

# OPENING THE DOORS PROGRAM

Federation's Alliance for Jewish Education



“For every  
closed door  
there is one  
that is  
opened.”

– Helen Keller



Jewish Federation  
OF METROPOLITAN DETROIT

Alliance  
for Jewish  
Education

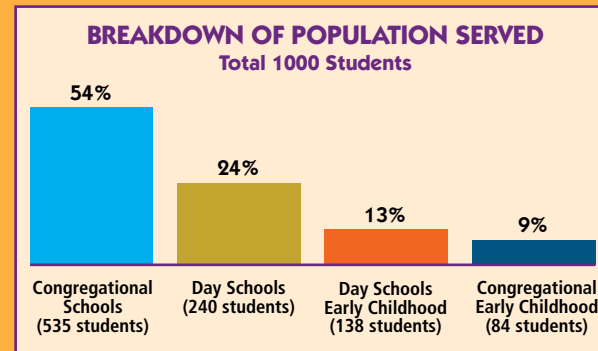
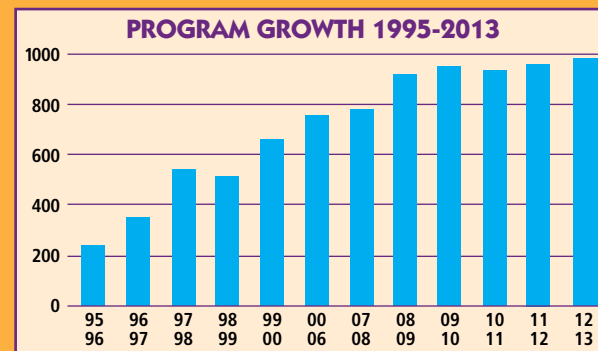
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**T**he Opening the Doors program, nationally recognized by Slingshot for its innovation, is an inclusive program which provides master level special educators and para educators in Jewish preschools, congregations and day schools to enable 1,000 students with diverse learning, behavioral and/or social differences and abilities to participate with their peers in a Jewish education, a teen training program and professional development for educators, families and mental health practitioners to raise awareness, advocacy and provide research based strategies, that may be used to engage and empower individuals with disabilities in school and social situations.





**Harold Wade Madrichim Leadership Institute:**  
Interactive training program to empower congregational school teens with leadership skills and strategies to assist students with learning differences.



**OPENING THE DOORS**  
Service Impacts Community

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Opening the Doors                                     | 1000 students<br>(24 special educators; 26 schools) |
| Doors to the Future                                   | 23 students<br>(4 para educators; 9 schools)        |
| Efshar Circle   | 22 students (2 special educators)                   |
| Madrichim Leadership Institute                        | 22 teens-4 levels                                   |
| February Jewish Disability Month                      | 800 participants; (6-8 programs)                    |
| Anita Naftaly Family Circle Conference                | 320 participants                                    |
| Day School Conference                                 | 256 teachers  |
| 18th Anniversary Celebration                          | 130 participants                                    |
| Special Educ. Network & Specialist Series             | 35 directors/teachers                               |
| <b>Program Budget:</b>                                | <b>\$325,556</b>                                    |
| <b>Direct Service</b><br>(students, teachers, adults) | <b>2,500</b>  |



### Opening The Doors

Nationally recognized by the Slingshot Foundation for its innovative inclusion program, which places master-level special educators in 26 schools to enable diverse learners to participate in a quality Jewish education with their peers.

### Doors to the Future

Para educators provide one-on-one short term intervention for 22 students with diverse learning needs in early childhood centers. Funded by Mandell I. and Madeleine H. Berman Foundation.

### Efshar Circle

An Opening the Doors and Friendship Circle Collaborative Sunday School with each student having multi-sensory hands-on individualized lessons and one-on-one volunteers.

### Conferences and Seminars

Resources for parents and practitioners, annual events with national speakers and ongoing seminars include the Anita Naftaly Family Circle Conference, Jewish Disability Awareness Month and Day School Conference.

**For more information contact**

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