



# CROSS-TRAINING

*for*

## Leaders of Emergent Jewish Communities

November 11-13, 2018  
Pearlstone Conference Center  
Reisterstown, MD



Institute for Jewish Spirituality



*Kenissa* is funded by The William Davidson Foundation  
and is fiscally sponsored by Hazon.



### Rationale

American Jewish life is in a time of transition that calls for bold, new thinking and the development of new models for identification. Membership and affiliation patterns that have sustained synagogues and other legacy Jewish institutions for more than a century are eroding. At the same time, we see a dramatic growth of interest and energy in new expressions of Jewish community. Some are focused on learning; some are focused on social justice; some are focused on contemplative practice and spirituality; some are focused on food and environmental sustainability; some are focused on prayer. Some look like synagogues; some do not. Each sector has seen one or more organizations emerge that have either seeded the phenomenon or have created a network to sustain and support the phenomenon.

### Defining “Communities of Meaning”

What the sectors have in common is that they employ a particular idiom unique to contemporary American culture that attracts other Jews with similar interests. The richness of the Jewish heritage is literally being re-invented in our time by the way in which Jewish wisdom is being applied to the challenges that confront our world today. If properly nurtured and encouraged, these “communities of meaning” can form the nucleus of an American Jewish renaissance. Communities of meaning are networks of individuals that are inspired by ideas or practices that enrich the lives of participants and/or significantly improve conditions in the world for others.

Using the Hebrew word for “portal” or “entranceway”, the *Kenissa* Network brings together the people leading contemporary efforts to re-define Jewish life and community so that they can learn from each other and be supported in their efforts to create communities of meaning.

### Program

- At annual Consultations every March, *Kenissa* convenes 50+ individuals whose work reflects innovative approaches to Jewish life. Participants benefit from seeing their particular endeavors in the context of a changing socio-political landscape and a rapidly changing Jewish community. Significant thinkers and practitioners beyond the Jewish world also enrich and broaden our conversation.
- Our website hosts a weekly [blog](#), providing thought leadership for this emerging trend.
- Every Nov-Dec, *Kenissa*'s national “Cross-Training” enables similarly focused organizations to come together for skill building and network building. Our most recent training included affinity tracks for Jewish learning and spirituality; Next Gen engagement; new spiritual communities; new paradigm *mikvaot* (ritual baths); and Boomer engagement.
- Network members may also participate in one or more Communities of Practice ranging from sustainability to organizational culture.
- *Kenissa*'s most ambitious project is to create a national database of communities of meaning in American Jewish life. Individuals who would like to have their projects listed should fill out this [form](#).

*Kenissa* is an independent project housed at Hazon and is led by Rabbi Sid Schwarz, the founder of several cutting-edge Jewish organizations and initiatives and the author of, among other books, *Jewish Megatrends: Charting the Course of the American Jewish Community*. Co-sponsors of the Initiative are the Institute for Jewish Spirituality, JOIN for Justice, Hadar and UpStart. Over the course of the next five years we intend to build and collect a body of knowledge and broaden the universe of participants. It will eventually incorporate thinkers and practitioners from other faith communities in America. The *Kenissa: Communities of Meaning Network* is being supported by lead funding from The William Davidson Foundation.

## ***Kenissa* Cross Training Program**

### **Goals of the Cross Training:**

- Participants begin to engage with a national affinity network that can provide peer-to- peer learning and open the door to professional collaborations
- Participants gain skills and tools helpful to support their leadership and the sustainability of their respective organizations
- Participants gain inspiration, ideas, and energy for their work

