

Meet the Kehilla Relationship Managers (KRM's)

One of United Synagogue's most important goals under its strategic plan, at base probably its actual *raison d'être*, is its commitment to provide resources and programs that strengthen the kehillot that make up the religious center of Jewish life in North America. The way we will meet that goal is through our new network of kehillah relationship managers.

Kehilla relationship managers are our grassroots support system. Fully devoted to our kehillot's needs, they are the liaison between headquarters and the field. They can spot trends; they keep abreast of new programs that come from New York or the field and share information that comes from every single one of our diverse group of kehillot with each other.

What does this mean in practical terms? It means that the KRM's job is to develop a very real relationship with at least one of the clergy, staff and/or lay leaders in every kehillah to which he or she is assigned. Your KRM's task is to listen closely to you, to help you pinpoint and diagnose problems, and if necessary to get you the help you need to fix them. The KRM's network encompasses all of the expertise United Synagogue has to offer, and it extends beyond United Synagogue to provide you with even more specialized help if you need it. The KRM's detailed knowledge of your kehillah will allow him or her to tailor the available help to meet your specifications precisely.

The system is now firmly in place. Your KRM has been in touch with someone in your kehillah about Sulam, our multitiered leadership development program aimed at enrolling 5,000 members of our kehillot within five years, and about completing a leadership survey. He or she is eager to learn as much as possible about your kehillah as soon as possible. We all look forward to a network of relationships that will strengthen each of us in so many ways – managerially, organizationally, spiritually, and Jewishly. We know that our new KRM system will do that.

Meet the Kehilla Relationship Managers (KRM)s

Kehilla Relationship Team Leader

Dr. Ray Goldstein (Goldstein@uscj.org) is our kehilla relationship team leader, overseeing the KRMs. He also serves a KRM for some kehillot in the Central district. Ray joined United Synagogue's staff as the central district's interim director in 2010. He already had served the organization in many volunteer positions, capped by four years as its international president. He has been president of two kehillot and sat on the board of a third. He has a long history of service on not-for-profit boards and has developed a keen interest and extensive background in board governance and management. Before joining the staff, Ray taught at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska for eight years, and he owned and ran a multifaceted technology firm in Rochester, Minnesota. Ray and his wife, Jody, an elementary school principal, live in Rochester.

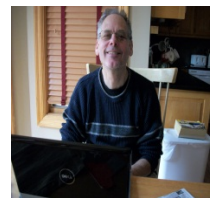


Central District

Mindy Block Gordon (mgordon@uscj.org), our senior kehilla relationship manager in the Central district, is a birthright Conservative Jew, a lifelong member of North Suburban Synagogue Beth El in Highland Park, Illinois, who went on USY Israel Pilgrimage and was both a camper and staffer at Camp Ramah in Wisconsin. A no-longer-practicing lawyer, she is on the boards of many Jewish organizations. She lives in suburban Chicago.



Jay Weiner (weiner@uscj.org), a Central district KRM, has worked for United Synagogue since 1995. Last year he was associate director of the Central district; before that he was executive director of United Synagogue's Mid-Continent region; before that he held the same position in our Northern California and Pacific Northwest regions. He also is the coordinator for Alim, helping new, emerging, and evolving kehillot. Jay earned a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Washington and a master's in educational administration and California state teaching credentials from the University of Judaism in Los Angeles. He was director of education at two large Conservative kehillot, and for eight years he was headmaster the Heritage Academy, a Jewish day school in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He lives in Leawood, Kansas, with



Meet the Kehilla Relationship Managers (KRM)s

his wife, Rabbi Alexandria Shuval Weiner, who holds a pulpit in Overland Park, Kansas. They have five children.

Metropolitan New York (METNY)

Nadine Kochavi (kochavi@uscj.org), Metny's senior KRM, comes to us from Congregation Rodeph Sholom, a prominent Reform synagogue in Manhattan, where she was membership coordinator; she's enjoyed her experience there, recruiting, engaging, and retaining members, but she's glad to return to the Conservative world in which she grew up as an active USYer. She has a bachelor's degree from the State University of New York at Albany and a master's in public administration from Baruch College, where she concentrated in nonprofit administration

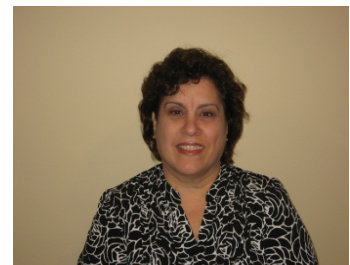


Linda Sussman (sussman@uscj.org), Metny's kehilla relationship manager, is an architect by training; she has had her own architectural practice and now works with Home Free Home, doing pro bono architectural work for disabled people and their families. An active member and former president of the Old Westbury Hebrew Congregation on Long Island, she is on Hadassah's regional board. She lives in suburban New York.



Mid-Atlantic

Michelle Rich (rich@uscj.org) is the senior KRM for our Mid-Atlantic district. For 21 years, she was the director of education and youth activities for our New Jersey region, and she has worked closely with many of our kehillot on programming and membership. Michelle grew up in Teaneck, Jersey, as a USYer and a lifelong Conservative Jew. She holds a bachelor's degree in Hebraic studies from Douglass College and a master's in Hebrew culture and education from NYU. Michelle lives in Manalapan, New Jersey, with her husband, Alan.



