To the Board of Directors

B’Nai Shalom v’Tikvah

In 1967 the URJ adopted the following resolution:

“Seventeen years after the establishment of the Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism there remains a significant number of our congregations without social action or community affairs committees. We find this incongruous, particularly at a time when the religious aspect of our society is being challenged to more relevantly bring to bear its great prophetic message on the problems of our world.

We, therefore, urge the establishment of a social action committee in each of our congregations. Where such committees already exist, we call upon them to intensify and expand their activities.

We further urge that congregational boards of trustees, as well as the leadership of our various regions, take a more serious interest in and make a greater commitment to the work of their social action committees, both congregational and regional, so that the unfortunate gap which presently exists between them can be quickly closed.”

It has been 54 years since this resolution was adopted and it is as true today as it was those many years ago. To that end, I wish to propose that B’Nai Shalom v’Tikvah take immediate steps to establish a Social Action Committee that will be founded on the following principles:

Basing itself on the beliefs of Tikkun Olam (repairing the world), Tzedek (justice) and G’milut Hasidim (the giving of loving-kindness) the Social Action committee engages in projects that facilitate achieving its goals of promoting social justice through local activism and via members’ research, teaching and community service.

Our committee shall strive into putting Jewish values into action through helping others, taking care of our planet, supporting Israel and advocating for justice and human rights.

Tyler Samuels