### **Sunday, November 11**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Session</b>
<b>1:00 – 2:00 PM</b>	<b>Registration/Settle In/Snacks</b> ( <i>Main Lobby</i> )
<b>2:00 – 4:00 PM</b>	<b>Welcome &amp; Context - Full Group</b> ( <i>Beit Midrash</i> ) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants get to know who is in the room, and begin to build relationships</li> <li>• Overview of <i>Kenissa</i>, purpose &amp; outcomes for Cross-Training</li> <li>• Networking cards</li> </ul>
<b>4:00 – 4:30 PM</b>	<b>BREAK/TRANSITION</b>
<b>4:30 – 6:00 PM</b>	<b>AFFINITY TRACK SESSION 1</b>  <u><b>Boomer Engagement</b></u> ( <i>Earth</i> ) <b>Introduction/Welcome</b>  - <b>What Will Make This Gathering a Success?</b> - Rabbi Laura Geller, ChaiVillage LA - <b>What We Know and What We Need to Learn to Succeed at Engaging—or Re-engaging—Boomers</b> - Stuart Himmelfarb, B3/The Jewish Boomer Platform  <u><b>New Spiritual Communities</b></u> ( <i>Vineyard</i> ) <b>Introduction: What is Spiritual?</b> Rabbi Jan Salzman, Ruach haMaqom  What is spirituality? How do we use it in our leadership? What do we think our communities think it is? This session will give us a chance to reflect and learn from our individual definitions of spirituality and begin to build relationships with one another.

	<p><b><u>Jewish Learning/Spirituality</u></b> (<i>Orchard</i>)  <b>What does a Vision-Driven Pedagogy Look Like?</b>  Rebecca Minkus Lieberman, Founder and COO of Orot and Dr. Jane Shapiro, Founder of Orot</p> <p>In this session Jane and Rebecca will offer a sample Orot experience accompanied by a “backstaging” about how they prepare, their assumptions about their learners, and what they need and how they shape their pedagogic practices. There will be time for reflection by the entire group.</p> <p><b><u>Building National Networks</u></b> (<i>Beit Midrash</i>)  <b>Relational Engagement: What Does it Mean to Know One Another?</b>  Rachel Gildiner, Executive Director, GatherDC</p> <p>What do we mean when we say "Relational Engagement"? What does it look like, what is its role in our work, and how can it transform Jewish life? This workshop will be a hands-on session to deepen our understanding of the relational methodology and provide a chance to think about applying it to our work and to the many other communities we are a part of.</p> <p><b><u>Rising Tide Open Waters Mikveh Network</u></b> (<i>Stone</i>)  <b>Rising Tide Summer Gathering: Lessons Learned from 2018 &amp; Setting the Vision for 2019</b>  Naomi Malka, Adas Israel Community Mikvah</p>
6:00 – 6:15 PM	<b>BREAK/TRANSITION</b>
6:15 – 7:15 PM	<b>Dinner &amp; Welcome from Pearlstone</b>
7:30 – 9:00 PM	<p><b>AFFINITY TRACK SESSION 2</b></p> <p><b><u>Boomer Engagement</u></b> (<i>Earth</i>)  <b>Sacred Settings—Opportunities for Sacred Settings for Boomers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rabbi Laura Geller and Devorah Servi—Chai Village LA</li> <li>- Rabbi Evan Krame—creating a Boomer congregation</li> <li>- Rabbi Richard Address—learnings from Jewish Sacred Aging Initiative</li> <li>- Debbie Bram—working inside a congregational setting</li> <li>- Nadine Kochavi—working through a synagogue movement</li> </ul> <p><b><u>New Spiritual Communities</u></b> (<i>Vineyard</i>)  <b>Creating Sacred Space: Meeting People Where They Are</b>  Kohenet Annie Matan, Matanot Lev; Hazzan Jodi Sered-Lever, Congregation Mekor Shalom</p> <p>We'll be sharing and modeling elements that are vital to creating and facilitating welcoming, authentic and inclusive community experiences.</p>

