Congregation B’nai Tikvah, a Conservative congregation in suburban Chicago, seeks a Youth Director, responsible for the development and execution of youth engagement and programming. This includes regional & national United Synagogue Youth-related activities well as those specific to the synagogue and its Religious School. Integrating USY and synagogue programming to create a vibrant kehillah is critical to the position.

This position can be tailored to a candidate’s strengths and interests – including formal teaching opportunities, leading a specialty (art/music/dance) in the Religious School, family/holiday programming, etc…

As part of the synagogue professional staff, the Youth Director is responsible for youth engagement and programming consisting of three age groups: Makor (grades 3-5), Kadima (grades 6-8) and United Synagogue Youth (USY) (grades 9-12). The Youth Director will also assist with outreach to college students. The Youth Director will work together with Religious School programming, and will supervise the Youth Department staff (if applicable) to coordinate all areas of responsibility. The Youth Director will be responsible for recruiting members for all age groups, while managing the Youth Department budget, calendar & membership.

The Youth Director will develop, plan, implement, coordinate and supervise a well-rounded program that promotes Jewish identity, involvement, and commitment through social, educational, religious, and social action activities. The programs should promote the ideals and goals of the congregation and the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

Additional Specific Responsibilities will include:

* Plan and co-lead High Holy Day services and special events for the high school community; develop and coordinate other holiday experiences for teens.
* Communicate directly with parents and youth on a frequent basis about program registration, policy development, calendar coordination, payment collection and recording, bookkeeping, & program logistics.
* Visit B’nai Tikvah classrooms & outside community organizations to publicize events.
* Attend synagogue wide programs and Shabbat services on a regular basis in order to build and nurture relationships with youth.
* Assist the Director of Lifelong Learning (this position’s direct supervisor) to coordinate, develop and implement the Synagogue’s programming initiatives, including youth and young families, social action, adult education, and other community-wide programming.
* Establish and maintain relationships with Synagogue Youth Directors locally and nationally and with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. Serve in an active capacity as one of the congregation’s leaders who is active in the local Jewish community.
* Manage and improve the Synagogue’s, Religious School’s, and Youth Department's social media initiatives for community engagement.
* Oversee/administer youth department’s budget.
* Regularly attend synagogue executive staff meetings.

QUALIFICATIONS:

In addition to fulfilling the above duties and responsibilities, the ideal candidate will possess the following skills and qualifications:

* A Jewish background and a positive attitude toward Jewish life.
* Proven leadership skills and ability to serve as a role model and mentor for youth.
* Experience working with teens, with a strong background in informal Jewish education.
* Ability to work independently and as part of a team.
* Takes the initiative to do what is necessary to get the job done.
* A familiarity with traditional Conservative Judaism and sensitivity to its practices including Shabbat and Kashrut.
* Creative, optimistic and passionate about making a difference in the future of Jewish youth.
* Self-motivated, energetic, with a vision for student participation, engagement and growth.
* Effective management and communication skills.

Congregation B’nai Tikvah is a Conservative egalitarian congregation in Deerfield, IL. We are located on Chicago’s North Shore approximately 25 miles from downtown Chicago. We have over 600 family members with a large and engaged youth population.

Interested applicants can send a cover letter and resume to Ncrane@bnaitikvah.net .