JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE WELCOMES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Sean Gerow has worked in the human services and suicide prevention field as an advocate and professional for twenty-five years. He believes each person must be informed about the choices available in life and be provided the ways and means to access those choices.

Sean has a Master’s Degree in Healthcare and is a past winner of the Frank W. Masterson award. He was employed as a Director for Access: Supports for Living for the past 10 years before coming to Jewish Family Service.

Sean is the Immediate Past Chair of the Orange County Cultural Equity Taskforce and Past Chair of the Suicide Prevention Action Network. He is a member of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention – Hudson Valley Chapter Board and the Chair of the Orange County Out of Darkness Walk. Sean is a member of the American Association of Suicidology. He is also the immediate past president of the Consumer Directed Personal Assistant Association of New York State (CDPAANYS). Sean is an active volunteer firefighter for the past 29 years with the City of Middletown, NY and is the current Department Secretary and Public Information Officer.

Sean is also a local and national and master trainer in Suicide Prevention and is currently able to train the following: QPR-T, QPR, safeTALK, ASIST, Mental Health First Aid – Youth, Adult and Fire/EMS and Lifelines – Prevention, Intervention and Postvention.

Jewish Family Service of Orange County, a partner agency of the Jewish Federation of Greater Orange County, is a human service agency providing services to individuals and families in Orange County.

You can reach Sean at 845-341-1173 Ext. 302

Congregation Eitz Chaim Hosts Open House at New Synagogue - 11 Stage Rd., Monroe

Visitors included Senator James Skoufis, Orange County Court Judge Carol Klein, Monroe Mayor Neil Dwyer, County Court Judge Candidate Hyun Chin Kim and many other guests. Everyone enjoyed a beautiful concert by violinist and member Donna Gray Kushner and pianist Ron DeFesi. Words of welcome and Torah were delivered by president Lea Morgenstein, Rabbi Ariana Captauber and congregant Beth Marks. An extraordinary spread was prepared by members Diane Soss, Karen Celidonio and Judi Berman. They also thanked Joan Ostrer and Steve Kushner for their many hours of work which transformed a building into a mishkan, their beautiful new synagogue for worship, celebration and gathering.

Photos by Steve Moses

The Political Toolbox Part 1
Presented by The Monroe Temple Continuing Education Committee & The Jewish Federation Community Relations Council

A series of speakers on wedge issues that motivate voters.

The Monroe Temple hosted the first speaker, Shannon Wong, Hudson Valley Chapter, ACLU of NY on January 12th.

In January we celebrated Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s amazing contributions towards *tikkun olam*, repairing the world, by creating mitzvah boards where we can write our own good deeds on colorful sticky notes. We loved our story, *Mitzvah Pizza*!

Connect with other families with young children in your neighborhood at this one-of-a-kind Jewish parent/tot experience. You’ll want it to become a regular part of your Sunday morning routine!

For more information and to register, call 845-562-7860 or email rachel@jewishorangeny.org.
Attention all Middle and High School Students

Enhance your academic résumé for college!

The 2020 Stop Hate Student Challenge

This Year’s Theme: Moral Courage

Student Competition - In addition to our traditional essay contest we are offering prizes this year for creative student responses to our challenge, these include: Posters, Podcasts, Electronic Public Service Announcements (PSAs), Other creative videos, Children’s books, Graphic Novellas, Songs, Poems, and Plays.

There will be one winner of $200 from Middle School and one from High School. In addition, the sponsoring teacher for each winner will receive $100. Prizes will be awarded at the Stop Hate Symposium on Tuesday, April 28th at Washingtonville High School. There is no charge to attend the symposium. Registration link coming soon.

More information is available on the Federation website, jewishorangeny.org.

Please call the Federation office at 845-562-7860 or email sharon@jewishorangeny.org with any questions.

Jewish Summer Camp
Partial scholarships for Jewish children residing in Orange County.

Download an application at jewishorangeny.org/scholarships

PJ Library is offering more children the opportunity to attend Jewish overnight camp for the first time with grants to qualifying families in the amount of $700 for campers who attend overnight camp for 12-18 days or $1,000 for campers who attend camp for 19 days or longer.

Get more information here: pjlibrary.org/beyond-books/pj-goes-to-camp

Israel Experience
Partial scholarships for educational programs and experiences in Israel for Jewish teens residing in Orange County. The amount of each award depends on individual need as well as the number of applications.

Jack and Jessica Blinkoff Scholarship
A full award covering the cost of one trip to Israel, given to one special 11th or 12th grade student, based on need and merit.

Download an application at jewishorangeny.org/scholarships
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