

PJ Library Parent Community Connector, Greensboro, NC

Background and rationale:

The PJ Library Parent and Community Connector (PJ Parent Connector) initiative launches May 2018 as a response to community research conducted by PJ Library. Findings show that there is a need and desire for more community building, especially within the PJ Community. National surveys detected two very important findings, families felt they weren't learning as much as they wanted to in family programming and families furthermore felt they weren't meeting other young families in large community programs. As a result of this, we have aimed to develop targeted programs, in addition to our general programs, but hoping to funnel people into smaller programs with increased follow up to make the 1-1 connection possible and happen.

The PJ Parent Connector, who will likely have young children themselves, will build authentic, peer-to-peer relationships that provide openings for meaningful Jewish connections. They will ignite the Jewish journeys of their peers as these families find their own Jewish way, and expanding communal programming, both in number and location, through micro-community building and neighborhood-based programs and by serving as a friend, mentor, educator and guide, to strengthen the Greater Greensboro Jewish Community.

Program Design

The PJ Parent Connector will work 5-8 hours a week to help build community. The PJ Parent Connector can be creative with how they want to do that; 1-on-1 coffee dates, small group playdates, and small gatherings for Shabbat are encouraged options. Whatever the choice, the purpose is to have repeating, frequent opportunities for individuals to come together. It is important to introduce multiple touch points for meaningful Jewish experiences.

Program Goals

- Build trusted, direct, personal relationships with families and individuals raising Jewish children
- Identify needs and increase quantity of meaningful Jewish experiences offered throughout the Greensboro area
- Create a strong social network; meet families where they are by providing low barrier ways to engage
- Reference "What Makes a Great Connector/ Ambassador" for more information

Logistics

Training will be through PJ Library. The position is a 10-12 month position, 5-8 hours a week, with a stipend for the hours invested, \$5,000, and program costs, \$1,000, split into two payments. The PJ Parent Connector is expected to

- Host 4 special events a month with follow up to deepen connections through 1-on-1 meetings
- Attend as many existing PJ programs as possible, invite 1-2 new families to join you
- Identify and connect to 2-4 new families each month
- Track interactions on a weekly basis
- Meet with supervisor from PJ Library in Charlotte as needed. Meet with the Outreach and Engagement Coordinator once a month to review plans for the next month and interactions from the previous month

Application

To apply, submit a cover letter including your background, experience with PJ and intentions for the position. Resumes are not necessary. Please send your application to Noam Soker at nsoker@shalomgreensboro.org. For questions, please feel free to email Noam or call (336)852-5433 x 221. Applications are due by April 20, interviews to follow.

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