

## GLOSSARY OF YIDDISH TERMS

**Who says a brochure can't  
be educational and fun?**

Drey Kop - scatterbrain

Gefilte Fish - a traditional Jewish fish patty

Kibbitz - chat, offer comments

Kosher - food that is prepared according to Jewish law

Kvetching - complaining or whining

Kvelling - gushing with pride

Matzoh balls - yummy addition to chicken soup

Maven - expert

Mazel Tov! - congratulations or good luck

Mensch - honorable, decent or truly helpful person

Meshuggas - crazy as in crazy information

Mitzvah - commandment of Jewish Law, worthy deed

Mishpocha - family, usually extended family

Meshuggina - crazy, silly, nuts

Nosh - snack

Naches - warm feelings of pride and joy

Oy vey - exclamation of dismay or exasperation

Shlepping - to carry or move about

Shmeer - to spread as in cream cheese on a bagel

Schmooz - chat, to hang out with

Shvitz - to sweat

Simcha - gladness or joy, celebration of a joyous occasion

Tikkun Olam - repair the world

Tsuris - suffering or woe

Yiddisher Kop - smart person

## READY TO GET STARTED?

Be a **yiddisher kop** not a **drey kop**.  
Sign up for JRA's B'nai Mitzvah Project TODAY!  
To register, go to [www.jewishrelief.org](http://www.jewishrelief.org), click on  
"Programs" then on "B'nai Mitzvah Program."

The registration form is right online.  
For more information, contact Melissa Samen,  
JRA B'nai Mitzvah Program Coordinator, at  
[Melissa@jewishrelief.org](mailto:Melissa@jewishrelief.org) or 610-660-0190.



## Guide to the JRA B'nai Mitzvah Program

or  
How to complete your  
Bar or Bat Mitzvah service  
requirement while giving your  
family much **naches** and a  
minimum of **tsuris**!



## Jewish Relief Agency

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[www.jewishrelief.org](http://www.jewishrelief.org)



## MAZEL TOV ON YOUR UPCOMING BAR OR BAT MITZVAH!

We know what you're thinking...  
"**Oy Vey!**", what am I going to do  
for my **mitzvah** project?"

Well, here's some GREAT NEWS from the Jewish Relief Agency. Our B'nai Mitzvah Project is the perfect way to get credit for your mitzvah project, hang out and **kibbitz** with friends, have fun, and do something really important and helpful for families in your area. What's more, you can be a total **mensch** and share this project with your family and friends and you even get a cool JRA t-shirt and certificate.

We can hear your parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins **kvelling** already.

## WHAT EXACTLY IS JRA?

The Jewish Relief Agency, JRA for short, is the largest provider of food assistance to needy Jewish families in the Greater Philadelphia region and is the third largest direct-service food pantry in our area. One Sunday each month, 750-900 volunteers come together in our Northeast Philly warehouse to pack and then deliver more than 20 tons of fresh produce and non-perishable Kosher pantry items to over 2,750 Jewish households in need. That's a lot of **gefilte fish**, pasta, **matzoh balls** and apples.



## WHAT HAPPENS AT A JRA DISTRIBUTION?

Most volunteers arrive at 10:00am, with a small group coming as early as 8:30am to pack bags of fresh produce. No **kvetching** about the early start; **tikkun olam** takes dedication and time.

Volunteers check in, grab a quick **nosh** (bagel and a **shmeer**), get a brief orientation and take their places alongside other enthusiastic volunteers in the assembly line packing boxes with food. Now it's time for the 3 S's of JRA: **shmoozing**, **shlepping** and some occasional **shvitzing** (depending on the weather).

Packing takes about 90 minutes –it's not a race but 750+ people working together can get things done really fast.

Volunteers load their cars with 8-12 boxes and make deliveries right to the homes of JRA's recipient families. We have deliveries all over the five county Philadelphia area, southern New Jersey, and northern Delaware, and provide turn-by-turn directions so you won't go **meshuggina** trying to figure out where to go.

## HOW TO MAKE THE JRA B'NAI MITZVAH PROJECT YOUR MITZVAH PROJECT?

- Sign up on line at [www.jewishrelief.org](http://www.jewishrelief.org).
- Attend 2 distributions packing and delivering food.
- Invite friends and the whole **mishpocha** to join you in packing and delivering food at a 3rd distribution where you will receive your cool JRA t-shirt and certificate for completing your project. We'll also take your photo and put your name on our monthly **simcha** cake so you'll have proof that you are truly a JRA **maven**.
- To make the day even more special, we can provide you with a personalized invitation that you can email to family and friends inviting them to your special day at JRA.

## OTHER MESHUGGAS YOUR PARENTS WILL WANT TO KNOW

### Where is the JRA Warehouse?

We are located at 10980 Dutton Road, Philadelphia, PA 19154 just minutes from the NE Airport, Nabisco plant, Street Road, and the Franklin Mills Mall.

### What about Hebrew/Sunday school?

Many JRA distributions are scheduled over holiday weekends when religious school is not in session. We distribute food 12 months a year so our summer distributions are also a good solution. In addition, many area synagogues will excuse an absence for students volunteering at JRA.

### What about siblings?

JRA welcomes volunteers of all ages and abilities and brothers and sisters, younger and older, are encouraged to participate in the mitzvah project.



See glossary for definitions of Yiddish words in **blue**.

