

Congregation Bet Haverim

Case Statement:

Congregation Bet Haverim is a vital Jewish home that unabashedly celebrates creativity, spirituality, justice, and meaningful connections as a means to better our lives and the world around us.

As one of few enduring synagogues in the nation founded by the gay and lesbian community, we honor the *chutzpah* of our founders with an abiding commitment to underserved and oppressed communities in America and around the world.

We believe that the arts can feed the soul and elevate the human condition because we have felt it happen. We are a community brimming with a sense of awe and transcendence, both inspired and expressed by the creativity of our people. Our renowned music program offers every person it touches -- whether touched by listening to a CD, attending a service, or making music along with us -- an exhilarating path for spiritual engagement.

We take joy in coming to know each community member exactly as they are, and hold up no single model of what an authentic Jewish life should look like. We are a home to all kinds of Jews and their loved ones -- spiritualists and rationalists, ritual mavens and skeptics, people who come to us from orthodox, secular, Sephardic, and Yiddish-loving backgrounds. We are home to Jews of conscience, Jews of choice, and Jews of color. We are home to Jews of every gender, sexuality, and family constellation.

Our members believe that the Jewish teachings and traditions we have inherited contain immeasurable wisdom for our time, and are committed to seeking out meaningful, relevant teachings, practices, and rituals, so that we can each find our footing in the Jewish story and in our own time and place.

Our legacy donors are people like you, who believe that Atlanta needs a Jewish home like ours -- a place of diversity and welcome, where we are bound not only by shared holidays and history, but by a commitment to bringing beauty into our lives and into the world. Help write the next chapter of this Jewish story - our story and yours.