An Engaging, Inclusive Reform Congregation in the Blue Ridge Mountains



43 N. Liberty St • Asheville, NC 28801-1822 828.253.4911

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Jonathan Freidman Chief Operating Officer Temple Beth El 5101 Providence Road Charlotte, NC 28226

Dear Jonathan,

Please accept Congregation Beth HaTephila's heartfelt thanks for your heroic assistance in the days after Hurricane Helene and beyond.

We are so grateful for the water and all the love we received from the folks who came and delivered it to us. And thank you for being the creators and stewards of a much-needed fund for people from all around the world to donate to our Temple families who have been affected by the storm. Thank you for the satellite service as we still do not have Internet.

In those first days, none of us knew how important it would be to feel the support and love of a larger Jewish community. We did not know how vital clean water would be for us on a long-term basis. We are still working our way through it as the water in most of our homes is not potable. We did not even know the extent of the destruction and lengths we would have to go to pick ourselves up and begin our lives again. But you showed up fully, assessed our needs as they arose, and came through with material assistance, but more importantly emotional support. And that is a gift that is still giving.

Even as we pray that what we are experiencing in Western North Carolina will not befall other communities, we are committed to paying forward the kindness we received if it does.

Thank you for being there. Thank you for your generosity.

Ratcheva H Meiri

Rabbi

Sabrina Rockoff

Board President

Wendy J. Staffilino

Evacutiva Director