

## CURRENT TIKKUN OLAM PROJECTS @ NNLS

Summer 2013



### Core TIKKUN OLAM Projects

- **NNLS Drop In for Destitute Asylum Seekers**

NNLS' monthly Destitute Asylum Seeker Drop-In currently provides support for more than 500 destitute asylum seekers. Clients are provided with a range of services including food parcels and good quality clothing donated by the community.

Once a month, on the Tuesday evening before the Sunday Drop-In these items are sorted and packed at the synagogue. Volunteer drivers are needed to pick some of these items up from shul, store those items in their boots and drop them off at the Drop-In on Sunday.

For more info contact Deborah or Diane, call 07966 145098 or email [dropin@npls-masorti.org.uk](mailto:dropin@npls-masorti.org.uk)

- **Winter Night Shelter**

The Together in Barnet (TIB) Winter Shelter provides homeless people with dinner; a pillow, mattress and sleeping bag; followed by breakfast - in a safe, warm environment. It is run by local churches and synagogues with referrals coming from Homeless Action Barnet (HAB) and is available September - April.

In 2012 and 2013, members from NNLS organised the shelter every Tuesday night January to March at Trinity Church on Nether Street. The shelter will be running again on Tuesday nights and will be offered from January to March 2014.

Each week 10-15 guests, mostly men but also some women, are hosted by the shelter. Our team of volunteers consists substantially of NNLS members but with a group from Holy Trinity Church as well as individual members from local United and Reform Synagogues. If you'd like to know more, please email [wintershelter@npls-masorti.org.uk](mailto:wintershelter@npls-masorti.org.uk)

- **Seed Fund Initiative**

Do you have a great idea for a social action project? Do you need some help getting it off the ground? The NNLS Seed Fund Initiative may be for you... A seed fund of £5,000 will be allocated annually.

Large awards - £1,000

Small awards - £50 - £200

The idea is that NNLS will help 'birth' and incubate new projects. So, if you have an idea which you think could have a meaningful impact, apply for the NNLS Seed Fund! For more information contact [tikkunolam@npls-masorti.org.uk](mailto:tikkunolam@npls-masorti.org.uk) or visit: <http://www.npls-masorti.org.uk/page.php?ID=233>

## Internal Chesed-type projects

- **Network**

The NNLS Network is a support group of volunteers co-ordinated by Rabbi Wittenberg to provide a range of services to the community at times of need. The group meets approximately every eight weeks and is chaired by the Rabbi who is the key to the success of this programme as he is usually the prime contact for members at these times and therefore the source of information. We consider it important as a community that we offer support to fellow members.

We particularly try to maintain contact with members who have suffered bereavement, illness or other crisis situations where listening, companionship and general support is appreciated.

These services include

- Supporting members with telephone contact and personal visits through the challenges of life-cycle events such as those faced by first-time mother
- Visiting people in hospital and when they return home
- Helping people deal with the loss of a loved one
- Offering practical advice for access to appropriate services

Contact [tikkunolam@npls-masorti.org.uk](mailto:tikkunolam@npls-masorti.org.uk) for more details

- **Network +**

The Network Plus group is a loosely-knit group of volunteers who offer practical help at a time of need. Such help includes cooking meals, doing shopping, visiting, helping with transport to Doctors' appointments, etc. Assistance may be needed, for example, after returning from hospital, arrival of a new baby, during ill health or bereavement. Network Plus is coordinated by Deborah Weinberg. Email [tikkunolam@npls-masorti.org.uk](mailto:tikkunolam@npls-masorti.org.uk)

- **Community Freezer**

The Community Freezer exists as a service to any member of the community facing difficult or stressful times which might make cooking problematic. All food (dairy, fish or vegetarian) is donated and usually cooked by NNLS members for the freezer, and must comply with the NNLS Kashrut Policy. The freezer itself is situated at Rabbi Wittenberg's home and ready dishes can be delivered there by prearrangement or by coordinating with Deborah Weinberg. Email [tikkunolam@npls-masorti.org.uk](mailto:tikkunolam@npls-masorti.org.uk)

