



For Immediate Release

PRESS RELEASE: JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE OF WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS

Contact: Elaine M. Shepard, Marketing Coordinator
Robert D. Marmor, Executive Director
(413) 737-2601 – www.jfswm.org

Parent Support Group: Building Jewish Identify for Children with Special Needs

Amherst – The parent support and education group meets monthly on Sunday mornings, 10:15-11:30 a.m. at the Jewish Community of Amherst (JCA), 742 Main Street, Amherst. The next two meeting dates are March 21st and April 25th. New members are welcome.

Join other parents of children with special needs e.g., ADD/ADHD, Autism Spectrum, that may cause behavior or emotional challenges. Parents can help to identify needs, problems and solutions; educate families and the community; enhance their religious schools, holiday celebrations and home practices, giving children a fuller Jewish identity.

The group will be facilitated by Rhonda Shapiro-Rieser. Shapiro-Rieser, a former Special Education teacher, has a D.Min degree in Jewish Spiritual Direction. She is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor and holds a graduate Certificate in Autism Spectrum Disorders from Antioch University.

This program is offered through "In God' Image/B'Tzelem Elohim," a collaboration between the Jewish Community of Amherst and Jewish Family Service of Western Massachusetts with funding from the Family Education Initiative of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

These programs are free and open to the community. For further information, please contact Jody Rosenbloom, JCA's Director of Life Long Learning at 256-0160, x203. We apologize that no childcare can be provided at this time.

PAGE 1

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Hampden County Main Office: 15 Lenox Street, Springfield, MA 01108, (413) 737-2601, Fax (413) 737-0323

Berkshire County Satellite: 196 South Street, Pittsfield, MA 01201, (413) 236-5735, Fax (413) 236-5740

Hampshire/Franklin County Satellite: 253 Armory Street, Northampton, MA 01060, (413) 582-6790



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World Count: 201

Jewish Family Service of Western Massachusetts is a beneficiary agency of the Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts, the Jewish Federation of the Berkshires and the United Way of Pioneer Valley.

Jewish Family Service of Western Massachusetts serves all faiths, providing Jewish Family Life Enrichment, Older Adult Services, Adoption Resources, Refugee Services and Counseling. The JFS mission is to "repair the world" through caring, professional "acts of loving-kindness" by assisting families and individuals with life's challenges.

PAGE 2

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