

## **JFS Shabbat Services Guidelines**

JFS Shabbat Service volunteers experience the rewards of sharing Jewish traditions with those who are unable to take part in the greater community, whether they are homebound, live in a secular community or are otherwise unable to attend Shabbat services at a local Synagogue. JFS Shabbat Services are another way to engage our community in Jewish tradition, faith, and culture. What a wonderful expression of community!

See below for some general Shabbat Services information, guidelines & tips:

- JFS Volunteers can sign up to lead a JFS Shabbat service at a local Senior Living Community (SLC) **1xmonth on a Friday afternoon or evening.**
- JFS Volunteers are encouraged to join a current volunteer-led JFS Shabbat Service prior to leading a service at another location.
- JFS Volunteers work with the Volunteer Coordinator (VC) and the SLC Wellness Directors to schedule these services.
- JFS Provides the following:
  - Signage (to be placed visibly at Shabbat services) & Updated JFS Information
  - JFS Shabbat Siddur Books (amt. depending on # expected)
  - Small plastic cups
  - Knife & Cutting board
  - Battery Operated Candles and batteries
  - Wax candles and candle sticks (for show)
  - Challah cover
  - Shabbat Services Supply and Instructions Sheet x1
  - JFS Incident Report
- The SLC provides the following:
  - Prepared space to facilitate the services and tables and chairs to accommodate these services.
  - Traditional food items for the Shabbat services (Challah bread loaf, kosher grape juice and/or wine), water, and any other refreshments (unless other arrangements have been made between JFS and the SLC)
  - The SLC will advertise (calendar and other notices) these Shabbat services to the community, encouraging resident participation (all are welcome!). A JFS Shabbat Services flier can be made available upon request.
  - Technology access for a PowerPoint presentation if applicable.

**Due to the recent rise in Covid-19 related cases, it is requested that all participating Senior Living Communities (SLC) adhere as best as possible to the following guidelines:**

- All participating Senior Living Community (SLC) residents and staff are to maintain social distancing requirements (3ft) and wear face coverings during in-person JFS activities, regardless of vaccination status.

**JFS Shabbat Services ‘Tips’ for a successful service:**

**Do’s:**

- LISTEN to participants. This is sometimes the ONLY chance they have to socialize.
- Engage participants in conversation about their history, family, experiences.
- Educate them on JFS Services offered.

**Don’t:**

- Try to fix, counsel, or turn any participant away from the Shabbat service. Remember, the JFS Shabbat Services are open to the community.
- Try to physically assist any participant should they fall.
  - o Immediately inform the staff of the community of the issue and let them handle it.
  - o Complete a JFS Incident Report and submit it to the JFS Volunteer Coordinator. (Copies of this form are provided in the Shabbat supply bag)

**Before you lead a JFS Shabbat Service, please familiarize yourself with the following guidelines:**

- All in-person volunteers must be fully vaccinated and are asked to provide a proof of vaccination to be kept on file.  
(Click [HERE](#) for updated Covid-19 Guidelines)
- In indoor locations face coverings and social distancing of at least 3ft are required, regardless of vaccination status. This is to protect SLC residents, staff, and the volunteer.  
(Masks are available upon request)
- No volunteer may lead a JFS Shabbat Service if diagnosed with COVID-19 or if experiencing symptoms or if recently exposed to COVID-19.

Questions? Please contact Tracy Jacobsen, JFS Volunteer Coordinator at 919-676-2295 or [Tracy.Jacobsen@ShalomRaleigh.org](mailto:Tracy.Jacobsen@ShalomRaleigh.org)