



Panel 1 Meeting 3 Summary

11.20.2014

Meeting: Panel 1, Meeting 3

Location: Jewish Federation of Greater St. Paul

Time: November 20th, 7:00-8:30pm

In attendance: Wendy Baldinger, Maureen Davidson, Frances Fischer, Gail Gendler, Ellen Konstan, Shelley Robbins, Margie Solomon

Evaluation: A key takeaway was the panel members' strong feeling that there is a necessity for an evaluation that focuses both on process and outcomes. This should support learning and a shift in people's "habit of mind" when it comes to addressing community needs.

Continuity: Panel members want to know that this process will have follow-through. One aspect of this would be finding a "home" for the recommendations.

Scope and Focus: The panel discussed that the St. Paul Jewish communities included anyone who lived in St. Paul and/or used services in the Jewish community. The panel identified two different welcoming scenarios to focus on:

- Those reaching out to form a new connection; and
- Those that would need to be connected to in a different way (ie. different phase of life)

These areas need to be strengthened before attracting and recruiting from outside the greater St. Paul community.

Considerations: The panel also discussed that:

- The recommendations should be sensitive to people's physical location and connect with where they are. For example, not expect them to come to St. Paul when they live in a suburb.
- The recommendations should bring a cohesiveness to the experience of connection. One should not have to contact different people to learn about synagogues, social services, schools, etc.
- Specific groups that may need targeted welcoming efforts are people in interfaith relationships and families and LGBTQ members of the community

Other Jewish Communities

The panel affirmed the importance of discussing and researching the work done in other Jewish communities. This topic will help guide the next meeting and research done beforehand.

Specific Ideas

Some ideas raised at the meeting include:

- Website with service listings (Real Estate, Law, etc.). Like a Jewish Angie's List



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- Concierge (see notes from Tucson conversation)
- Jewish Meetup Group
- Hospitality Training (Like on a cruise) for people at connection and entry points

People to Learn From

- The panel brainstormed a list of people to talk to that had experience in welcoming and engagement. A strategy for interviews was developed. Panel members will conduct the majority of these.
- Conversation also centered on including interviews with agencies, synagogues and experts outside of Minnesota. Staff will conduct the majority of these. Follow-up interviews with the entire panel will be arranged for people with experiences of particular interest to the panel.