How you can help in the aftermath of the Tree of Life synagogue massacre in Pittsburgh

"Look for the helpers," as Mister Rogers said.



Daniel Herrmann, commander for Zone Four, accepts cards and baked goods from Michael and Lily. COLIN DEPPEN / THE INCLINE

Rossilynne Culgan Oct. 28, 2018, 1:50 p.m.

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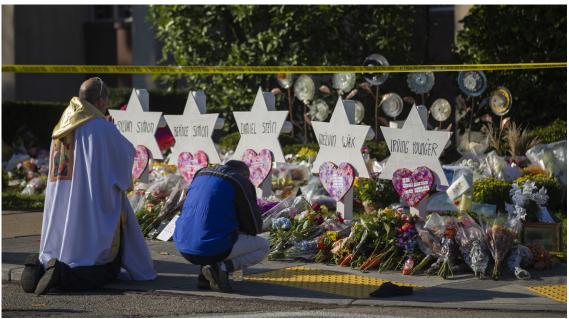
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Updated 8:20 p.m. Dec. 1

In the aftermath of the Tree of Life mass shooting in Squirrel Hill, here's what you can do to help, from gathering together to donating money to giving blood.

We'll continue to update this list, so please email us (mailto:tips@theincline.com) with additions.



A tribute to shooting victims along Shady Avenue on Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2018 ALTON STRUPP/USA TODAY NETWORK

Community and victim resources

The Center For Victims (http://www.centerforvictims.org) is available to assist all victims and their family members and provides a 24/7 hotline at 1-866-644-2882.

Here's a list of <u>support and counseling opportunities (https://www.jfcspgh.org/communitysupport/)</u> "if you need help, support, a place to connect or just a listening ear."

Previous resources

A Family Assistance Center has been established at the Jewish Community Center (5738 Forbes Ave.) to "support the needs of people who were attending the services at the synagogue on Saturday morning and their families throughout the coming week." Hours will be 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Nov. 2 and Nov. 3.



Gideon Murphy, 3, and Jennifer Murphy, of Regent Square, added a single rose to the many flowers in front of Tree of Life. COLIN DEPPEN / THE INCLINE

Donate money

Contribute to the Jewish Federation's "Our Victims of Terror Fund" (https://jewishpgh.org/our-victims-of-terror-fund/) to help victims of the tragedy at Tree of Life*Or L'Simcha, Dor Hadash and New Light. Funds "are earmarked for the psychological services, support for families, general services, reconstruction, additional security throughout the community, medical bills for all those involved, as well as counseling and other services that may prove necessary in the future."

Donate to Congregation Dor Hadash. (http://dorhadash.net/donate/)

<u>Donate to New Life Congregation. (https://newlightcongregation.org/donations.html)</u>

Donate to Tree of Life Congregation. (https://www.tolols.org/give)

<u>Donate via GoFundMe (https://www.gofundme.com/tree-of-life-synagogue-shooting)</u>: "This fundraiser is meant to help the congregation with the physical damages to the building, as well as the survivors and victims' families.

Mail a check to the Injured Officers Fund (http://www.pittsburghpolicefcu.com/?p=968), established by the Greater Pittsburgh Police Federal Credit Union "to assist the injured officers while recovering."

Give to the <u>Public Safety Support Trust Fund (http://pittsburghpa.gov/press-releases/press-releases.html?</u> <u>id=2424)</u> for personnel training, equipment and supplies. Donate by check payable to "Treasurer, City of Pittsburgh" and send it to 400 City-County Building, 414 Grant St., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15219.

<u>Support Pittsburgh Police SWAT Officer Tim Matson (https://www.gofundme.com/6bm5dkg?pc=&rcid=r01-154074881555-45503374ae944315)</u>, injured in the massacre, through GoFundMe.

Learn the story behind the <u>"Broken Heart" T-shirt (https://triblive.com/local/southhills/14231161-74/broken-heart-shirt-sales-to-benefit-tree-of-life)</u>, a collaboration between Steel City and Pittsburgh Dad creator Chris Preksta. <u>Proceeds benefit Tree of Life. (https://shopsteelcity.com/collections/new-arrivals/products/broken-heart)</u>

Contribute to <u>a book drive (https://www.pittsburghmagazine.com/Best-of-the-Burgh-Blogs/The-412/November-2018/Books-for-Children-Affected-by-Tree-of-Life-Tragedy/)</u> aiming to collect one book for every child in Squirrel Hill, to be distributed to schools and childcare facilities.

Previous efforts

Pittsburgh Greenfield PreK-8 hosted a donut sale to support the police officers injured at Tree of Life. The sale, which is open to the public, ran from 7:45 to 8:30 a.m. Nov. 2. at 1 Alger St.

The Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh will accept donations for Tree of Life victims during vigil Mass on Nov. 10 and 11.

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Nov. 11 (Homestead): Attend a document shredding fundraiser in memory of the Rosenthal brothers at the Homestead Waterfront shopping center parking lot between Steak 'n Shake and First Commonwealth Bank. Each car must make a minimum \$10 donation, with funds donated in memory of David and Cecil Rosenthal to hosts ACHIEVA and Friendship Circle to create more inclusive and welcoming communities for people with disabilities. The event is also hosted by Iron City Workplace Services.



Amylyn Verrone holds a sign at the start of a large protest at the intersection of Beechwood Blvd and Forbes Avenue in Pittsburgh on Tuesday evening. The protest swelled to thousands and marched through the streets chanting and singing Jewish songs. Oct. 30, 2018 USA TODAY NETWORK

Gather

6-9 p.m. Dec. 2 (Downtown): More than 20 of the city's top chefs are coming together for <u>Chefs Stand Against Hate (https://www.eventbrite.com/e/chefs-stand-against-hate-tickets-52171743088)</u>. All proceeds go to the synagogue and "those who need it most," per the event listing.

7:30 p.m. Dec. 3 (South Side): Hear from the Unorthodox podcast live

(https://www.eventbrite.com/e/unorthodox-hanukkah-live-in-pittsburgh-tickets-53075728934) at this free Hanukkah show that promises "all the fun of a regular live show plus holiday treats, festive giveaways, and more." The "Gentile of the Week" will be an Iranian refugee who helped raise more than \$1 million for Tree of Life synagogue.

12:30 p.m. Dec. 4 (Oakland): Learn about hate crimes, hate speech, and how you can respond at "Confronting Hate (https://www.facebook.com/CarlowUniversity/photos/a.126753047182/10156098158702183/?type=3&theater)
 A Discussion of the Tree of Life Synagogue Tragedy."

<u>Give a random act of kindness (https://www.facebook.com/groups/loveliketheboys)</u> "for the boys." Achieva launched a Facebook group to chronicle kindness in memory of David and Cecil Rosenthal, inseparable brothers whose family and friends referred to them "as 'the boys' because of their innocent, kind-hearted nature."

Previous gatherings

<u>Join in song and prayer (https://www.facebook.com/events/2256826024388361/)</u> at this 4:30 p.m. Oct. 28 gathering at the corner of Darlington and Murray Ave. in Squirrel Hill.

<u>Attend an interfaith vigil (https://www.facebook.com/note.php?</u>

<u>note_id=2755252637825557&mc_cid=fba06f67a3&mc_eid=56d56f48cd)</u> organized by the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh along with Jewish agencies and synagogues beginning at 5 p.m. Oct. 28 at Soldiers and Sailors Memorial. Some bus routes will be <u>free (https://twitter.com/pghtransit/status/1056549194612305920?s=12)</u>.

READ MORE: <u>'We will rebuild,' Pittsburgh vows at a vigil for Tree of Life victims</u> (https://theincline.com/2018/10/28/we-will-rebuild-pittsburgh-vows-at-a-vigil-for-tree-of-life-victims/)

Join in with a coalition of community groups and religious leaders in the Hill District who will come together at 5:30 p.m. on Oct. 29 at Freedom Unlimited, Inc., 2201 Wylie Ave.

READ MORE: A show of solidarity in the Hill District for Tree of Life becomes a call to action for gun reform (https://theincline.com/2018/10/29/a-show-of-solidarity-in-the-hill-district-for-tree-of-life-becomes-a-call-to-action-for-gun-reform/)

<u>Come together in Greensburg (https://www.facebook.com/events/2116989958594145/)</u> for the "Westmoreland Vigil for the Victims" at 6 p.m. Oct. 29.

North Way Christian Community in Oakland is hosting <u>a prayer vigil</u> (https://www.facebook.com/events/2166082643442438/) at 7 p.m. Oct. 29 at 465 Gold Way.

Attend a rally, <u>Pittsburgh Loves All Our Neighbors (https://www.facebook.com/events/695075860885647/)</u>, from 4-6 p.m. Oct. 30 "at the corner of Beechwood and Forbes, in Mr. Rogers Neighborhood, as we unite as a city to show our love for our neighbors, all our neighbors, whoever they are and wherever they come from."

READ MORE: <u>Thousands assemble in Squirrel Hill as President Donald Trump arrives in Pittsburgh</u> (https://theincline.com/2018/10/30/hundreds-assemble-in-squirrel-hill-as-president-donald-trump-arrives-in-pittsburgh/)

Attend a prayer session at Sri Venkateswara (https://www.svtemple.org/Home.aspx) Hindu temple at 7 p.m. Oct. 30.