	<p><b><u>Jewish Learning/Spirituality (Orchard)</u></b>  <b>Educator Support and Training</b>          Dr. Julie Lieber, Kevah          Rabbi Morey Schwartz, Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning</p> <p>In this session, Julie will walk us through some of the questions we may want to ask ourselves about how adult education organizations prepare those who are out in the field who are delivering our educational content and experiences. How do we train, support and coach our educators? What can we do to make sure that our educators are the best they can be and provide educational experiences that can compete in the crowded marketplace of Jewish engagement?</p> <p><b><u>Building National Networks (Beit Midrash)</u></b>  <b>Designing A National Network: 8 Essential Questions</b>          Dr. Rob Weinberg, <i>Kenissa</i> Leadership Team</p> <p>Are you hoping to build a network? The ancient rabbis said: <i>Kol hatchalot kashot</i>, “all beginnings are difficult”. But you don’t have to just hope. You can build a network through a planful design process. Drawing upon <i>Connecting to Change the World: Harnessing the Power of Networks for Social Impact</i> by Peter Plastrik, Madeleine Taylor, and John Cleveland, this session will explore eight essential design questions that you cannot afford to ignore as you build a new network or navigate any big transition in an existing network.</p> <p><b><u>Rising Tide Open Waters Mikveh Network (Stone)</u></b>  <b>Understanding and Exploring our Values: Living our Shared Values as a Network</b>          Carrie Bornstein, Mayyim Hayyim</p>
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**Monday, November 12**

Time	Session
7:15 – 8:00 AM	<p><b><u>Morning Tefilah/Spiritual Practice – Traditional (Beit Midrash)</u></b>            Rabbi Brian Fink and Talia Liben Yarmush</p> <p>The <i>matbeah</i> of Shacharit but in lieu of <i>leyning</i>, Talia will lead us in a Torah study on Jacob's Ladder, from the week's <i>parsha</i>. Talia will provide writing prompts, so please bring a pen and paper for a brief personal meditation on the <i>parsha</i>.</p> <p><b><u>Morning Tefilah/Spiritual Practice – Alternative (Vineyard)</u></b>            Rabbi Sarah Tasman and Kohenet Keshira HaLev Fife</p> <p>A morning practice that will include meditation, chanting and prayerful intention to awaken for the day.</p>
8:00 – 8:50 AM	<b>Breakfast</b>

9:00 – 10:30  
AM

### AFFINITY TRACK SESSION 3

#### **Boomer Engagement** (*Earth*)

##### **Case Studies: Grandparents Initiatives—Capturing intergenerational opportunities through grandparents**

- Jay Weinstein—G2
- Lee Hendler and David Raphael—The Jewish Grandparents Network
- Deanna Shoss—Chicago/Jewish Grandparents programs

##### **Case Studies: How federations/agencies create/implement successful boomer collaborations and initiatives**

- Jenni Frumer, Jenni Frumer & Associates, LLC
- Rabbi Brian Fink, Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan: Engage
- Briana Hilfer, New York UJA-Federation

#### **New Spiritual Communities** (*Vineyard*)

##### **Making Milestones Matter**

Kohenet Keshira haLev Fife, Keshet Pittsburgh

How can we ritualize milestones in ways that are meaningful and connected to Judaism? In this session, we'll explore various life spiral moments which call for Jewish ritual and think together about how to make these moments memorable.

#### **Jewish Learning/Spirituality** (*Orchard*)

##### **Curricular Considerations: Finding Texts that Teach, Tease, and Transform**

Avi West, Jewish Federation of DC

While we can agree that Jewish wisdom has much to say about contemporary issues, how can we use and not abuse the texts we select? How can we make sure our texts are “authentic” and not cherry-picked out of context? Nearly a century ago, Franz Rosenzweig argued for “Life-Centered” Jewish Education, one that “no longer starts from the Torah and leads into life, but the other way round.” Participants will share experiences, presentational strategies and resources that generate adult learning along with community building.

#### **Building National Networks** (*Beit Midrash*)

##### **Back to the Basics: Develop Your Network by Using Network Theory**

Eric Kessler, Schusterman Foundation

As more communities look to thrive by using a network model, they may be overlooking the foundations of network theory. To create, sustain and have a network flourish, one should begin with network theory as a tool to plan and build a cohesive, energized network. We will look at building blocks of network theory in order to illustrate why some networks succeed and others fail. Finally, I will use the Schusterman Foundation's Network Incubator as a case study to show how network theory has been used successfully.

