



Our family’s relationship with Ramah began when our eldest son, Ezra, started out at Ramah Day Camp, about 10 years ago. For us, Ramah was initially a convenient place to send our kids to a Jewish day camp where they could spend time with their cousins. Joel’s sister-in-law, Ilisa (Adler) Brown, and her siblings were all Ramah campers, and Ilisa encouraged us to consider Ramah for our boys.

We were impressed by the strong ruach and energy that set a positive mood at Ramah Day Camp, and we found the varied programmatic offerings attractive. The staff, under Lori’s guidance, was highly professional yet always warm and friendly. We were very impressed by the seamless integration of Hebrew language and Jewish values throughout the camp and programming. Ezra found an easy home at Ramah, and our younger son, Jonathan, soon followed. The Day Camp was a great introduction to Ramah.

Ezra’s first summer at Camp Ramah in Wisconsin was a big transitional step, though we were supported in the decision to send Ezra to overnight camp by family, synagogue clergy and professional staff and by other families with kids up at camp.

Our initial anxieties (would our kid ever shower or eat?) quickly abated with the multitude of photos showing Ezra happily engaged in camp activities and looking (somewhat) clean.

Ezra’s initial summer at Ramah was also our first occasion to visit camp grounds. We were really blown away by the incredible communal energies binding the campers into one cohesive Jewish extended family. All of the campers were so friendly and kind to one another. Everyone was so steeped in Jewish ritual practice and values, yet wore their Judaism organically and comfortably.

We were pretty much all-in Ramahniks from that visit on.

After several more years of camp experience with both Ezra and Jonathan, Joel was invited to join the Ramah Committee, where he has had the opportunity to learn more deeply about the tremendous personal commitments and resources that have built and sustained Ramah. We have also made new friends who are equally passionate about Ramah camping.

The impact that Ramah has had on our kids – and on our family – makes Ramah an easy focus for family Tzedakah. About 50 percent of camper families at Camp Ramah in Wisconsin rely on some



Julie and Joel with sons Ezra and Jonathan at camp

level of financial support to make summer camp affordable, and all camper families benefit from the built-in fee discount as a result of the camp’s fundraising efforts and endowment, which have grown over time through support of camper families and others deeply connected to Ramah. The “rightness” of supporting this institution with Tzedakah seems beyond debate or discussion.

We are also happy to provide for Ramah in our legacy planning. It is clear that our family’s ability to benefit from the unique opportunities provided by Ramah could only have been realized through the commitments – financial and otherwise – made by many families before us. Providing for Ramah in our estate planning is a simple way for us to provide for future campers for generations to follow.

Julie Strauss and Joel Brown

Legacy Society Members

Anonymous (6)
Shira and Rabbi Steven Abraham
William Agress
Dr. Phyllis Gorin and
Rabbi Morris Allen
Abby and Sheldon Badzin
Faye and Benji Bearman
Betty Benson (z"l)
Miriam and Dan Berger
Robert M. Berger
Jean Best
Marilyn Blonsky
Cookie Feldman Bloom
Karen and Marshall Brill
Julie Strauss and Joel Brown
Elizabeth Holtzman and David Bubis
F. Bruce Cohen
Roberta (z"l) and
Rabbi Burton Cohen
Sarah Bierman and
Rabbi Joshua Cohen
Ellen and Yehuda Cohen
Margaret and Lee Cohn
Debbie and Gary Cortes
Rita M. Cortes
Deborah Shalowitz Cowans
and Bruce Cowans
Tamar and Jacob Cytryn
Evan Dreifuss

Dr. Arthur Elstein
Jennifer and Stewart Flink
Betsy and Scott Forester
Kim and Alan Frankel
Kim and Stuart Frankenthal
Charlotte Singer Gelfand
Marvell Ginsburg (z"l)
Leslie and Bernie Goldblatt
Nami and David Goldenberg
Laurie and Joel Goldsmith
Marlene and Sam Gordon
Mindy and Jeffrey Gordon
Rabbi Yosi Gordon
Harold Grinspoon
Michal and Uzi (z"l) Halevy
Evelyn Harris (z"l)
Nina and Arnie Harris
Ruth and Mark Harris
Linda and Michael Hoffenberg
Sara and Jon Hoffenberg
Vivian and Ralph Jacobson
Shanna Baumgarten Jadwin
Camille and Rabbi Rob Kahn
Orlee and Jeffrey Kahn
Beth and Dr. Jeff Kopin
Gabriel Kopin
Rabbi Myer Kripke (z"l)
Dr. Lena and David Kushnir
Elyse and Dr. Ron Less

Madalyn (z"l) and Robert Less
Renee and George (z"l) Levine
Shary and Marc Levitt
Leslie and Michael Litwack
Arthur and Lois Marc (z"l)
Adam Margolis
Edward and Roslyn (z"l) Marks
Julie Rabinowitz and Gary Marx
Judy and Harvey Medress
Judy Teibloom Mishkin and
Larry Mishkin
Dr. Rebecca Schorsch and
Dr. Scott Moses
Barbara and Donald Newman
Barrie and Steve Orloff
Sandy Starkman and
Larry Pachter
Tamar Rubin and Adam Parker
Dana Yugend-Pepper and
Larry Pepper
Benjamin Philipson
Roselind and Sheldon Rabinowitz
Lisa and Mark Ratner
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Shari (z"l) and Dr. Herbert Rosen
Jonathan Adam Ross

Dena (z"l) and Fred Rothschild
Betty and Dr. Irving (z"l) Rozenfeld
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Susan and Marc Sacks
Martha and Arthur Salkin
Louise and Steven Schoenberger
Carol Ann and Michael Schwartz
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Lori Stark and Dr. David Shapiro
Fran and Jonathan Sherman
Karen and Hal Sider
Dr. Margaret and Alan Silberman
Sarah Small
Sheila and Michael Small
Emily and Rabbi David Soloff
Melissa and Marc Spellman
Adam Steinberg
Miriam and Morton Steinberg
Mayer Stiebel
Rebecca and Rabbi Loren Sykes
Anna Tarkoff
Lisa and Steven Tenzer
Phyllis Hofman Waldmann
Joshua Warshawsky
Tami and Reuben Warshawsky
Richard D. Weiner
Debbie and Adam Winick
David Wolkin

Declaration of Intent

In the Jewish tradition of sharing our blessings, I/we take deep satisfaction in declaring my/our intent to help Camp Ramah in Wisconsin provide for the needs of future generations of Jewish children.

- I/We have made provision, or
- I/We will make provision to include Camp Ramah as beneficiary in:
- a bequest in my/our will a deferred lifetime gift a life insurance gift
- through a trust fund and/or foundation through a retirement fund
- Please add my/our name(s) to the Ramah Wisconsin Legacy Society.

**Print your name as you would like to be listed in the
Ramah Wisconsin Legacy Society**

- I/We do not want to be listed.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please fax to 312.606.7136 or mail to: Camp Ramah in Wisconsin, Legacy Society, 65 East Wacker Place # 1200, Chicago IL 60601

Please consult your attorney or tax advisor for professional guidance in this area.

For additional information contact Linda Hoffenberg, Director of Institutional Advancement, at 312.606.9316 ext. 225 or
LHoffenberg@ramahwisconsin.com