



Request for Annual Contribution Assistance

“Kol yisrael arevim zeh baze.” All of Israel are responsible for each other. (Talmud, Shavuot 39a)

At Congregation B’nai Israel, we strive to aid congregants who, because of financial hardship, are unable to pay the standard annual contribution and need special consideration. We see it as an obligation and a mitzvah — the fulfillment of a commandment — to enable anyone to join our congregation, regardless of financial circumstances. It is also an obligation and a mitzvah for each person to support their synagogue financially to the extent possible.

We understand that paying the full contribution might create a financial hardship in some circumstances. Situations that could merit special consideration include:

- Job loss,
- Medical expenses, and
- Funding care of an extended family member.

We are a self-funded community. Most of our extensive financial requirements are met through congregants’ contributions. Those in our community paying the standard amount and more enable us to provide limited annual contribution assistance.

Contribution Assistance will be granted by request only, according to synagogue procedures. We take confidentiality very seriously. The Contribution Assistance applicant’s identity will be known to the Financial Secretary, clergy, bookkeeper, and may be reviewed by representatives of the Executive Committee.

Implementing this process fairly and effectively depends on everyone acting in accordance with Jewish values; prioritizing the short and long-term needs of the congregation; acting with integrity and honesty; and respecting everyone’s dignity and privacy. We will continue to respond in a fair and compassionate manner to those in our community who are experiencing true financial hardship that necessitates modifying their annual contribution agreement.
