

Program Highlights

- Participation in a mentoring program with typically developing peers to practice social skills
- Weekly communal dinners with peer mentors
- Parent education, connection, and support through a series of scheduled workshops and speakers
- Trips into the community to help students generalize and reinforce skills learned in class
- Opportunities for students to do administrative work and/or participate as assistant teachers in Kol Ami's Sunday Religious School classrooms
- Opportunities for *Tikun Olam* and social outreach are interwoven throughout the curriculum
- Multi-sensory approach including yoga, art, Israeli dance, drama and Jewish cooking
- Vocational-Transitional programming

Registration

Prospective families are required to have an intake which includes completion of registration forms and an in-person interview. The latter enables staff to gain insight into the participant's strengths and learning needs. As part of the intake process students will spend an evening at Yad B'Yad.

NEW Program for Fall 2012

We are pleased to announce a new group for graduates have transitioned to post high school programs or employment in the community.



For more information or to arrange an intake appointment, please contact Felice Miller-Baritz at 914-949-4717 ext 124 or felicemillerbaritz@nykolami.org



Congregation Kol Ami
White Plains, NY

Yad B'Yad (Hand-In-Hand)

A Synagogue-Based Inclusive Program for Jewish Teenagers with Developmental Challenges

A collaboration of
Congregation Kol Ami and
Westchester Jewish Community Services

About Yad B'Yad

What: A synagogue-based inclusive program for Jewish teenagers with developmental challenges that focuses on life skills, social skills and Jewish education.

Who: Jewish teens aged 13-21 who have mild social, developmental, or intellectual disabilities.

Where: Congregation Kol Ami
252 Soundview Avenue
White Plains, NY 10606

When: Wednesdays from 5:30-7:30 PM. Yad B'Yad meets concurrently with Kol Ami's Religious School program for typically developing middle and high school students.



Our Mission

Yad B'Yad was created in 2006 to fill the void that currently exists for Jewish teens with developmental challenges in Westchester County. When children reach adolescence the gap widens significantly between those with developmental challenges and their typically developing peers. This program strives to narrow that gap by providing teens with a curriculum that increases their "social savvy" and knowledge of critical life skills.

The program also strives to strengthen the Jewish identity of the students through the study of Jewish holidays, traditions, culture, and values. Yad B'Yad is a collaboration of Congregation Kol Ami and Westchester Jewish Community Services.

Staffing Excellence

Head teachers in each class have masters' degrees in special education or related fields and considerable teaching experience.

Our head teachers work alongside teaching assistants and specialists to create an engaging, lively and meaningful experience for our students.

