



# Panel 1 Meeting 3 Summary

## 11.20.2014

**Meeting:** Panel 1, Meeting 3

**Location:** Jewish Federation of Greater St. Paul

**Time:** November 20<sup>th</sup>, 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.