"<u>Unite Against Hate (https://www.facebook.com/events/1119995824792185/?active_tab=about)</u>" at "A Rally for Change" hosted by Students Demand Action Pittsburgh from 7-8 p.m. Oct. 31 "as we reject anti-Semitism and white supremacy in all forms and urge our elected officials to act to prevent gun violence."

Attend the "Love is Stronger than Hate" unity prayer service for victims at 6 p.m. Nov. 1 at the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church on Webster Avenue in the Hill District.

<u>Pet a therapy dog (https://twitter.com/ThreadbareCider/status/1057352961398050818)</u> at Threadbare Cider House in Spring Garden, where animals will be on-site from 6 to 8 p.m. Nov. 1. A portion of bar and bottle sales at "A Night of Love" will be donated to help Tree of Life victims.

Listen to local music for a good cause at this Nov. 2 <u>fundraiser for Tree of Life at the Mr. Roboto Project</u> (<u>https://www.facebook.com/events/294952851346145/</u>).

Hear from two survivors of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting at the <u>"Stronger than Hate" concert (https://pittsburgh.cbslocal.com/2018/10/30/delta-foundation-kesha-concert-synagogue-shooting-benefit/)</u>, where Kesha will perform. The concert, hosted by The Delta Foundation, is at 6 p.m. Nov. 3 on Liberty Avenue. Proceeds go to the Our Victims of Terror Fund.

Head to Heinz History Center on Nov. 4, 5 and 8 for a series of tours focused on the Jewish community's tradition of caring for Pittsburgh. Admission is free and open to the public, and <u>registration is encouraged</u> (https://www.facebook.com/events/375283619680816/?active_tab=about). The History Center is home to the Rauh Jewish History Program & Archives, which you can <u>learn more about here (https://theincline.com/2018/10/29/this-is-squirrel-hill-how-one-neighborhood-became-pittsburghs-center-of-jewish-life/).</u>

Pitt students and staff will meet on the Cathedral of Learning lawn at noon Nov. 5 for <u>Pitt Together: Stronger Than Hate (https://www.facebook.com/events/193916978193491/permalink/193974608187728)</u>.

Eat (and drink) at Scratch Food & Beverage in Troy Hill, where <u>all latke sales are being donated</u>
(https://www.facebook.com/scratchpgh/photos/a.780493422064155/1846103715503115/?type=3&theater) to Tree of Life.

Additionally, on Election Day, Nov. 6, <u>all tips at the bar will be donated</u>
(https://www.facebook.com/events/284799262015777/).

Noon Nov. 9 (Downtown): Meet in Point State Park for a <u>Gathering of Compassion, Unity, & Love</u>
(https://www.facebook.com/events/343598012869558/) beginning with a one-minute moment of silence for peace and the 11 victims of the Tree of Life shooting. Those unable to make the event are invited to host their own moments of silence at noon.

READ MORE: <u>Mrs. Rogers at Pittsburgh's Rally for Peace: 'Let us replace guns with hugs' (https://theincline.com/2018/11/09/pittsburgh-rally-for-peace-tree-of-life/)</u>

Noon-4 p.m. Nov. 10 (Lawrenceville): Join Listen, Lucy

(https://www.facebook.com/ListenLucy/posts/1408074472659356?

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7 p.m. Nov. 10 (Allegheny West): Listen to the <u>Tree of Life Memorial Reading</u> (https://www.facebook.com/events/1947506505554494/) at City Books, with proceeds benefiting HIAS (Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society).

9 a.m. Nov. 11 (Mt. Lebanon): Send love to "Mecka Cycle Superstar, Michelle Simon-Weiss, who lost both of her parents at Tree of Life," the event listing reads. <u>Bring a monetary contribution</u> (https://meckafitness.zingfit.com/reserve/index.cfm?action=Workshop.events#events749278711395648745) to help Simon-Weiss to this <u>fitness class (https://www.instagram.com/p/BpmOfQHnFev/)</u> designed to "stretch, sweat and be mindful of how important it is to LOVE your neighbor."

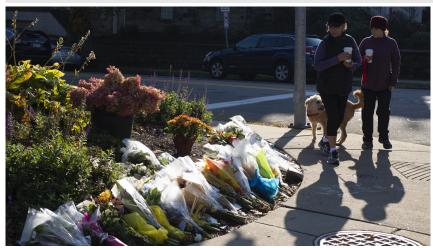
1-4 p.m. Nov. 11 (Squirrel Hill): This free unity concert and day of healing (http://www.post-gazette.com/news/faith-religion/2018/11/08/Jewish-unity-concert-pittsburgh-tree-of-life-shooting-squirrel-hill/stories/201811080084) features multiple musicians and Jewish foods from around the world.

