

North American Inclusion Month

NAIM

BUILDING AN INCLUSIVE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Parshat Mishpatim “Everyone Counts”

This week we read the special parsha of Shekalim which teaches us that every one of Bnai Yisroel had to give half a shekel in order to count the people of the nation. Some people ask why half of a shekel was used as opposed to a whole one.

This teaches us an important lesson. Just like we need two halves to make a whole shekel, nobody is complete without another person. Each individual on their own is incomplete; only when we unite as a people can we be whole. Every individual contributed a half shekel, no matter how rich or how poor they were.

Every person, with their own strengths and challenges contributes to the klal in their own special and unique way. It is our responsibility to recognize this and include everyone in our community, by respecting differences, and reaching out to use our strengths to involve those with disabilities in every way possible.

Shabbat Shalom!



For more information contact:
Yachad, The National Jewish Council for Disabilities

