



SJJCC TEES UP DAY OF PURPOSE AT 2025 GOLF & GAMES OUTING

Executive Director David Black Recognized for Legacy of Service

On Monday, July 21, Sid Jacobson JCC held its **Golf & Games Outing** at Fresh Meadow Country Club in Lake Success, drawing more than 250 supporters and raising \$600,000 to benefit the agency’s wide-reaching programs and services.

The 2025 installment honored **David Black**, Executive Director of Sid Jacobson JCC, whose remarkable 14-year tenure has significantly shaped the organization’s trajectory, ensuring that the JCC continues to serve as a vibrant and inclusive community hub.

Guests hit the links for 18 holes of golf, or opted for indoor camaraderie, joining Canasta and Mah Jongg sessions hosted by **Judy Umansky**, whose table-side humor and flair for strategy brought another joyful spark to the day’s festivities.

“The outing ostensibly celebrating my legacy turned into a lovefest of connection and grace that makes our Sid Jacobson Jewish Community Center so unique,” said Black. “What was honored that evening were the true heroes of the agency: the staff, the leadership, and the philanthropists who understand that humanity flourishes when we care for each other.”

Under David’s direction, Sid Jacobson JCC has made the impossible possible, launching transformative programs that have become cornerstones of support across Long Island, including our Nancy Marx Cancer Wellness Center, Gayle Berg Center for Resilience, and Center for Community Engagement. He also championed the founding of our Randie Waldbaum Malinsky Center for Israel, the only one of its kind on Long Island. “David leads with vision, purpose, and heart,” said **Brett Goldberg**, Chair of Sid Jacobson JCC’s Golf & Games Committee. “We knew this year had to be special—and it was. The outing was more than just a fundraiser. It was a celebration of the kind of leadership that lifts an entire community.”

In his closing remarks, Black offered heartfelt thanks to the staff and Board for their enduring partnership. He shared a note his mother wrote to him at age 20: “Your canvas is large, your colors are bright, don’t stay in the corners while you still have the light.” He concluded by expressing deep gratitude to the community “for always giving me the light.”

“GIVE BACK WITH A BACKPACK” RETURNS TO SJJCC ON AUGUST 18

Annual Packing Drive to Equip Long Island Students for Successful School Year

With the first day of school just around the corner, Sid Jacobson JCC partnered with **Supplies for Success** for its annual “**Give Back With a Backpack**” event. Volunteers packed 650 backpacks with essential school supplies, ensuring underserved children across Long Island can begin the year prepared, confident, and ready to learn.

“When these volunteers pack backpacks for children in need, they’re not just providing supplies—they’re giving hope, dignity, and opportunity,” said **Mindy Richenstein**, Founder and President of Supplies for Success. “By

partnering together, we amplify the good we bring into the world, and the light we shine is brighter when it shines together.”

This effort was carried out as a day of service through the Sid Jacobson JCC’s Center for Community Engagement, which empowers community members to give back through its three pillars: Volunteerism, the Linda & Gerald Marsden Social Responsibility Pillar, and the Nikki Schwartz Memorial Community Needs Bank. Guided by our mission of *tikkun olam*—repairing the world—we mobilize volunteers of all ages to meet pressing local needs. Through this initiative, SJJCC will outfit children across Long Island with the supplies needed for a successful start to the school year.

United by their own shared commitment to helping fellow students and representing every grade level as volunteer captains, **Andi Bendett, Jordan Buslik, Baker Bendett, Brendan Bendett, Ryan Buslik, and Ollie Berg** expressed: “Being captains has taught us what it means to work together for something bigger than ourselves. Supplies for Success is more than just an act of service—it’s a reminder of what we can accomplish as a team.”

Founded in 2002, Supplies for Success has provided more than 300,000 backpacks filled with age-appropriate supplies to disadvantaged students from pre-K through 12th grade before the first day of school, helping to level the educational playing field and promote equity in the classroom.

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