

JCSA Networking Parents

Conference Call • November 13, 2003

Topic: How do you keep yourself stimulated, find outlets for personal growth and for using your professional skills?

Many of us are involved as lay people in different organizations including synagogues, day schools, federations, Hadassah, and JCSA local groups. This has been rewarding and allows us to learn new skills and hone the ones we have. There are, however, challenges involved in moving from being the professional to being a volunteer.

★Goals for Our Group:

Network; continue professional growth; keep up to date on the hot topics in the field (ex., NJPS); support one another; share resources; study Jewish texts and discuss articles together; advocate and educate to advance family friendly policies in the workplace.

★Topics for future conversations:

- (1) Re-entry and reintegration models
- (2) Discuss hot topics in the Jewish community NJPS
- (3) Trends impacting Jewish philanthropy
- (4) Identify new Jewish organizations like Jewish healing networks
- (5) Family Friendly Employment possibilities
 - job sharing
 - how do we approach an agency with a work proposal
 - what are successful models outside and inside the Jewish community
- (6) Women's career growth and work/life balance issues
- (7) Jewish Texts & Article Discussions

★Ways to Connect:

Via e-mail
Monthly conference calls
Regional get-togethers
Formally as a group and informally as individuals.

★Follow-Up:

We had a great first call which generated lots of ideas for future conversations. There was a wonderful diversity of people from all different fields and geographic locations. We hope that this is the beginning of a productive and fulfilling networking group for those of us who are taking time off (full or part-time) from work in Jewish Communal Service to raise our children. Thank you to all who participated in the call and we look forward to meeting many more of you on future calls and online.

Please spread the word about the existence of Networking Parents. The more people we have in our network, the more powerful we will be. We will inquire about further financial support from the Jewish Communal Service Association for future conference calls.