	<p><b><u>Rising Tide Open Waters Mikveh Network</u></b> (<i>Stone</i>)  <b>Mikveh in a Box: Developing Resources and a Roadmap to Support Communities from Concept to Reality</b>  Amber Caulkins, Rising Tide Open Waters Mikveh Network and Carrie Bornstein, Mayyim Hayyim</p>
<p><b>10:30 – 11:00 AM</b></p>	<p><b>BREAK/TRANSITION</b></p>
<p><b>11:00 – 12:30 PM</b></p>	<p><b>LEADERSHIP AND SKILL BUILDING WORKSHOPS 1</b></p> <p><b><u>Models for Scale and Growth</u></b> (<i>Orchard</i>)  Lisa Lepson, UpStart</p> <p>This session will explore the various models for non-profits and initiatives to scale, grow and reach greater impact. We will examine case studies of the types of models and engage in exercises and conversations to explore what models might be appropriate for your venture, and what steps might be necessary to move in that direction.</p> <p><b><u>Strategic Fundraising: Getting the Resources We Need</u></b> (<i>Beit Midrash</i>)  Beth Grupp, Beth Grupp Associates</p> <p>This session will provide concrete strategies for how to find new donors to support your organizations and how to grow a pipeline for prospects. Participants will come away with specific strategies they can implement right away to grow their bottom line revenue. If you don't like fundraising but know you need to do it – this is the workshop for you!</p> <p><b><u>Sustaining Yourself for a Lifetime of Leadership</u></b> (<i>Vineyard</i>)  Amanda Silver, <i>Kenissa</i> Leadership Team</p> <p>Our enthusiasm and passion to make a difference can sometimes occur at the expense of navigating our own well-being and balance. But this work is about running a marathon, not a sprint! In this interactive workshop we will assess our own energy levels and our relationship to urgency in our work and leadership. Participants will leave with action steps to create greater sustainability in your life and leadership.</p>
<p><b>12:30 – 2:00 PM</b></p>	<p><b>LUNCH and BREAK</b></p>

<p><b>2:00 – 3:30 PM</b></p>	<p><b>LEADERSHIP AND SKILL BUILDING WORKSHOPS 2</b></p> <p><b><u>Building an Organizational Foundation to Support Scale and Growth</u></b> (<i>Orchard</i>)          Lisa Lepson, UpStart</p> <p>What are the systems, policies, and structures needed to support a growing organization? How do your operations need to change as you experience growth? We'll review challenges, best practices, and resources for building a foundation that will support organizational growth.</p> <p><b><u>Fundraising: Communications Strategy</u></b> (<i>Beit Midrash</i>)          Beth Grupp, Beth Grupp Associates</p> <p>This training will build on the Strategic Fundraising session but is also a stand-alone workshop. Topics include the art of the 'ask'; how to close a gift; the anatomy of a major donor visit; and the kinds of materials you need for fundraising. Participants will come away with specific recommendations for written collateral materials and concrete strategies for donor-driven communications.</p> <p><b><u>Theory of Change: How to Tell the Story of the Change You Seek in the World</u></b> (<i>Earth</i>)          Dr. Rob Weinberg, <i>Kenissa</i> Leadership Team</p> <p>If you don't know where you're going, any road will take you there! Are you finding it difficult to articulate strategy, make strategic decisions, communicate what your venture is all about, or evaluate progress? Theory of Change (ToC) is a powerful tool that can help. In this interactive, hands-on workshop, you will learn what a ToC is, how it can be valuable, and you'll practice creating one. You'll walk away with a complete ToC development toolkit.</p>
<p><b>3:30 – 4:30 PM</b></p>	<p><b>NETWORKING TIME</b></p>
<p><b>4:30 – 6:00 PM</b></p>	<p><b>AFFINITY TRACK SESSION 4</b></p> <p><b><u>Boomer Engagement</u></b> (<i>Earth</i>)  <b>Federation, Planning and Funder Perspectives on Boomer Programs and Investment: What Works and What Doesn't? Gathering Support for New Programs and Initiatives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Barbara Miller and Kim Newstadt, Jewish Federation of Cincinnati and Jewish Foundation</li> <li>- Adina Poupko, The Natan Fund</li> <li>- Caron Blau Rothstein, Jewish Federation of Greater Portland (OR)</li> <li>- Rebecca Weinstock, Baltimore Associated</li> </ul>



