

Task 8: Celebration and Sharing

The big idea of this task:

We mark our accomplishments by sanctifying this moment in our lives and by celebrating together as a Jewish community.

By the end of this task, campers will be able to:

- Share why the completion of the program was a moment for sanctification.
- Teach other campers about giving through a Jewish lens.

During this task, campers will grapple with:

- How can we make this celebration “Jewish”?
- Why is it important for us to celebrate and share this achievement?
- Are there other moments in my life that are cause for a Jewish communal celebration?

To have on your radar screen:

- The final phase of the program creates a great opportunity to take photos or videos of your teen foundation celebrating the culmination of their work. Be sure to post them on your camp website, and share them with your grantees (and JTFN!).
- This is also the time to notify the grantees that they have been selected, and to write a letter to the other organizations to let them know that their project was not chosen. We recommend that you involve campers in this process.

You know you have been successful with this task when:

Campers are able to identify key moments from the program that are cause for celebration, and are able to share them with the community.

Sample Program

- Sample: Our Celebration

Sample Program: Our Celebration

1 Facilitator/Small Group

Overview

During this task campers will take time to plan a celebration of their accomplishments. Celebrating their accomplishments is an important aspect of the program. It acknowledges the campers' hard work and dedication and allows the community to learn about the work of their teen foundation. It also allows campers to reflect on the experience- consolidating their learning.

Group Type

Small Group- Campers should work in teen foundations.

Space Needed

An area to hold the teen foundation that allows them to spread out and work on their celebration projects.

Supplies Needed

Copies of the Celebration Ideas worksheet- Appendix 1

Prior to the Program

- Review the Celebration and Sharing Ideas worksheet and choose those that would be appropriate for your camp. Edit the Celebration and Sharing Ideas worksheet to reflect the changes.
- Brainstorm any additional celebration opportunities that are relevant to your camp.
- Allocate time for the campers to share their accomplishments with camp.
- Prepare rejection and acceptance letters for non-profits.

Things to consider

- You may want to limit the amount of individual or group projects depending on how many teen foundations you have.
- Offer a blessing during services for the campers upon completion of the tasks.
- Speak to the camp director about acknowledging the campers for their work at a camp-wide program.
- Explore the possibility of campers give a presentation about their work on visiting day/alumni day/at a camp board meeting.
- Contact the campers' families to share with them information about the completion of the program.
- In order to plan and execute a full project, campers may need additional time, access to materials or approval from camp administrators. You may want to listen in on the small groups and approve the projects before the campers become attached to their ideas.

Timetable- 60 minutes

5 minutes- Introduction

40 minutes- Planning

15 minutes- Sharing

Introduction (5 minutes)

1. Congratulate the campers on becoming grant makers and funding one or more organizations. Explain to the campers that in Judaism when we finish an intensive period of study with a partner or a group, we conclude with a blessing and gathering of the community.

2. Ask the campers:

- Why do you think Judaism says it is important that we conclude with the blessing and gathering? (*Answer: serves as a reminder of completing the task, brings together the community*)
- What aspects of our experiences do you think we should share with our community? (*review the Tasks the campers accomplished*)

3. While we are celebrating, it is also important to behave *b'tzelem elohim* and with *kavod* towards the organizations which we did not choose to fund. During the next activity please take a minute to read and sign your name to the letter(s) to the non-profits that we will not be funding, as well as to those that will receive our grant(s).

Planning (40 minutes)

1. Share with the campers:

- We would like to invite the community to share in our accomplishments of study and *tzedakah*.
- Today you will have the opportunity to create your own project or to work within a group to create a project that will be shared with the rest of our community. (*Hand out Celebration Ideas worksheet*)
- Now that we reviewed all of our tasks, what do you think you might want to share with the rest of camp about the teen foundation process? (*mission statement, organization they funded, entire process from beginning to end*)
- On the Celebration and Sharing Ideas worksheet you will see that there is a list of options for sharing your experiences with the community.
- In a moment you will be able to choose whether you would like to work with a group or individually and then begin your project. (Some teen foundations may decide to work together as one group.)

- Your first job is to figure out what you want to share with camp. Then begin planning the project/activity.
- Once you complete the project/activity idea you will present your idea to the foundation.
- Give the campers 30 minutes to choose and begin to plan a project from the Celebration and Sharing Ideas worksheet. (Staff can use this time to check on the progress of each group and approve each project. Remember that campers will likely need additional time and staff support to execute these projects).
- Remind campers that during this time they should also sign their names to letters to the non-profits.

2. Bring the campers back together.

Sharing (15 minutes)

1. Have each individual camper or group share their project.
2. Collect any of the materials that will be used at the celebration and/or that need to be posted around camp.
3. Thank the campers for being part of the teen foundation.

Appendix 1

Celebration and Sharing Ideas

- Make a presentation to fellow campers at a camp-wide program.
- Create a plaque, a mural or some other permanent artistic display that will memorialize the teen foundation at camp (start a tradition, so that next year's teen foundation adds their plaque too).
- Create posters about the organization(s) that campers funded, to be displayed in a prominent place at camp.
- Create tzedakah boxes to take home (if you did not already do so in Task 1).
- If you have a mentoring/buddy program at camp with older and younger teens, consider how teen foundation participants may share something about what they learned with their mentees/buddies.
- Plan and facilitate a multi-station program to teach younger campers about giving.
- Drum up excitement for next year's teen foundation by creating a presentation/activity for the group of campers who will be eligible to participate next summer.
- Create an evening activity (ie. mock allocations process or teaching about Jewish values in a creative way) for another group of campers (terrific for CIT groups!).
- Write a creative piece for *tefilah* (prayer).
- Write a children's book about giving.
- Write a letter to the editor of a local media outlet about the teen foundation's activities.
- Write a blog post for your camp blog (don't forget to share it with JTFN too!).
- Have each camper write a letter to him/herself, to be mailed home and opened at Hanukah time. The letter can include a personal highlight/takeaway from the teen foundation and a note about how to build on this experience throughout the year.
- Invite each camper to set a personal goal for ongoing philanthropic work during the year, and share it with the teen foundation and/or the rest of camp.
- Host a radio station segment (if your camp has a radio station) inspired by the teen foundation experience. It could be an interview with a participant, a guide to giving, or a song.
- Take a group photo with the teen foundation's mission statement/logo poster.
- Make a video "highlighting" the work of one of the grantee organizations.
- Create a video of teen foundation participants interviewing each other about what they learned through the process/key takeaways.