



To – President & Board Members

Submitted by – Ellen Sklaroff, Chair of Inclusion Committee & Cantor Amy E. Levy

A Statement of Inclusion explicitly names the values, expectations, and boundaries of our community. It can set the norm and social standard serving as a *brit or* covenant that enables us to be accountable to a shared goal: to build a welcoming community.

As such, the following are the proposed Statements of Inclusion for Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel:

Mission Statement #1:

Keneseth Israel welcomes the full participation of all who seek community with us. In accordance with our values we do not discriminate against any person or group of persons on the bases of religion, age, various capabilities, ethnicity, socio-economic status, gender identity or expression, marital or familial status and citizenship. Furthermore, we embrace the full participation of Jews of all backgrounds including multi-faith and interfaith people and families, Jews by choice, single parents, and LGBTQ+ individuals and families. Keneseth Israel is proud of the diversity of its congregation.

Mission Statement #2:

To enhance a warm, welcoming environment, affirming and embracing the dignity of all congregants and guests, allowing for the active participation and inclusion in the religious, educational and social life of Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel.

The following describes the function of the Inclusion Committee:

To provide support and protection for all marginalized people and groups thereby acknowledging the significance of all members of the community.

To serve as a committee that provides ongoing service and that works in concert with other existing committees.

To assess current facilities and to make recommendations for accommodations when possible.

To develop and provide programs for the congregation that are inclusive and diverse including, but not limited to, Shabbat Services, speakers, panels, social programs, and educational programs.

To support programs for preschool students, faculty, and staff.

To support and maintain strong community interfaith relationships.