	<p><b><u>New Spiritual Communities</u></b> (<i>Vineyard</i>)</p> <p><b>Making the Old New and the New Holy: Case Studies from the Field</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rabbi David Markus, Bayit: Your Jewish Home &amp; Temple Beth El of City Island</li> <li>- Rabbi Bella Bogart, Bayit: Your Jewish Home &amp; Sullivan County Jewish Renewal</li> </ul> <p>Innovation in spiritual community is a buzzword and alluring goal, but also an elusive goal. How do we develop, frame and implement innovation in spiritual communities for best effect? Are there best practices for what works and what doesn't work (and what does it mean to "work")? What tools can we extract from past efforts that did and didn't work?</p> <p><b><u>Joint Session: Jewish Learning/Spirituality; Building National Network; Rising Tide Open Waters Mikveh Network</u></b> (<i>Beit Midrash</i>)</p> <p><b>Building National Network: Challenges and Opportunities</b></p> <p>Abby Levine, Executive Director, Jewish Social Justice Roundtable</p> <p>The session will provide a window into the underpinnings, advantages, disadvantages and approaches of building national networks - as opposed to more traditional hierarchical structures. It will use theory, direct experience from the Jewish Social Justice Roundtable and an honest assessment of how it works and doesn't in 2018's landscape, in the Jewish community and beyond.</p>
<b>6:00 – 7:00 PM</b>	<b>Dinner</b>
<b>7:15 – 9:15 PM</b>	<p><b>EVENING SESSION: Open Space - Full Group</b> (<i>Beit Midrash</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants identify and convene around topics of interest for cross-track discussions</li> </ul>
<b>9:15 PM</b>	<b>SONG SESSION/MINGLE &amp; EVENING SNACK</b> ( <i>Beit Midrash &amp; Beit Midrash Lobby</i> )

## Tuesday, November 13

<b>Time</b>	<b>Session</b>
<b>7:15 – 8:00 AM</b>	<p><b><u>Morning Tefilah/Spiritual Practice – Traditional</u></b> (<i>Beit Midrash</i>)</p> <p>Rabbi Avi Feingold</p> <p><i>Keva/Kavanna</i>: Many of us struggle with the tension between the desire for deep focus and the rigors of regular daily prayer. Within the context of a full <i>matbeah</i> (complete text of Shacharit), we will take some moments before <i>Pesukei DeZimra</i>, the <i>Shema/Amida</i>, and the closing prayers to discuss personal struggles and possible ideas for growth. Please come with a brief thought to share, whether a personal struggle or something that has helped you live with the tension.</p>

	<p><b><u>Morning Tefilah/Spiritual Practice – Alternative</u></b> (<i>Vineyard</i>) Rabbis Bella Bogart, Evan Krame and David Markus</p> <p>Awaken yourself and bless the day with an innovative and soulful service based upon the traditional morning prayers.</p>
<p><b>8:00 – 8:50 AM</b></p>	<p><b>Breakfast</b></p>
<p><b>9:00 – 10:30AM</b></p>	<p><b>AFFINITY TRACK SESSION 5</b></p> <p><b><u>Boomer Engagement</u></b> (<i>Earth</i>) <b>Closing Conversation: Imagining a Future</b> Rabbi Laura Geller, ChaiVillage LA and Stuart Himmelfarb, B3/The Jewish Boomer Platform</p> <p>Where do we go now? Imagining a Jewish Boomer Network; Collaborations with national organizations, Jewish and secular; Committing to next steps</p> <p><b><u>New Spiritual Communities</u></b> (<i>Vineyard</i>) <b>Case Study: How Do We Create New Spiritual Communities?</b> - Rabbanit Dasi Fruchter, Beth Sholom Congregation / Philly Shul Project - Daniel Cedarbaum, Minyan Shirat ha-Agam</p> <p>Join us to hear two case studies from presenters who are at different phases in their development of new spiritual communities. The themes that emerge will be the foundation for conversation that will help to deepen, discuss, or develop an element of your project.</p> <p><b>Wrap Up: What Have We Learned?</b> Rabbi Jan Salzman, Ruach haMaqom</p> <p><b><u>Jewish Learning/Spirituality</u></b> (<i>Orchard</i>) <b>Scaling and Growth: Opening Doors and Building Coalitions</b> Audrey Lichter, Chai Mitzvah</p> <p>“Experience is what we call the accumulation of our mistakes” (Yiddish proverb). From idea to national program, there have been many forks in the road, dead-ends, and wonderful successes. What does collaboration mean? How do you scale for growth? What are the lessons learned in building a national program that could inform your aspirations?</p>

