Opening The *Dor*
An Initiative by honeycomb

OVERVIEW

Started in 2020, Opening the *Dor* is an intergenerational giving experience that connects teens and seniors through philanthropy, identity, storytelling, and heritage. Opening the *Dor* provides seniors the opportunity to be active contributors to Jewish legacy building and tradition within their community through collaboration with teens. The program culminates in a teen-facilitated giving circle experience, which benefits seniors in their community.

New for this year: The updated curriculum includes a module focusing on engaging Holocaust survivors.

Honeycomb will accept up to 6 communities based in the US for this cohort.

Opening the *Dor* is designed to fit seamlessly into an existing Youth Philanthropy Program or to be the first exposure that teens have to Jewish Youth Philanthropy. To that end, we will provide accepted organizations with curricular materials that will address the needs of organizations with or without existing Jewish youth philanthropy programs.

PARTNERSHIP RELATIONSHIP & APPLICATION PROCEDURE

HONEYCOMB WILL PROVIDE:

- Flexible, modular curriculum with activities, full step-by-step instructions and resources (approximately 12 hours of curricular material).
- Templates, instructions, and best practices for the seniors' program and communications with seniors
- Online training session for professionals.
- Up to $1,500 grant which can be used for program expenses and/or for a grantmaking pool.

CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS:

- An organization that can demonstrate leadership and organizational capacity to implement a successful and effective Jewish youth philanthropy and intergenerational program.
- A dedicated staff member for the philanthropy program who must attend the online training session in 2026.
- The delivery of the program must be completed by December 31, 2026. The program can take place within the academic year, over the summer or a combination of both.
- Access and communication channels to the seniors/grandparents in the community.
- Complete an evaluation after the program is completed.
- Host organizations must hold a 501(c)3 status.

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IMPORTANT DATES:

Wednesday, December 17, 2025   Applications Open

Thursday, January 15, 2026   Zoom information Session, **REGISTER HERE**. *(We highly recommend attending the information session).*

Applications and trainings will occur on a rolling basis and will close when the cohort is full.

CONTACT:

Honeycomb wants to create long-lasting and meaningful relationships with applying organizations. We are happy to set up a consultation to answer any questions before applying. Contact Laura Hemlock-Schaeffer (Program & Education Director, Honeycomb) at laurahs@honeycomb.org to set up a meeting.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION:

Organizations can apply using **THIS GOOGLE FORM** or by completing the application forms below and emailing it to laurahs@honeycomb.org.

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Name of Organization	
Type of Organization	*Synagogue, JCC, Foundation, Federation, Day School, Camp, etc.*
Name of staff member applying	
Address	
Phone	
Email	
Website	
Has your organization previously participated in Opening The *Dor?*	
Does your organization already have a youth philanthropy program?	

Tell us about your organization:

Briefly describe the type of organization (Federation, Foundation, School, Camp, JCC, etc.), its role in your community, and your key constituencies.

Youth Programming Capacity:

*Describe your organization's ability to provide high quality youth programming. Describe the teen demographic and programming landscape in your organization. Describe your current offerings for teens/youth. **If you already have a Jewish youth philanthropy program, please describe.***

Tell us about the seniors in your community:

Describe your organization's ability to conduct outreach to seniors in your community. Do you already serve this demographic in other programming?

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How will this program benefit the seniors in your community?

Please outline 3-5 benefits that you seek to achieve with this program.

What are you hoping to achieve from the inclusion of this program into your organization?

Outline 3-5 goals for this program within your community.

What is your proposed timeline and structure?

When would you be holding your teen sessions? Will this material be used in separate workshops, or interspersed with your existing curriculum? When do you plan on hosting the seniors' giving experience?

Ongoing Sustainability:

How do you plan to support this program once Honeycomb's support has ended? How will the program be stewarded in order to ensure its continuation?

Participant recruitment plan:

How do you plan to recruit participants for the program? Is there a particular group that you will be focusing on? Will this program be "opt-in" or a compulsory component (e.g. a set Religious School/Hebrew High/Confirmation class)?

Program staff and support:

Describe the youth education staff you have currently in your organization. Will you be hiring a new staff member to be the program leader or will this form part of an existing job description? Who will support the program leader once they are in place? What department will this program sit under?