

Cohort Co-Chair Andrew Kaplan

Why I Am Co-Chairing BCLC:

I agreed to co-chair the BCLC committee, because I understand the importance of building a sense of community within our young families to help them build lifelong friendships as well as develop a better understanding of the Jewish Community Center and its position in both the Jewish and secular communities. My wife and I raised our family at the J, volunteered for many committee assignments, became involved from a leadership perspective and most importantly count our best friends as other active J members. We very much understand the importance of community and how these relationships have stood the test of time.

What I hope to accomplish through BCLC:

As co-chair of the committee, I hope to install the same benefits that my family received from the J and all its many facets to those that are currently and in the future enrolled in the program. As one of the strongest and most expansive organization's in our community, BCLC is a great jumping-off point for developing the leadership skills necessary to be an effective leader in our community. Additionally, this focused cohort is critically important in helping the J continue to evolve its programming to meet the needs of young families across all of the programs offered throughout the organization.

The J value that resonates most with me:

Kehilla or building community is my most important J value. I define community from the friendships created, offering programming that accommodates the needs of our members and allowing program participants regardless of age to meet like-minded peers that are all pursuing similar passions and/or interests. Developing strong, meaningful personal relationships goes a long-way to helping understand/appreciate another person's perspective and background that might be different than your own.