	<p><b><u>Building National Networks</u></b> (<i>Beit Midrash</i>)  <b>Setting up your Network’s connection and collaboration infrastructure: Lessons learned from the American Society of Adaptation Professionals</b>  Rachel Jacobson, American Society of Adaptation Professionals</p> <p>The American Society of Adaptation Professionals (ASAP) connects and supports the people and organizations across North America who are building resilience to climate change impacts. Through a grant from the Summit Foundation, we are using the frameworks and guiding questions in <i>Connecting to Change the World</i> to improve our network design and, in particular, our connection and collaboration infrastructure. This session will help you think about what an effective connection and collaboration structure could look like for your national network by exploring questions such as: What do you want the members of your network to do together? What connection and collaboration tools are you already using and to what extent are they working for you? What is your capacity to procure and manage tools for connection and collaboration? How do you want your connection and collaboration infrastructure to interface with any centralized communications and branding efforts? We will consider lessons learned from the ASAP network and address issues like member engagement, volunteer management, and data collection and use.</p> <p><b><u>Rising Tide Open Waters Mikveh Network</u></b> (<i>Stone</i>)  <b>From Local to Global: Creating an International Mikveh Guide Curriculum and Training Program</b>  Carrie Bornstein, Mayyim Hayyim and Amber Caulkins, Rising Tide Open Waters Mikveh Network</p>
<b>10:30 – 10:45 AM</b>	<b>BREAK</b>
<b>10:45 – 12:30 PM</b>	<p><b>Closing Session: Bringing it All Together - Full Group</b> (<i>Beit Midrash</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Core Learnings and Reflections from across Affinity Tracks</li> <li>• <i>Kenissa</i> Opportunities &amp; Next Steps</li> <li>• Evaluation</li> </ul>
<b>12:30 – 1:30 PM</b>	<b>Lunch and Farewell</b>

## Presenter and Staff Bios

### **Hadar Cohen**

Hadar Cohen oversees *Kenissa's* national mapping project. She is a graduate of Mechon Hadar, is a Jewish educator and serves as a staff person for Moishe House retreats. She is also a program associate of At the Well.

### **Beth Grupp**

Beth Grupp is the founder and principal of Beth Grupp Associates, a full capacity fundraising, strategic planning, and organizational development firm. Before opening her own firm, Ms. Grupp was the Finance Director for Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA). Recent clients include the AFL-CIO, City Year, Rockefeller Family Fund, National Women's Law Center, Moveon.org and NARAL. Ms. Grupp has a particular commitment to fostering the fundraising skills of current and emerging leaders in the progressive community through training and coaching.

### **Eric Kessler**

Eric Kessler is the Network Incubator Fellow for the Schusterman Foundation, working in its Washington, DC offices. He supports the Incubator's efforts to grow social change networks around the globe. In addition to this, he works with the Leadership and Talent team on the Schusterman Fellowship. Eric graduated from the George Washington University with a degree in international affairs and a concentration in Middle East studies

### **Rachel Jacobson**

Rachel Jacobson is a cross-sector collaborator with ten years of experience in the climate adaptation, resilience, and environmental fields. As Senior Program Manager at the American Society of Adaptation Professionals (ASAP), she leads the design, development, implementation, and evaluation of this national network's projects and partnerships including the Resilience Dialogues, the ASAP Mentorship Program, ASAP's education initiatives, and ASAP's activities with regional adaptation fora across the country. Previously, Rachel was a contractor and a Fellow at National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), where she implemented two strategic initiatives: Resilience AmeriCorps and The Department of Commerce Natural Capital Business Roundtables. Rachel earned her B.A., M.P.P, and M.S. degrees from the University of Michigan, and holds a Certificate in Environmental Law and Regulation from the University of Washington. Rachel lives in Cambridge, MA but is a Michigander by birth and believes the Fresh Coast is the best coast.

