**Synagogue Volunteerism Opportunities**

**NEWARK JEWISH CEMETERIES VOLUNTEERING**

Our Jewish cemeteries in Newark, NJ serve as not only the final resting place of tens of thousands of Greater MetroWest community members who settled and resided in Newark between the 1870’s – the present - but also serve as a relic of our Greater MetroWest history.

Help us preserve this history with a \*\*new\*\* volunteer opportunity in our Newark Jewish Cemeteries by photographing gravestones. The photos will be sent to the **JewishGen Worldwide Burial Registry** (JOWBR) so that a photograph can accompany the burial information offering an opportunity for people living far away to “visit” their loved ones in these cemeteries, as well as to preserve the historical value of the graves.

*If your synagogue would like to organize a group of cemetery volunteers, please complete the following form:* [www.jfedgmw.org/cem-vol](http://www.jfedgmw.org/cem-vol).

**COMMUNITY MITZVAH DAY**

Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest will hold its Annual **Community Mitzvah Day** **on Sunday, March 19, 2023**. Synagogues will have **two ways to get involved** in Community Mitzvah Day:

* **Publicize** Community Mitzvah Day and recruit a group of congregants to attend one or more sessions.
* **Coordinate and run** a hands-on service program that would become part of the lineup of sites offered.

More information on Community Mitzvah Day and how to get your synagogue involved will be shared in early December – please keep a lookout!

**DIGNITY GROWS TM  PACKING PARTY**

Dignity GrowsTM empowers our neighbors in need by providing menstrual and hygiene supplies. Volunteers will organize, assemble, and distribute reusable zipper-top totes filled with a one-month supply of soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrush, and toothpaste, along with menstrual products or shaving cream and razor kits. Federal grant programs do not cover these items, and people often do not donate them to food pantries. Through the Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest and Dignity GrowsTM , you can help those suffering from poverty by providing the essential hygiene items needed for daily life.

**MITZVAH OF THE MOMENT**

Federation coordinates “Mitzvah of the Moment” opportunities to collect needed items for the community throughout the year (Back-to-School supplies, Thanksgiving foods, etc.) Be sure to check out our Mitzvah of the Moment [WEBPAGE](https://www.jfedgmw.org/community/get-involved/volunteering/mitzvah-of-moment/mitzvah-of-the-moment-thanksgiving-food-drive/) to stay in the loop about upcoming opportunities. Your synagogue can host a packing opportunity or coordinate your own collection of whatever items are requested.

For more information on participating in any of these volunteer opportunities, please contact Sarah Diamond, Manager of Synagogue Initiatives, at [sdiamond@jfedgmw.org](sdiamond%40jfedgmw.org).