

What Do We Do?

The Aleph Institute provides welcome relief for Jews who have been virtually forgotten by traditional American Jewish organizations. Aleph battles against the challenging odds of obtaining adequate staff, money, and organize a wealth of programs designed to help not only the prisoners themselves, but their families as well. These programs spread the wellsprings of Jewish wisdom, knowledge and understanding to all who request it, regardless of who they are or their ability to pay.

Mission Statement

Aleph Institute is a not-for-profit Jewish religious, educational, humanitarian organization, serving the Jewish community. We offer a multitude of services to those in Prisons, the Armed Forces, Long term Medical Facilities, and anywhere Jews are isolated from a Jewish community. Emphasizing “no Jew is forgotten” and “no Jew is alone.”

HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

For **Shabbos**: each institution receives grape juice and matzoth.

On **Purim**, Rabbis travel hundreds of miles to visit each and every inmate and read the Megillah for them



During the festive **Sukkos** holiday, Jews take a Lulav and Etrog and make special blessings over them. Volunteers can also bring a sukkah into the institutions to help the prisoners more closely follow the traditions.

Chanukah Lights Across America Program: The program consist of three major parts: visiting inmates, distributing Menorahs and other traditional religious items, and sending Chanukah gifts to the children of Jewish prisoners.

The presents arrive with greeting cards, signed with the incarcerated parent or relative's name. Presents have been sent to children as far away as Poland, Russia and Israel.



Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur: Rabbis visit more then forty institutions and conduct prayer services and lectures. They also provide high holiday books, shofars, Jewish calendars, yarmulkes, and arrange for holiday meals.

THE ALEPH INSTITUTE

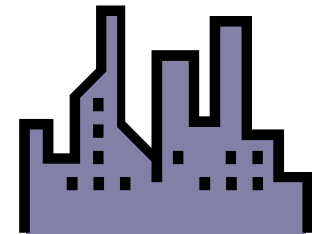
Hyman & Martha Rogal Center
5804 Beacon Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15217
Phone: 412-421-0111
Fax: 412-521-5948
E-mail: info@alephne.org

THE ALEPH INSTITUTE

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HELP US, HELP OTHERS

*No Jew alone
No Jew forgotten*



www.AlephNE.org

WE NEED YOUR HELP AND SUPPORT!

The programs and services of Aleph are designed to attain maximum impact within the incarcerated environment. These efforts serve as the basis for programs that reach out to the prison-affiliated population. The success of our programs attests to the power of its Torah-based approach to serving prisoners, their families, and humanity in general.



Through understanding the life of those incarcerated and the issues faced by their family members, one can truly begin to understand the ripple effects that are created by such a traumatic event. With the help of volunteers we, at Aleph, can continue to actively ensure that each incarcerated Jew will receive the desired guidance, direction and visitation needed to continue on the path to self sufficiency.

The following Aleph Institute programs are in need of volunteers to help us ensure that our family is supported and that “No Jew is Forgotten.” We provide volunteer trainings that include how-to preparation courses, support sessions, and information and resources for your own reference.

PRISON VISITATION

The main goal of our prison visitation program is to provide an opportunity for restructuring personal priorities and goals. Religious classes and individual counseling is offered in an attempt to take the synagogue to those Jews who are restricted in following their religious traditions, but who are determined to positively readjust back into society.

DOROTHY’S PROGRAM

Young Dorothy Schwadron lived 69 years of her life in a state mental hospital without a single visitor. Upon Rabbi Vogel officiating her funeral, he declared “Dorothy, in your memory and in light of your loneliness of close to seventy years, a program will be established to visit Jewish patients in the nine state hospitals and over 1,000 group homes in Pennsylvania.”

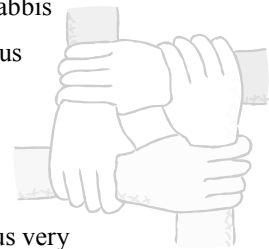
As a volunteer, visits will be made approximately 4-5 times a year (anywhere from 15-45 minutes long) to Jewish residents who do not have family members visiting them. This is a way of recognizing the value of the person and to make them feel remembered– in a certain sense–”loved” by another Jew.

TORAH STUDIES PROGRAM

The “Torah Studies Program” seeks to provide Jewish study material for the Jewish men and women who are otherwise separated from the Jewish community and cannot attend study groups or classes.

CHESED MENTORING PROGRAM

The Chesed Mentoring Program seeks volunteers who will develop a supportive relationship with a single inmate. This includes visiting the inmate once a month and helping the individual to obtain or develop the resources to become a productive member of society. You also will become the liaison between the inmate and Aleph. Although Aleph has Rabbis who visit prisons, the Rabbis must focus on providing religious counsel and making sure the inmates' religious needs are addressed. Individual attention to each inmate by a Rabbi is thus very limited. Chesed volunteers will be trained and certified in establishing and maintaining a structured relationship with inmates, including do's and don'ts, and will be guided by experienced prisoner advocates.



HOLIDAY VISITATION PROGRAMS

Throughout the year the Aleph Institute tries to incorporate the holidays into their visiting programs and services. We work in as many avenues as possible to ensure that our incarcerated persons are not alone. Please turn to the back of the pamphlet to see a brief summary of the holiday programs we operate, in which we are always in need of more help.