

Jewish Council for Public Affairs

(New York, NY)

Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life

Total Award: \$100,000 over 8 months

Presidential Authority Grant

To support the Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life (COEJL), a project of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs. COEJL will expand its efforts to integrate environmental awareness and action into Jewish life and articulate a distinctly Jewish message about the importance of protecting the environment. COEJL will 1) deepen and integrate Jewish environmental scholarship and thus, provide the basis for rabbinic leadership, teaching, and learning among Jews; 2) launch a greening synagogues project that will help congregations instill an environmental focus into their facilities management, educational programming, ritual life, and social action programs; 3) build an international network of Jewish environmental leaders committed to addressing Israel's environmental challenges and develop joint Israel-Diaspora projects; 4) integrate climate change and energy issues into the Jewish communal agenda and foster a better understanding of the moral and religious imperatives which call upon us to adopt more sustainable energy policies; and 5) support grassroots activists across North America to organize Jewish environmental education, action, and advocacy initiatives in local communities.

Program Contribution Breakdown:

\$50,000 Jewish Life and Values/Contemplative Practice Program: *Goal I, Objective 3*

\$50,000 Environment Program: *Objective II, Strategy 2*