

## **SOCIAL ACTION UPDATE – NOVEMBER 15, 2017**

- **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16** RSNS will hold its **annual blood drive, between 3:00 PM and 9:00 PM.** Contact Natalie Mines at [nataliemines@yahoo.com](mailto:nataliemines@yahoo.com) or Carol Blumenthal at [carolblumenthal@gmail.com](mailto:carolblumenthal@gmail.com) to schedule your appointment or with questions. Or schedule your appointment on your own using [this link](#):

- **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19** **Community Solidarity's (aka Food Not Bombs) Vegan Thanksgiving Bonanza!** All needy families and individuals coming for food will receive a week's worth of vegetarian groceries and a gourmet vegan feast, and they'll be able to select a new wardrobe from a massive selection of free clothing they'll be sharing throughout the afternoon. **Volunteers needed starting 1pm, at their weekly Food Share at the Hempstead Train Station (W. Columbia St. & Station Plaza). Volunteers can sign up [here](#)!** A perfect lead-in to the Community-wide Port Washington **Thanksgiving Service here at RSNS Sunday, Nov 19 at 4:30pm!**)

- **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21** **Thanksgiving Turkey Drive for Nassau County, here at RSNS! Donate a frozen turkey!** There will be a collection truck **here at RSNS on Tues, Nov 21 between 12 and 2 PM.**

**OR: Donate a whole Thanksgiving meal:** In addition to the frozen turkey (10 – 14 lbs.), you can donate 1 bag of each: fresh carrots & potatoes, stuffing (bag or box), 1 can cranberry sauce, 1 can vegetables, 4 oranges or apples, 1 apple or pumpkin pie (fresh), 1 bag/box cookies, 1 juice. **OR: Call Roslyn at Holiday Farms (516) 621-6420 and pay \$40 by credit card** for a similar Thanksgiving basket to be donated. Please mention “Haber Family Turkey Drive”. **OR: purchase a Holiday Farms Gift card.**

- **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30** Bend the Arc is running a **phone bank to Pass the Dream Act. 7-9pm at Debbie Kesselman's home.** If you can come, **please let Solomon know!** [Solklez@gmail.com](mailto:Solklez@gmail.com)

- **SAVE THE DATE: MONDAY JANUARY 15** Port Washington's **Community-Wide Mitzvah Day** is on Martin Luther King Day!

- **KNIT HATS FOR COHEN'S CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER** Through the **Mitzvah Committee at Gan Shalom**, Drs. Lauren Block and Maggie Hymowitz, who are both physicians at Northwell/Cohen's Children's Medical Center, and Miriam Miller, a fantastic teacher in the 4's classroom and an expert knitter/crocheter, are **creating a group of adults and children to knit hats for the premies and infants at Cohen's Children's Medical Center.** Please email [mbhymowitz@gmail.com](mailto:mbhymowitz@gmail.com) if you are interested in participating in this Mitzvah project and creating beautiful hats for babies in the hospital to help them stay warm, feel loved, and get well. Once they have a sense of interest, they will send out more information!

- **TELL CONGRESS TO LET THEM IN!** The courts have repeatedly blocked the Muslim and refugee bans, but the current Administration continues to do everything it can to stop

(heavily-vetted) refugees from finding safety in this country. As the Administration tries to implement harsh policies that slam the door on refugees, immigrants and asylum seekers, we must continue to show our support and do what we can to protect and welcome them. **Congress has the authority to maintain the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program** at a level proportionate to the global crisis and in line with our capacity, history and values. Please [take action today](#) and tell your representatives to **protect the refugee resettlement program**.

- **STOP THE HORRIFIC PERSECUTION OF THE ROHINGYA** Since the intensification of the ethnic cleansing in August, the American Jewish World Service has been providing humanitarian assistance for the Rohingya who are fleeing violent persecution. This week the Senate [introduced a bill](#) to provide humanitarian aid and re-establish sanctions against the Burmese military. We now need **all Senators to come out** in support of human rights and humanitarian assistance for the Rohingya people. You can [use this link](#) to **urge your Senators to support the Burma Human Rights and Freedom Act of 2017**. And if you have a moment, calling your Senator's office can be even more impactful. The passage of this bill will only strengthen AJWS's efforts to combat the suffering of the Rohingya.

- **PUERTO RICO STILL NEEDS OUR HELP!** An easy, effective way to help those devastated by Hurricane Maria is to donate via the [Greater Miami Jewish Federation Disaster Relief Portal](#). You can also donate to [El Puente](#) a widely-regarded state-side organization with strong ties to the local population, who are providing desperately-needed electricity via emergency solar power. Also, [use this link](#) to call on your members of Congress to **pass a comprehensive emergency relief package NOW!**