Meet the Kehilla Relationship Managers (KRM)

Rabbi Eliseo Rozenwasser (rozenwasser@usci.org) is our KRM in the Mid-Atlantic district. Eliseo was born and grew up in Argentina, earning both his bachelors degree and a masters in chemistry at the Universidad de Buenos Aires there. He studied at the Seminario Rabbinico Latinoamericano, South American's Conservative rabbinical school, and was ordained in Jerusalem. Eliseo was a pulpit rabbi, first in suburban Buenos Aires, then in Adat Shalom in Parsippany, New Jersey, and most recently at Har Zion Temple in Penn Valley, Pennsylvania. When he was in rabbinical school he worked with people about to convert to Judaism, and he became a sofer stam – a scribe; he more recently trained in family and couples therapy at the Council for Relationships in Philadelphia. Eliseo, who is the father of a son and a daughter, is based in Melrose Park, Pennsylvania.



Northeast District

Aimee Close (close@usci.org), senior KRM for the Northeast district, is a lifelong Bostonian who has been both a professional and a lay leader in Conservative synagogues in the greater Boston area. As a former membership director for the JCCs of Greater Boston and a synagogue executive director in Cambridge, she brings years of experience in membership recruitment and retention and in customer service to her new role. Aimee lives in Sharon, Massachusetts, with her son, Ariel, and is an active member of Temple Israel there.



Howard A. Goldberg (Goldberg@usci.org), Northeast district KRM, has been a member of United Synagogue's staff since 2006. A proud product of the Conservative movement, Howard was active in Tzafon USY during the 1980s, and went on to become a religious school educator and USY/Kadima advisor for his home congregation, Temple Beth-El in Poughkeepsie, New York. From 1995 to 2004 he was the director of youth activities for the New City Jewish Center in our Metny district, and he was part of the team that successfully integrated the kehilla's formal, informal, and family education programs. In 2004, Howard moved to Albany, New York, to become director of education and youth services at Temple Israel there. Howard graduated from Binghamton University and was a member of the second cohort of Brandeis University's



Meet the Kehilla Relationship Managers (KRM)s

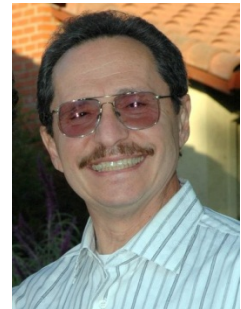
Institute for Informal Jewish Education. He lives in Albany with his wife, Jill, and their three sons, Samson, Shore, and Elijah.

Rabbi Irit Printz (printz@uscj.org), Northeast district KRM, was born in Bucharest, Romania. Her family made aliyah, eventually settling in Jerusalem, and then moving to Canada in 1985. Irit graduated from high school there, studied education and mathematics at the universities of Waterloo and Western Ontario, and taught high school math and science, later earning a master's in science curriculum development from the Hebrew University. Her family, deeply Jewish, also was profoundly secular, but when she lived in Vancouver Irit met her mentor, Rabbi Martin Cohen, and became involved in Jewish life. She entered the rabbinical school at the Jewish Theological Seminary as the recipient of the prestigious Crown Fellowship and was ordained in May 2005 with a master's degree in Bible. She was assistant rabbi at Ahavath Achim Synagogue in Atlanta, Georgia, and taught Jewish studies at the Solomon Schechter School of Essex and Union in New Jersey.



Pacific Northwest

Morey Schapira (schapira@uscj.org) has worked with kehillot in Northern California, the Pacific Northwest and Western Canada since 2009. Morey has extensive management experience both in the business world and as a lay leader in the Jewish community. As a Jewish communal leader, he has been president of a 350-student day school. He was the national president of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews; last year Israel's Knesset recognized his work to help liberate Soviet Jews. He served on the board of directors of Congregation Kol Emeth in Palo Alto, California, and was chair of its strategic planning committee. Morey and his wife, Barbara, live in Silicon Valley and have three children whose lives were enriched by day school, USY, Camp Ramah, and trips to Israel.



Meet the Kehilla Relationship Managers (KRM)s

Southeast/Seaboard District

Jo-Anne Tucker-Zemlak (zemlak@uscj.org) is a KRM in our Southeast/Seaboard district. She has worked for us for 10 years, as the Seaboard region's assistant and then as interim executive director; later she became the Southeast/Seaboard assistant executive director. For the last five years she's also been our Hazak coordinator, planning and running both Hazak's weeklong program at Block and Hexter every June and the group's trips to Israel. She has more than 30 years of volunteer and professional experience, much of it in membership and volunteer development. Jo-Anne holds a certificate in fund raising management from Goucher College in Baltimore. She has a background in early childhood education and has completed the Jewish Leadership Institute Training through the Washington, DC, federation and is a graduate of the Melton Institute. She also successfully worked with the Associated Federations of Greater Baltimore to create a grassroots group for Jewish single parents in the mid 1990s.



Shelley Milakofsky (milakofsky@uscj.org), a KRM in the Southeast/Seaboard district, is based in Atlanta. She joined our staff in 2004 as a congregational consultant. A birthright Conservative Jew, she is the daughter of Hazzan William Lipson, who was Beth David Congregation of Miami's cantor for more than 30 years. A graduate of the University of Miami, Shelley held many positions at many kehillot in Atlanta and Philadelphia. She and her husband, Dr. Louis Milakofsky, are the proud parents of three children and grandparents of six.

