

NFTY-MAR. Something so familiar to some, yet so foreign to others. For me, NFTY-MAR has always been a home, a haven, and a family. Salutations NFTY-MAR. **My name is Sarah Kazden and I am running to be your Membership Vice President for the 5780-5781 year.** Over the years, I have had the opportunity to experience different levels of leadership. Specifically, the position of Western MSAC (membership subregional assistant committee) inspired me to run for MVP. This position allowed me to observe the current MVP and see what being a Membership Vice President was truly about. It gave me a chance to connect with TYGs (temple youth groups) region-wide, experience membership, and grow the passion I have today.

As your Membership Vice President, I will work to empower TYG's by providing resources and opportunities to connect throughout the year, engage the membership network digitally and in-person, and create a strong relationship with TYGs and MSACs.

To empower the TYG's, I will pair up different temples that are located in similar areas; Comparable to a big littles program except with each TYG having a "sister" or "brother" synagogue. Throughout the year they will have opportunities to connect virtually and in person. The TYG's will have one in-person meetup and two virtual meetups. These meetups will connect TYG's region-wide but will especially benefit smaller, less active TYGs by giving the ability to have diverse programming. This will help to foster community locally and regionally. Locally, TYGs will build relationships with each other and use each other as a resource along with comparing ideas and strategies that have/haven't worked in their TYGs. On a regional level, participants will be more likely to attend an event, if they know other people going. TYG pairs could attend with a community already established.

Second, I will **work to strengthen the MVP network by creating opportunities for MVPs to communicate with the MSACs and myself.** I will have a virtual check-in with my network and MSACs, monthly to see where each TYG is with their membership and help reach their goals. These meetings will consist of talking with all the MVPs in the region and the MSACs talking in breakout rooms with their subregion's MVPs. I also will strive to have one in-person meet up with my network this year. My main priority this year is to be a resource for my network and encourage them to reach out anytime. Similarly, I will **develop the job of the MSACs allowing them to strengthen their relationships with their subregion's MVPs.** As the board member responsible for overseeing the MSACs, I will work with them to strengthen relationships between regional and local leadership by increasing hands-on interaction whether that's visiting in person or sitting in on meetings virtually.

NFTY-MAR has been and continues to be an inclusive community that amazes me every day. As your Membership Vice President, I hope that I will get to help as many people to experience what I have found in this community. I can't wait to learn, grow, and experience the year with you.

תודה רבה (Thank you so much)