



NFTY NORTHERN REGION

February 2008 / Adar I 5768

Dear Friends:

Be Happy, It's Adar...and NFTY NO is soon coming to the Twin Cities! The youth groups of the Twin Cities are hosting the NFTY Northern Region Spring Kallah from Thursday, May 1 through Sunday, May 4. Approximately 125 teens (in grades eight through twelve) from across Wisconsin, Minnesota, and the Dakotas will come together for a weekend of Jewish learning, social action, singing, seeing old friends and making new ones, praying, and having a great time. This is also a momentous weekend as we come together to elect next year's regional leadership, welcome eighth graders and say P'hitraot to our graduating seniors. Focusing on the theme of "Let Your Voice Be Heard...", Spring Kallah will be a great chance for teens to reconnect and learn together.

It is our expectation that all teens from the Twin Cities Area will stay at their own homes and that their parents will be home with them throughout the weekend. In order to accommodate all of the out-of-town participants, **we are asking for your help in housing 3 or 4 (or more) additional teenagers for the weekend.** Even if you don't have teenagers of your own at home, many families find it fun, rewarding, or even refreshing to host some of our young adults for these few days. *If you decide to be a host family, the names of teens staying with you will be determined by the NFTY NO Regional Office and will be provided at the beginning of Kallah.*

Hosting requires a couple of commitments on your part.

- The teens will need transportation to and from your home during the event. They will need to be picked up from the event in the evenings (at approximately 10:30 PM on Thursday and Friday, and around midnight on Saturday night) and dropped off again in the mornings (at approximately 9:00 AM): we will be at Shir Tikvah, Temple Israel, Bet Shalom and Mt. Zion during the weekend (specific times will be forthcoming). *Please note that for safety reasons this driving must be done by someone over the age of 21.*
- We ask you to serve breakfast each morning to the participants staying at your home (something small and easy is fine – bagels and cereal are perfect).
- The teens staying with you just need floor space to roll out their sleeping bags and get some sleep.

We will host an informational meeting on the first night of the Kallah while the teens are in programming, approximately 30 minutes before the pick up time. At this meeting we will provide you with a schedule and list of locations for the weekend, as well as take time to answer your questions about NFTY and about Spring Kallah. *Your attendance at this meeting is required in order for you to take teens home with you.*

After this lengthy memo it may seem like we've asked a lot, but I assure you, our host families find this an enjoyable experience. Enjoy the excitement, enjoy the hustle and bustle in your home and most of all, enjoy the joy of life that teens bring to your home. Our participants are bright and energetic. Our participants are bright and energetic, and have a great deal to share with all who come into contact with them! Our events aren't possible without your support, and we would greatly appreciate your help in continuing our success. Please detach and fill out the attached form and return it by March 31 to the address given. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Beth at 847 239-6982 or bavner@urj.org.

Thank you for your time, and in advance for your help.

L'Shalom,

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**NFTY NORTHERN REGION
SPRING KALLAH HOUSING FORM**

(THIS FORM SHOULD BE FILLED OUT BY ADULT MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD)

Family Name: _____ Congregation: _____

Participant's Name (if applicable): _____ Grade: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Phone Number: (_____) _____ Parent's E-mail: _____

Do you own pets? If so, what kind(s)? _____

I can house _____ teens from May 1-4. *If your child will be a participant, this number should include him/her.*

The total number of teens staying with you will be confirmed two weeks prior to Kallah. The names of teens staying with you will be determined by the NFTY NO Regional Office and will be provided at the beginning of Kallah.

Parent Signature _____

I would prefer to house (circle one): Boys Girls No Preference

PLEASE RETURN BY March 31, 2008 TO:

Beth Avner ■ 555 Skokie Blvd, Suite 333 ■ Northbrook, IL ■ 60062
