



CENTER FOR SMALL TOWN JEWISH LIFE

February 2019/Adar 5779

Dear Friends of the Center for Small Town Jewish Life,

It may be deep winter here in Maine, but the past few months have seen a flurry of activity at the center. We've been busy launching an online learning program with Project Zug, offering training for lay leadership at Maine synagogues, creating opportunities for collaborative, co-sponsored events across the state, and bringing Jewish teens together for fun, food, and learning. Through each of these initiatives we endeavor to create diverse venues where even in the dark, cold months our community can come together to celebrate Jewish life in Maine.

Our winter newsletter captures all of these exciting happenings in one place:
[Click here to read the latest!](#)

Hope to see you soon!
The Center for Small Town Jewish Life staff



CENTER FOR SMALL TOWN JEWISH LIFE

Cultivating Jewish Community in Rural Maine and Beyond



Crafting Patterns and Pathways for Success

On a wintry night of snow showers and hail, more than 70 members of the Waterville community, about half of whom were Colby students, gathered for Community Conversations in the Chace Community Forum to discuss the role of family in contemporary America. We began our event with a dynamic conversation among three women of differing political backgrounds, all of whom had strong disagreements on issues of culture, economics, and family ideals. After they laid out their positions, the women began to engage in facilitated discussions. Our moderators included a stay-at-home mom, a progressive community activist, and the president of the Waterville Jewish Community Center. For one hour, a truly diverse, multigenerational crowd of people gathered to discuss the challenges of the American family—whether or not it is truly in crisis and how we can best support it. It was a night our staff great pride that the center could serve as a space for honest and robust scholarship, respectful debate, and thoughtful dialogue. We hope to see you again as citizens, but also brought the community to the center of the Waterville community.

Click here to read the winter newsletter!

[Center for Small Town Jewish Life](#)

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