



**2025**

# Life & Legacy<sup>TM</sup>

## Leadership Conference

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**Harold Grinspoon**  
FOUNDATION



**Jewish  
Federations**  
of North America

A stylized graphic of a flame or fire, composed of several overlapping, curved shapes in shades of yellow, orange, and red, set against a solid blue background.

# **Transforming Communities:** **Why Now is the Time to** **Nurture Engagement and** **Legacy Giving**

# Sir Moses Montefiore



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# Montefiore's Windmill





# Examples of the Awakening

## **Pre-School Parents:**

- In January 2024, 75% of responding PJ Library families expressed interest in becoming more connected to a local Jewish community

## **Youth Groups**

- NCSY requested to add clubs at 100 public schools
- Tzofim asked to open in 10 new cities

## **College**

- Hillel and Chabad participation increased

## **Adult Education**

- Participation in Jewish Learning Initiative classes rose by nearly 10,000



# Things take time...



# Sleeping for 70 years...



"Mr. Van Winkle, a long term growth fund  
would be perfect for you."

# Text Study: Honi the Circle Maker

**Rabbi Yoḥanan said: All the days of the life of that righteous man, Honi, he was distressed over the meaning of this verse: “A song of Ascents: When the Lord brought back those who returned to Zion, we were like those who dream” (Psalms 126:1). He said to himself: Is there really a person who can sleep and dream for seventy years?**





# Text Study: Honi the Circle Maker

**One day, he was walking along the road when he saw a certain man planting a carob tree. Honi said to him: This tree, after how many years will it bear fruit? The man said to him: It will not produce fruit until seventy years have passed. Honi said to him: Is it obvious to you that you will live seventy years, that you expect to benefit from this tree? He said to him: That man himself found a world full of carob trees. Just as my ancestors planted for me, I too am planting for my descendants.**



# Text Study: Honi the Circle Maker

Honi sat and ate bread. Sleep overcame him and he slept. A cliff formed around him, and he disappeared from sight and slept for seventy years. When he awoke, he saw a certain man gathering carobs from that tree. Honi said to him: Are you the one who planted this tree? The man said to him: I am his son's son. Honi said to him: I can learn from this that I have slept for seventy years, and indeed he saw that his donkey had sired several herds during those many years. Honi went home and said to the members of the household: Is the son of Honi HaMe'aggel alive? They said to him: His son is no longer with us, but his son's son is alive.



# Text Study: Honi the Circle Maker

He said to them: I am Ḥoni HaMe'aggel. They did not believe him. He went to the study hall, where he heard the Sages say about one scholar: His *halakhot* are as enlightening and as clear as in the years of Ḥoni HaMe'aggel, for when Ḥoni HaMe'aggel would enter the study hall he would resolve for the Sages any difficulty they had. Ḥoni said to them: I am he, but they did not believe him and did not pay him proper respect. Ḥoni became very upset, prayed for mercy, and died.

*Talmud Ta'anit 23a*





# Thank you!

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