Moving Traditions

Engaging teens in meaningful Jewish community while applying a gender lens and Jewish values to the challenges of everyday life.

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year founded 2005

board chair(s) Sally Gottesman

2014 expenses \$1,889,552 Every day, teenage girls receive competing messages about sexuality, gender expression, eating disorders, and social pressures. Moving Traditions' program Rosh Hodesh: It's a Girl Thing! counters these messages and helps teenage young women understand them through a Jewish lens. Moving Traditions is the only organization bridging the difficulties of teenage life with Judaism, utilizing experts in the field of sexuality education to create a state-of-the-art curriculum for teens. By training rabbis, camp counselors, day school educators, and youth group leaders, Moving Traditions affirms that the Jewish community provides the best place to engage with teens on the most pressing issues in their lives.

To date, Moving Traditions has trained more than 1,200 women to create and lead monthly Rosh Hodesh: It's a Girl Thing! groups through partnering organizations, impacting 12,000 girls. In a culture of "slut shaming" and over-sexualization, Moving Traditions empowers young women to engage in healthy conversations about sexuality and gender. The organization incorporates best practices from sexuality education and advocacy into its programs to prevent bullying, build self-esteem, promote healthy intimacy, and inspire leadership amongst teenage girls. Moving Traditions creates a space where talking about what it means to be a Jewish, teenage girl is not just cool – it is transformational.

66 It's a Girl Thing! is the best practice in the community on how to work with teenage girls and continues to innovate based on what girls are dealing with.