### **Lisa Lepson**

Lisa Lepson is the Chief Advancement Officer for Upstart Labs. She has extensive experience building start-up non-profits and for-profits with a social mission. While serving as the executive director of Joshua Venture, she designed and taught the first course on Social Entrepreneurship for the Genesis Program at Brandeis University. Previously, Lisa served as the global director of non-profit services at RockCorps, establishing a department that developed more than 400 volunteer service projects with over 300 non-profits in three countries, engaging a total of 45,000 volunteers. Her organizational development and non-profit management experience also include board membership with Killing My Lobster Theater Project and stints with Berkeley Hillel, San Francisco AIDSWalk, Juma Ventures, and Net Impact. Lisa holds an MBA from The Anderson School at UCLA and a BA in Comparative Literature in Hebrew, French, and English from Brown University.

**Abby Levine**

Abby is the first director of the Jewish Social Justice Roundtable, a network of 57 Jewish organizations pursuing social justice from a Jewish perspective. Under her leadership, the Roundtable has doubled in size, supported sector-wide efforts on civic engagement, immigration and racial equity, inclusion and diversity, and organized two conferences of 150 people across the network. Previously, Abby led a coalition of 30 local progressive organizations in Columbus, Ohio with America Votes, served as the founding San Francisco staff member for Progressive Jewish Alliance, now Bend the Arc, and worked in development for DC Vote, which works for DC voting rights and statehood. Abby received an Abraham Joshua Heschel award from Jews United for Justice in 2013, and is in the Schusterman Fellowship, a Jewish leadership development program. She has a BA in political science from Yale University and lives in Washington, DC with her husband and two kids, Zachary and Lilah.

**Rabbi Sid Schwarz**

Rabbi Sid Schwarz is the founder and project director of *Kenissa*. Rabbi Sid is a rabbi, educator and social entrepreneur who has successfully founded and led several Jewish organizations and national projects. As the founder/president of PANIM: The Institute for Jewish Leadership and Values for 21 years, Rabbi Sid pioneered a methodology that integrated Jewish learning, Jewish values and social responsibility. Using his experience as the founding rabbi of Adat Shalom Reconstructionist Congregation in Bethesda, MD where he continues to teach and lead services, he has played a leadership role in the synagogue transformation movement for close to 20 years. In addition to leading *Kenissa*, he is also the director of the Clergy Leadership Incubator (CLI), a two-year fellowship for rabbis focused on visionary leadership and institutional transformation. Rabbi Sid is a senior fellow at Hazon and his most recent book is *Jewish Megatrends: Charting the Course of the American Jewish Future*.

**Amanda Silver**

Amanda Silver is *Kenissa's* training director. A consultant, trainer and executive coach, her unique approach draws on expertise in mindfulness, emotional-intelligence, and strength-based mindsets. Amanda's clients include higher education institutions, public school districts, social service agencies, advocacy organizations, faith-based institutions and entrepreneurs. Prior to consulting, Amanda served as the Director of the Selah Leadership Program and at Bend the Arc and as Director of Social Justice at Congregation B'nai Jeshurun in NYC.

**Dr. Rob Weinberg**

Dr. Rob Weinberg oversees the *Kenissa* Network's Communities of Practice. As an executive coach, strategic consultant, and meeting facilitator, Rob helps leaders, teams, organizations, and networks to find clarity, chart direction, and navigate change to enhance their effectiveness and fulfillment. His clients include rabbis, congregations, national movement organizations, and innovation projects and networks. Rob holds a Ph.D. in Organization Behavior from Northwestern University's Kellogg School. He began his career as a management consultant, spent 16 years as Director of the Experiment in Congregational Education at HUC-JIR and six of those years as Project Manager of HUC's Jim Joseph Foundation Education Initiative.

## NOTES

# *Kenissa Venn Diagram*



