

BRIT OLAM - ברית עולם

For A World of Compassion, Justice and Wholeness:

We are calling this a *Brit Olam* - a Covenant with our World - because we seek the world we want, not the world as it is.



Across North America and around the world, vulnerable populations face profound challenges. As the Reform Jewish Movement, we are committed to meeting the urgency of now with moral leadership through congregational and community-based action.

WILL YOUR CONGREGATION JOIN IN THE REFORM MOVEMENT'S VISION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE?

After consulting with your congregational leadership, we invite you to sign this Brit Olam by Rosh HaShanah 5778. Our goal is to have 100 congregations working together to build the world we want by URJ Biennial 2017.

Shimon [the son of Rabban Gamliel] says: It is not what one says, but rather what one does, that makes all the difference in the world (Pirkei Avot 1:17).

WE SIGN THIS BRIT OLAM on behalf of _____ (congregation) in _____ (city, state/province). We, the clergy and lay leaders of _____ (congregation) commit to form a team (or designate an existing team) with at least one clergy member (if our community has one) and two lay leaders to lead our community in *one or more* of the following: (check all that apply)

- Acting in solidarity with vulnerable communities
- Building relationships across lines of difference in our local community
- Acting at the local, state/provincial, and/or federal levels to address the root causes of injustice through advocacy and/or congregational or broad-based community organizing
- Participating in one of the Religious Action Center's current Urgency of Now Campaigns to act at the local, state/provincial, and/or federal levels
 - Protecting the rights of transgender students in our school district
 - Defending the rights of immigrants at risk of deportation
 - Reforming the criminal justice system to end mass incarceration
- Participating in a future Urgency of Now Campaign
- Participating in a state-wide campaign with the Religious Action Center's state affiliate in California or Ohio or a campaign in other states in the future
- Fostering a culture of sacred and civil dialogue in our congregation where all opinions are heard

The Religious Action Center, in turn, commits to providing our congregation with:

- Actions to take, to address both the issues facing our most vulnerable populations as well as broader social justice concerns, at the local, state/provincial, and federal levels
- Campaigns to address the most vulnerable issues and communities, at the local, state/provincial, and federal levels
- Training to cultivate the tools/skills necessary to move our congregation into action

In keeping with eternal Jewish tradition, we commit to lead our congregation in advancing Jewish values in the public sphere.

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