

Program

The Chevra Kadisha Conference will offer a variety of thought-provoking sessions led by knowledgeable and interesting speakers and workshop leaders. We will do our best to allow for networking time and not over-program you to the point of exhaustion!

Plenary sessions will cover "The Challenge of Redefining the Role of Chevrah Kadisha in the 21st Century"; "The Jewish Afterlife"; "Building Kavod v'Nichum into our Communities" and "Jewish Communal Obligations in Death and Dying". Plenary speakers include David Zinner and Rabbis Brad Artson, Alfredo Borodowski and Felipe Goodman.

There will be five workshops, each with 5 choices, some of which will be repeated. Workshops will include:

- Practical ways to learn Tahara rituals and maintain skills
- Discussion and sharing of the spiritual uplift of Tahara and coping skills necessary to maintain positive mental health
- Educating the community about Tahara and Chevra Kadisha
- Outreach and recruitment of Chevra members
- Information regarding organ and tissue donation

In addition there will be three hands-on Tahara demonstrations (3.5 hours total) including preparation, supplies, health concerns, washing, purification, dressing, knot tying and casketing.

The Conference Committee has put a lot of thought into the planning of the Plenary Sessions and Workshops and we are excited with the high caliber of speakers and topics. We look forward to your evaluations and feedback following the conclusion of the conference and hope your experience as participants will be as positive as ours as planners.

Pre-conference activities begin at 10:15 AM on Sunday, June 6 with an open brunch and tours of Temple Beth Sholom and its' Warsaw Ghetto Memorial Garden. The Conference Welcome begins at 12:30 PM, with workshops and activities continuing through 3 PM on Tuesday, June 8.