings, from universities to private educational organizations. Rabbi Appel's writing has been featured in the Forward, the Globe and Mail, the Walrus, the Canadian Jewish News, and the Wisdom Daily. She holds a B.A. in Social Studies from Harvard University, and an M.A. in Jewish Studies and Rabbinic Ordination from Hebrew College. She has been a congregational rabbi in Montreal and from 2016-2020, Rabbi Appel was the Senior Jewish Educator and Campus Rabbi for Hillel at the University of Toronto. Since 2019 she has served on the executive committee of the Toronto Board of Rabbis.



Macie Clawson (she/her) is currently finishing her first year at Daemen University where she is getting her masters in social work. Originally from Nebraska and a 2020 graduate of The University of Kansas, Macie moved to Buffalo in 2020 to work for Hillel of Buffalo. In addition to being a full time student and interning at BestSelf Behavioral Health, Macie works for Jewish Family Services in their Jewish Community Partnership program. In her free time, you can find Macie baking or cooking, running, and looking at pictures of dogs.



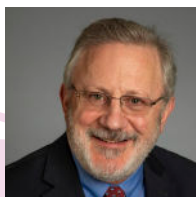
Susan DeMari (she/her), a native of Buffalo, serves as the Community Security Coordinator for the Buffalo Jewish Federation. She currently resides in Central New York (CNY) where she also serves as their Community Security Coordinator. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from Brockport State University and a Juris Doctor from Syracuse University College of Law. Susan began her work as security liaison with the Jewish community of CNY in 2000. Since then, she has emphasized a coordinated and unified approach to critical safety and security needs, highlighting common standards to embrace a culture of security awareness, preparedness and disaster response. She is the one point-person that works exclusively with law enforcement on behalf of the Jewish community.



Kirstie Henry's (she/her) journey to living Jewishly, with her daughter in tow, has been fueled by an unrelenting desire to create and foster safe spaces for honest dialogue and experiential learning. As Chair of Belonging for LiNK Jewish Buffalo, Kirstie regularly leads discussions with families of different faiths about navigating Jewish life, while honoring different beliefs and traditions. Based on this experience, she invites parents to explore teachable strategies together, to help children leverage their own unique power of resilience through turbulent times. A mother of three daughters, Kirstie works full time as a courtroom deputy in the federal judiciary, is Chair of Belonging for LiNK Jewish Buffalo, and serves on the Board of Governors for the Buffalo Jewish Federation.



Harvey Sanders (he/him) is managing partner at Sanders & Sanders (wnyemploymentlaw.com), where he represents clients in all manner of labor and employment-related issues, including litigation in federal and state court and before federal and state administrative bodies. He has also served as a mediator for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) and has written columns and articles for Business First of Buffalo, Buffalo Law Journal, New York Law Journal and Employment Law Strategist, among others. Mr. Sanders is a graduate of New York University School of Law (J.D., 1989). Before founding Sanders & Sanders, Mr. Sanders was associated with management-side labor and employment law practices at firms in New York City. Before entering private practice, he was a Law Clerk to United States Magistrate Judge Michael Dolinger in the Southern District of New York.



Rick Steinberg, Ph.D. (he/him) joined the University at Buffalo School of Management in 2016 as Executive-in-Residence in Leadership. In this role, Rick works primarily with the UB Center for Leadership and Organizational Effectiveness (CLOE) to provide leadership coaching, strategic planning and other organization development support for CLOE programs, as well as providing coaching and support for other School of Management programs. Rick is also the principal/owner of an organization development consulting practice, RAS Change Consulting LLC, which offers change planning, leadership coaching, team improvement and similar consulting.

Additional Resources

Addressing antisemitism in Greater Buffalo

buffalojewishfederation.org/addressing-antisemitism

A Jewish Call to Action 10 Ways to Fight Back

blogs.timesofisrael.com/a-jewish-call-to-action-10-ways-to-fight-back

antisemitism: Here and Now by Deborah E. Lipstadt

How to Talk to Children About antisemitism

pjlibrary.org/beyond-books/pjblog/february-2022/how-to-talk-to-children-about-anti-semitism

Translate Hate Glossary

ajc.org/translatehateglossary

Think Plan Act

adl.org/think-plan-act

Doodle Box



Connecting People
to Jewish Life

buffalojewishfederation.org/LiNK

The LiNK Professional Team

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