

Congregation Agudas Achim
Austin, Texas

Director of Congregational Learning
Contact: robert.cullick@sbcglobal.net
Chair of Search Committee

Job Description

I. Key Characteristics of the DCL Role

- **Visionary:** The Director of Congregational Learning is a rabbi responsible for creating, with Board and lay committee input, an education vision that is consistent with the overall spiritual vision of Neil Blumofe and the intention of the Board of Directors. This vision shall have specific goals and objectives that are updated annually. Through the vision document, the Board assures there is coherence and congruence between the vision of the Spiritual Leader and that of the Director of Congregational Learning and that activities support the guiding values of the congregation.
- **Executive:** The Director of Congregational Learning has the full executive authority to implement, within the sphere of education, the goals and objectives of the education vision. He/she will report to the Board with a dotted-line relationship to Neil Blumofe to ensure coordination and consistency.
- **Partner:** The Director of Congregational Learning shall work with a spirit of partnership and collaboration with the Spiritual Leader, staff and lay leadership.
- **Advocate:** The Director of Congregational Learning creates excitement about Jewish learning and communicates its value to congregants of all ages.
- **Pastor:** Under the leadership of Neil Blumofe, the Director of Congregational Learning will assist in the areas of pastoral and life-cycle duties.

II. Scope of Responsibilities

The Director of Congregational Learning inspires congregants of all ages and degrees of observance to connect with the wisdom that is our Jewish heritage. The Director of Congregational Learning reports to the Board of Directors through the President and will:

- **Represent CAA with integrity and Jewish values and morals at all times;**
- Establish (and renew annually) an educational vision and program that is consistent with the overall goals of the Board of Directors and consistent with the spiritual vision of Neil Blumofe;
- Recommend to the Board of Directors the structure of appropriate lay committees needed to support the educational vision;
- Recommend to the Board of Directors an annual budget for all educational activities – including Junior Congregation/Tot Shabbat, CAA Religious School (CAARS), adult education, family education, and youth programs (USY/Kadima) – and execute the approved budget throughout the year;
- Attend monthly Board meetings and appropriate committee meetings; consult on a regular basis with Neil Blumofe to ensure consistency and alignment; participate in regular meetings of the CAA staff;
- Provide status reports to the Board;
- Cultivate congregants who will teach at all levels and volunteer for educational programs; teach classes to adults, families, and youth;
- Provide leadership and guiding vision to youth programs (Kadima and USY), family education, and adult education;
- Direct and strengthen Junior Congregation and Tot Shabbat programs;

- Work with B'nai Mitzvah students to assure that they have adequate training, tutoring and resources so that they are prepared for this milestone event, consistent with their desires and abilities;
- Work with Neil Blumofe in making the b'nai mitzvah process an experience that connects students and parents positively to CAA and to Judaism;
- With input from the CAARS Director and lay leadership, assess, monitor, and develop Religious School curriculum;
- Supervise the CAARS Director, setting goals for professional development and evaluating performance;
- Ensure that teachers with the Religious School are qualified and knowledgeable in Jewish curriculum content and that they teach in a way consistent with Jewish values;
- Stay current with educational trends and proven programs. Continue to develop professionally and participate with other community and/or Jewish organizations regarding educational opportunities and programs;
- Assist Neil Blumofe, as requested, in meeting the pastoral and life-cycle needs of the congregation.

III. Qualifications for Director of Congregational Learning

- Rabbinic ordination, preferably member of the Rabbinic Assembly
 - If not a member of the R.A., must have significant knowledge of the rituals, practices and theology of the Conservative Movement
- Graduate degree in Education, preferably in Jewish Education
- Minimum of 5 years experience in Educational Leadership position
- Successful experience working with children, teens, and adults
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Excellent communications skills
- Effective and inspirational teacher
- Successful experience in both management and supervision:
 - Teachers
 - Administrative leadership
 - Curriculum development, implementation, and evaluation
 - Budget development and implementation
- Knowledge of key Jewish educational and instructional materials and programs, consistent with the Conservative Movement
- Command of the Hebrew language
- Ability to motivate congregants to participate in Jewish learning
- Desire to seek out and implement innovative learning opportunities for all ages
- Work effectively with lay leadership
- Work collaboratively with colleagues
- Ability and willingness to occasionally lead services and participate in pastoral support of congregants

For more information and to apply:

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