

## ***Sukkot and Social Justice***

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Insert Word: \_\_\_\_\_ in the *Sukkah*. You've probably heard it a million times on campus or in young Jewish professional events! Hookah in the *Sukkah*; Pizza in the Hut; et cetera et cetera. But what about, "Social Justice [in the Sukkah](#)?" Did you know *Sukkot* goes hand-in-hand (or hand-in-lulav) with *Tikkun Olam* and Social Justice? As we dine in our huts outdoors, 'tis the season to look outward and help make the world a better place. Here are some relevant social justice issues to get you started on some program brainstorming:

### **Climate Change**

"Who by water, who by fire" is often reserved for *Yom Kippur*, but the scary increase in frequency and intensity of natural disasters linked to climate change should give us pause on *Sukkot* too. Being outdoors reminds us how susceptible we are to the elements, as does a holiday on which we celebrate the harvested bounty nature (and G!d!) has given us! **What messages or [Jewish wisdom](#) about climate change or [environmentalism](#) might speak to your community? How can you be intentional this year about [celebrating Sukkot in a more sustainable way](#)?** What better way to thank Mother Nature on a holiday so connected to Her!

### **Homelessness**

The *Sukkah*'s temporary nature reminds us that our permanent structures may actually be not-so-permanent. We may all find ourselves spiritually or physically homeless at one point or another. Indeed, a number of those in and outside of our communities already are. ***Who is lacking a [physical or spiritual home](#) and could use a warm meal in your Sukkah? What [acts of service](#) can you perform to support those experiencing homelessness in your community or around the world?***

### **Refugees and Immigrants**

The seven holy spiritual guests who visit our *Sukkahs* throughout the holiday, also known as *Ushpizin*, remind us of our obligation to support those refugees, immigrants, and others seeking refuge. [Tradition teaches](#) that each of the *Ushpizin* themselves experiences a period of being uprooted from their homes. **What [refugee](#) or immigrant populations are finding refuge in your area? What groups can you partner with to support them this *Sukkot*, or what stories can you uplift and share with your community?**