

CBE Shabbat Greeters – FAQs

July, 2010

WHAT IS THE GOAL OF A GREETER: Be a warm and welcoming presence at CBE. Make everyone feel comfortable and welcome at services. Outreach to prospective and current members.

WHY DO WE NEED GREETERS: Members and prospective members that come to services will feel more engaged at CBE if someone personally interacts with and welcomes them. More engaged members are more likely to get involved, feel valued and be happy. Prospective members are more likely to become members.

WHY BOARD MEMBERS MAKE GOOD GREETERS: As evidenced by the commitment of serving on the Board, CBE Board members have been touched in some way by the congregation. We all have a positive feeling about CBE. Bringing that positive feeling to someone else will go a long way towards strengthening our membership.

WHAT WILL BE THE COMMITMENT: Each Board member will be the Greeter approximately two Shabbat mornings during the July – June synagogue year.

WHAT IF I'M NOT COMFORTABLE BEING A GREETER: Board members may team up with each other or with a member of the Executive Committee or a Past President in order to be mentored on how to be a Greeter. Greeters will also receive training.

WE ALREADY HAVE USHERS. WHY DO WE NEED GREETERS: The job of the ushers is to distribute and collect the prayer books and to manage and control the flow of worshippers in and out of the sanctuary during services. Ushers must be stationed at the various doors to the sanctuary (sometimes inside the sanctuary) and are therefore not available to greet people as they enter the building. Also, ushers are typically very busy during the “morning rush” between 9:30 and 10:30 am. The Greeters will serve a very different purpose – to welcome and greet people, making them feel comfortable and welcome in our building.

HOW WILL PEOPLE KNOW I'M THE GREETER: Greeters will wear a badge or name tag identifying themselves as the Greeter. The Greeter's name will be published in the weekly written announcements.

HOW WILL THE DATES BE ASSIGNED: The schedule is made in July for the upcoming 6 months. In the event of a conflict, Greeters can trade dates with each other as necessary (notify Ellyn Hirsch).

WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME: Serving as a Greeter will be personally rewarding because a Greeter has the potential to make someone else's experience at CBE a better one. A friendly greeting is contagious... perhaps the person warmly greeted one Shabbat will, in turn, greet someone else the next week, and before we know it, everyone will always feel welcome in our building! We can change the culture here at CBE!