

Jewish Coalition for Service, Inc.

(New York, NY)

Jewish Service Alumni Initiative

Total Award: \$150,000 over 14 months

To support the Jewish Service Alumni Initiative (the Alumni Initiative) to build a national service alumni movement by developing an on-line community, building local alumni groups, and catalyzing national alumni activities. The Jewish Coalition for Service, Inc. is a coalition of 46 programs that engage Jews -- primarily between the ages of 15-30 -- in service and activism. The Coalition works to expand the capacity and variety of programs working to engage Jews in social issues, while also pioneering a campaign to make service and activism a more central part of contemporary Jewish life in America. The Alumni Initiative aims to maximize the impact of these programs and participants' experiences by creating networks of alumni. The Alumni Initiative will serve as a resource for affiliate organizations with their own alumni programs and the primary connection for alumni of affiliates with no formal alumni program. In the coming year the Alumni Initiative will develop a leadership core, expand its database, organize programs in key cities, including a leadership retreat, and launch an alumni section of the Coalition website that will be a vehicle through which Jewish service alumni can connect to one another, learn about on-going opportunities to engage in service and activism, and become further involved in Alumni Initiative programming. Finally, the Alumni Initiative will promote service and activism as a prominent expression of Jewish identity and values through the production of a CD-ROM, Profiles in Jewish Service, and the distribution to funders, lay and professional leadership of Jewish organizations, and influential media outlets.

Program Contribution Breakdown:

\$150,000 Jewish Life and Values/Contemplative Practice Program: *Goal I, Objectives 1 & 3*