

FAQ: “The World Needs More Kindness—24 Hours of Chesed”

Sunday, April 2, 2017

Areyvut is a non-profit organization whose mission is to empower Jewish youth with experiences that will enable them to infuse their lives with the core Jewish values of chesed (kindness), tzedakah (charity) and tikkun olam (social justice). Areyvut works with schools, synagogues, families and community organizations to plan and run programs dedicated to helping others. For twenty-four hours on Sunday, April 2, this effort will be strengthened; organizations around the world will turn ideas into action with the help of educational resources that Areyvut will provide.

When is "24 Hours of Chesed"?

On Sunday, April 2, 2017, Areyvut invites schools, synagogues, families and community organizations around the world to create programs dedicated to actively helping others. Organizations around the globe will commit to certain programs during certain hours so that there will be hands-on chesed programs going on continuously for the entire 24 hour period. People who are unable to participate in a hands-on chesed project are encouraged to sponsor hours or minutes of the effort.

Who can take part in "24 Hours of Chesed"?

Schools, synagogues, organizations and individuals are all invited to participate in the program. Each organization will determine the best structure for their chesed program and the best way to recruit participants and to implement educational materials.

What sorts of hands-on projects will be a part of “24 Hours of Chesed”?

We expect that programs in each of the locations will last between 1-3 hours. Some potential examples include:

8:00-11:00	Serve breakfast at a soup kitchen
11:00-1:00	Clean the trails at a local park
1:00-3:00	Pack boxes of clothing to send to needy individuals in Israel
3:00-5:00	Visit with residents at a nursing home
5:00-8:00	Make dinner and deliver it to a local fire station
8:00-11:00	Drop-in letter writing to American soldiers for teens and adults
11:00-1:00	A Midnight Run (www.midnightrun.org)

In addition, Areyvut has a list on its website of ready-to-go programs that organizations can use and a list of 50 ideas for individuals of one-day activities which require no advanced preparation.

What educational materials are being developed?

Areyvut will work to develop lesson plans and activities that can be implemented in a variety of different settings. Educational materials for the program will be developed for early childhood through adults, with an emphasis on middle and high school students.

Will participants need to pre-register to take part in this program?

Participating organizations will need to register in advance. Areyvut will work with participating organizations to develop a program which meets the specific need of their audiences.

Individuals wishing to be a part of 24 Hours of Chesed can join in four ways.

1. **Participate:** Individuals can join chesed programs designed by organizations in their local area and/or utilize resources developed by Areyvut to do something on their own.
2. **Plan:** Individuals and institutions are welcome to create their own chesed program to be included in the Master 24 Hour Chesed Calendar. Educational materials will be available on the web to assist individuals and organizations in planning programs. These programs will be posted on the Areyvut website and open to the public.
3. **Pledge:** We invite people to pledge their support and become sponsors of chesed hours and/or individual chesed programs.
4. **Partner:** Partner with us and help us engage others in this exciting and important program. Share your participation with friends, family and colleagues. Use social media to encourage and invite others to participate.

What will Areyvut do?

In addition to facilitating our own local chesed programs, Areyvut will work with partner organizations to develop programs. After the program is planned, we will compile descriptions of all the individual programs into “The World Needs More Kindness—24 Hours of Chesed” materials. We will develop press releases about projects and will send it to local general and Jewish papers. Areyvut will be sending out a press release as well and will work with you to send a joint press release to your local papers.