



CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

BI CHESSED TEEN AMBASSADOR PROGRAM



FOR THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award is a global program that challenges, empowers, and recognizes young people.

OVERVIEW

Objective:

To provide registered Duke of Edinburgh Jewish youth an opportunity to fulfill their volunteer component through Beth Israel and a Jewish lens.



Structure:

- 14 weeks (1 hour/week)
- Three streams to choose from: Louis Brier, Food Security or Yaffa House.



BI Contacts:

Duke of Edinburgh Mentor: Ethan Doctor, 778-834-4384,
vancouverusy@gmail.com

Director of Youth Engagement: Rabbi Bluman, 604-731-4161 ext. 103,
rabbidavidbluman@bethisrael.ca

VOLUNTEER STREAMS

Stream 1: Louis Brier Home & Hospital

Louis Brier is a Jewish resident and family-centred care home for seniors.

Students will begin with an orientation and tour to help them determine what they would like to do. Options include but are not limited to: 1:1 activities with the residents, playing musical instruments for the residents, helping out with the Breakfast Club and the Reading Club and participating in Shabbat services.

Requirements: All students will be required to undergo a free criminal background check.



Stream 2: Food Security

Students will learn about food security challenges that many Jewish families face in Vancouver. They will also help alleviate some of these challenges through volunteering in the Jewish Community Garden and at JFS' Jewish Food Bank.

Students in Food Security will meet at either Beth Israel or JFS' Kitchen and work towards helping with food security (cooking, baking, packing holiday packages, working in the Jewish Community Garden, etc).

Stream 3: Yaffa House

Yaffa House is a Jewish group home and centre for adults with mental illness. Yaffa House provides care, opportunity, and support within the context of Jewish values and practice. The intent of this society is to maximize the individual potential, growth, personal fulfillment, and independence of its residents, as well as provide a centre within the Jewish community for mental health education, recreation, and support.

At Yaffa House, students will interact with its residents either 1:1 or in a group setting. Students will be able to cook with the residents, play games, play instruments, etc.



PROGRAM STRUCTURE

Session 1:

All students will meet with BI's Duke of Edinburgh's Mentor, Ethan Doctor, prior to the commencement of the program to determine which stream is suited best for them. If a student wants to change his/her stream they will be permitted to do so.

Session 2:

Volunteer Training: All students will meet together with Ethan for volunteer training and goals setting.

Sessions 3 – 7:

"Go Volunteer!" Students at their streams.

Session 8:

All students meet together with Ethan to debrief and to evaluate and revisit goals and expectations.

Sessions 9 – 13:

Back at the streams!

Session 14:

All students attend a final group debriefing with Ethan and Rabbi Bluman at Beth Israel. Focusing on self reflection and evaluation of Chessed Teen Ambassador Program.



Skills

Beth Israel plans to provide opportunities for the participants of Duke of Edinburgh to fulfill their skills component. For those who are interested in doing so, Ethan and Rabbi Bluman will connect these students with members of BI's clergy and perhaps members of the congregation. Beth Israel can teach students how to read Hebrew, lead services, chant Torah and Haftarah, write a sermon, etc. Beth Israel can also provide leadership opportunities, which will count towards the skills component.

Jewish Outdoor Adventure

Coming Soon... Beth Israel is working on a Jewish camping trip in May 2024.