

Minyan Tzedek - THE CONCEPT

At IKAR we preach a torah of social responsibility, compassion and *tikkun*, healing. Now is the time for us to mobilize and create the social change we seek.



Our expectation is that every member of IKAR will choose one of the tracks below:

THE HOME: Feeding our Neighbors

(Direct service *plus*)

Deepening IKAR's relationship to those who are in need by providing food, education and activities.



THE GARDEN: Interfaith Community Garden

(Sustainable life choices)

Sustainably growing fresh food with multi-faith community partners and learning creative ways to plant your own garden.



THE MARKET: Food Justice

(Local advocacy)

Facilitating passage of the Grocery Recovery Act, which will bring fresh and nutritious food to LA neighborhoods without supermarkets.



THE DOOR: Immigration Reform

(National advocacy)



Winning equal access to higher education for undocumented immigrants through the DREAM Act and passing comprehensive federal immigration reform.

THE EARTH: Green Action Challenge

(Sustainable life choices)

Mobilizing IKAR members to take specific steps to reduce our individual and communal impact on the environment.



THE SCHOOL: Improving Public Education, One School Community at a Time

(Part 1: Research and planning; Part 2: advocacy and direct service)



Working with a public school and developing an initiative to support "high risk" students and their families, in order to create a culture of high student achievement and personal growth.

Minyan Tzedek - THE ACTIONS

Each track will connect IKAR members with others who share common interests and passions, and set us on a path to make tangible, effective change in our lives and in the world.



Please **place your name sticker** on the track to which you want to commit for the 5770 (2009-10) year. **Visit the Minyan Tzedek table** outside the sanctuary to find out more information about the tracks or to sign up to **be part of the leadership team**.

THE HOME: Feeding our Neighbors

- Provide regular *healthy* meals to PATH Eastside (NEW) and Westside homeless shelters
- Package meals from SOVA's pantry
- Coordinate a Thanksgiving/Christmas experience at PATH
- Develop and lead workshops for PATH residents (e.g., budgeting, cooking, healthy eating/shopping) and training opportunities for PATH staff (e.g., crisis management, communication skills)
- Plan occasional social opportunities between IKAR and PATH (e.g., beach day, BBQ)

THE GARDEN: Interfaith Community Garden

- Identify potential garden site(s)
- Reach out to other local, faith-based communities to join us in the effort to build the garden
- Secure garden funding and donations of gardening supplies
- Recruit IKAR members to work in garden - then participate in seeding, maintenance and harvest of the fruits and vegetables
- Develop seasonal activities and workshops to learn about our own sustainable food choices (e.g., film/lecture series)

THE MARKET: Food Justice

- Join other faith communities, unions, and organizations
- Take an eye-opening bus tour of "food desert" neighborhoods
- Engage in letter-writing and phone-calling campaigns
- Participate in strategic meetings with city council members

The Grocery Recover Act would require supermarket chains expanding their stores to demonstrate they are serving "food desert" neighborhoods and paying their workers a living wage.

THE DOOR: Immigration Reform

- Work with national and local partners in a high profile, national campaign for fair and just immigration policies
- Attend rallies and demonstrations; meet with elected officials
- Organize targeted letter-writing campaigns
- Sponsor a large community event about immigration reform
- Plan and promote other creative actions

THE EARTH: Green Action Challenge

- Commit to taking 3 tangible steps towards reducing your individual environmental impact/carbon footprint
- Publicize and promote the Green Action Challenge pledge to every member of the IKAR community
- Develop educational materials and monthly action items
- Work to decrease the environmental impact of all IKAR events and operations

THE SCHOOL: Improving Public Education, One School Community at a Time

- Over the next few months, join us as we:
- Identify the talents and passions of IKAR members
 - Deepen relationships with partner organizations, such as New Visions Foundation, A Place Called Home and Los Angeles Education Partnership
 - Work with partners to develop an initiative to strengthen families, schools and community collaborations