- **Baby Pool**

Babies need so much stuff! Why not recycle and reuse it through the NNLS baby pool? We have a pool of equipment and clothes for NNLS members to borrow and use. Do you have any baby equipment (prams, cots, highchairs, toys etc) or clothes that you would like to pass on to a good home? Why not donate it to our NNLS Baby Pool? Come and see what you can borrow – maybe a double buggy, a cot or some extra clothes? Contact [tikkunolam@npls-masorti.org.uk](mailto:tikkunolam@npls-masorti.org.uk) for details

- **Support Group for Single Mums**

A new support group for single mums from across the Jewish community began in February 2012 at NNLS. Please visit <http://www.npls-masorti.org.uk/page.php?ID=247> for more information. We've put together a list of resources for single parents that you can download from this page: <http://www.npls-masorti.org.uk/page.php?ID=49>

- **Inclusion campaign**  
Jewish people with learning disabilities and mental ill-health, as well as their families, want greater opportunities to participate in their communities, both spiritually and socially. At NNLS we do our best to help everyone feel welcome and to include everyone in our services and activities. For details of Shabbat services for children with special needs, monthly singalong tea parties for adults with learning disabilities and more, visit our website: <http://www.nnls-masorti.org.uk/page.php?ID=224>

## Green Team/Environmental Projects

- **Beehive**  
Supported by Capital Bee and the JCC, the NNLS Community Beehive is home to 10,000 bees in the winter and 50,000 bees in the summer. The Community hive is helping to counter the worrying phenomenon of colony collapse, to spread the word regarding the utter marvellousness of bees and their pollinating activity, to eventually provide the community with Rosh Hashanah honey and as a means to facilitate dialogue across Jewish communities, irrespective of their affiliation.

For more information, including how to visit and observe the hive, contact the neighbourhood beekeeper via [tikkunolam@nnls-masorti.org.uk](mailto:tikkunolam@nnls-masorti.org.uk)

- **Community Gleaning**  
It's a cliché to say that most Jews hate to see food go to waste, but if you have a fruit tree in your garden, there might be times of the year when you don't know what to do with all the produce your tree is producing! It is also true to say that at New North London, we have connections to some amazing organisations that provide support to some of the most vulnerable people in society. So we thought that it would be a great idea to find out who in the community has what trees and then find volunteers to collect one bag of fruit from each tree at the right time of the year. The fruit will then be donated to good causes like Food Cycle, the Winter Night Shelter and the Destitute Asylum Seekers Drop In Centre.  
If you have a tree and are interested in contributing, please email [tikkunolam@nnls-masorti.org.uk](mailto:tikkunolam@nnls-masorti.org.uk) with details of your tree and when it produces fruit.

- **NNLS Green Team**  
The Green Team works to make practical suggestions to reduce adverse environmental impacts within the community, both for individual members and the Shul itself. This has included initiatives as diverse as reducing waste from kiddushim to encouraging community members to off-set flights through the synagogue's off-setting scheme. The Team are always looking for new members with energy and ideas to share. For more information contact [tikkunolam@nnls-masorti.org.uk](mailto:tikkunolam@nnls-masorti.org.uk)

- **Carbon Offset Fund**  
The development of the new building included the installing of a state-of-the-art Ground Source Heat Pump; as a community we can off-set the cost of this investment by supporting the Carbon Offset Fund. Every time you fly, why not consider paying the equivalent of the airlines carbon offset levy direct to NNLS and help the community invest in more low-carbon technologies, visit <http://www.nnls-masorti.org.uk/page.php?ID=111> or email [tikkunolam@nnls-masorti.org.uk](mailto:tikkunolam@nnls-masorti.org.uk) for details.