

## Engagement at Rockdale Temple

K. K. Bene Israel/Rockdale Temple is a mid-sized Reform congregation and the oldest synagogue west of the Allegheny Mountains. Even as we look forward to celebrating our 200th anniversary in 2024, we pride ourselves on being a forward-thinking and future-focused congregation. We want to redefine what it means to be a Rockdale Temple member by engaging people to become active stakeholders in their own Jewish lives, build deep relationships with each other and with the congregational community, and connect to community through social, learning, and spiritual practices.

## Role of the Congregational Engagement Professional (CEP)

The CEP is a fulltime professional who will play a key role in reimagining, broadening, and deepening individual and affinity group engagement. The position is grant funded for at least two years after which we will assess how to successfully move forward. The CEP will be an active and collaborative member of the Rockdale Temple team, working in partnership with professional colleagues and lay leaders to create and support a relational culture. Due to the nature of this work, some evening and weekends will be required. Rockdale Temple strives to ensure its employees can live a harmonious work/life balance.

## Ideal Candidate

The CEP is a consummate Jewish professional—someone who has successfully supported volunteer leaders and staff, and engaged target cohorts, and who brings relevant experience to this position. Our ideal candidate possesses the ability to work collaboratively and share the joy of Judaism in creative ways, and fundamentally understands that relationships are at the core of successful engagement. While a strategic and creative thinker is essential, the ideal CEP must also be detail-oriented and organized. The CEP will be empowered to evaluate successes and look for areas of growth. In their second year, they will be invited to review the goals and logistics of existing initiatives and programs, and more deeply integrate Jewish engagement principles. This position requires independent judgement, collaborative team-building skills, strong administrative skills, and interpersonal effectiveness. **Additional qualifications include:**

- Significant knowledge of Jewish culture, tradition, and practice
- Bachelor's Degree preferred
- Successful experience working with diverse constituencies
- Excellent communication skills (1:1, small group, writing)
- Ability to think creatively and innovatively
- Prior programming, event planning, and project management experience
- Expertise in social media and networking
- Strong commitment to the mission and vision of Reform Judaism
- Prior leadership experience
- Previous congregational, youth, Jewish summer camp, and/or Hillel work experience (strongly preferred)

## **Responsibilities**

The CEP will advance our congregational ideal that everyone can find a meaningful place within the Rockdale Temple community. The CEP will build 1:1 relationships with congregants and community members, connect congregants to Temple programs and one another, support the logistics of major congregational initiatives—both programmatic and development, and work with our clergy, lay leaders, and engagement consultant to create a long-term, comprehensive strategy for member engagement. **Primary responsibilities include:**

- Collaborate with leadership team, lay leaders, and engagement consultant to determine priorities and execute plans
- Support current programs, specifically shabbatCTY, age-and-stage cohorts, and affinity groups
- Build relationships and work with people at all life stages, particularly in transitional stages
- Promote the mission and vision of Rockdale Temple at all times through superior relationship building skills and efficient use of resources
- Utilize social media and web platforms to communicate with and engage the community
- Recognize and respond to the cycles of initiatives and programs—evaluate, improve, and/or sunset current initiatives and programs
- Regularly evaluate and work to modify the programmatic calendar to infuse existing opportunities with engagement principles and create new pathways to Jewish engagement
- Engage lay leaders in the development, implementation, and sustainability of programs and initiatives

## **Reporting Relationships**

The CEP reports directly to the Executive Director and will work collaboratively with the entire leadership team and Rockdale staff. The CEP will work closely with the Senior Rabbi and Assistant Rabbi & Educator on affinity-group engagement, membership and outreach, and congregational projects and programs.

## **Compensation and Benefits**

- Salary: \$40,000
- Medical insurance, optional dental and vision insurance
- Life insurance
- 3% match to employee pension plan
- 15 days PTO
- Conference and professional development funds

Please email resumes and optional cover letters to [HR@Rockdaletemple.org](mailto:HR@Rockdaletemple.org).