7 p.m. Nov. 12 (Downtown): See <u>"The Children of Willesden Lane," (https://hcofpgh.org/kristallnacht-2018/)</u> a free musical production, at the Byham Theater in commemoration of the 80th anniversary of Kristallnacht, the anti-Jewish pogrom carried out by Nazis and collaborators. Reserve tickets in advance.

8 p.m. Nov. 25 (Lawrenceville): Watch a screening of "Life Is Beautiful,"

(https://www.facebook.com/events/459929774531205/) about "how love, humor, and imagination can help us get through the darkest times, in this case a Holocaust concentration camp" at Row House Cinema to benefit Pittsburgh's chapter of Repair the World, a Jewish-American organization mobilizing volunteers to give time and effort to those in need

7 p.m. Nov. 27: The Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra concert benefitting Tree of Life is sold-out, but you can listen to "Tree of Life: The Concert for Peace and Unity" (https://www.wqed.org/fm) live on on WQED-FM 89.3.



Pedestrians make their way past a collection of flowers placed for victims of the synagogue shooting along Shady Avenue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2018. ALTON STRUPP/USA TODAY NETWORK

Give blood

Donate blood. Vitalant, formerly the Central Blood Bank, is asking for help <u>"to replenish the community blood supply."</u>

(https://twitter.com/VitalantPA/status/1056328845912166400)

Previous blood drives

You can also donate blood at PPG Paints Arena on Oct. 29.

A blood drive will be held from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Nov. 2 at the William Pitt Building at the University of Pittsburgh. The drive is open to the public, but appointments are required via redcrossblood.org (https://www.redcrossblood.org/) using the code PITT.

9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Nov. 18 (Squirrel Hill): Make an appointment (https://donateblood.centralbloodbank.org/AppointmentScheduling.aspx) for a blood drive at Shaare Torah Congregation on Murray Avenue.



An example of the Tree of Life knit square. COURTESY OF VANESSA PICARD

Donate your time

Knit a square by Dec. 1 for afghans that will be given to Tree of Life.

READ MORE: <u>How to help knit and crochet blankets for Tree of Life synagogue</u> (https://theincline.com/2018/11/02/how-to-help-knit-and-crochet-blankets-for-tree-of-life-synagogue/)

<u>Write a letter (https://www.jfcspgh.org/communitysupport/)</u> to bereaved and injured families that will be compiled in books and shared with each family.

<u>Share materials (https://www.heinzhistorycenter.org/collections/rauh-jewish-history-program-and-archives/responding-to-the-tree-of-life-tragedy)</u>, documenting moments of healing, giving, protest, and solidarity in the aftermath of the Tree of Life shooting.

Previous events

Nov. 10 and 11: Run (or walk) in a virtual 5K

(https://www.facebook.com/events/528590034219310/) to raise funds for the Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh.

5 p.m. Nov. 13 (Squirrel Hill): Enjoy food trucks

(https://www.facebook.com/events/283401368951830/) with proceeds benefitting Tree of Life.



An interfaith vigil for the victims of the Tree of Life shooting took place at Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall and Museum on Sunday, Oct. 28, 2018. RENEE ROSENSTEEL / FOR THE INCLINE

Visit places of healing and solace

Visit these local cultural institutions, offering free days as places of healing and solace.

Previous free days

<u>The Children's Museum (https://twitter.com/PghKids/status/1056349248957177856),</u> free all week

<u>Pittsburgh Botanic Garden</u>

(https://www.facebook.com/PBGarden/photos/a.883918408348655/2233503446723471/? type=3&theater), free all week

YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh

(https://twitter.com/ymcapgh/status/1057024723916374017) locations, free all week

<u>Carnegie Museum of Art and Natural History</u>

(https://twitter.com/cmoa/status/1056557422146453504), free Oct. 28

<u>Phipps Conservatory (https://twitter.com/PhippsNews/status/1056516031047483392),</u> free Oct. 28

The Andy Warhol Museum

(https://twitter.com/TheWarholMuseum/status/1056373512552828928), free Oct. 28

Humane Animal Rescue

(https://twitter.com/harsaveslives/status/1056685690166091779?s=21), free and open Oct. 29 for those who want to visit with animals

<u>Frick Pittsburgh (https://www.thefrickpittsburgh.org/)</u> art museum, Isabelle de Borchgrave exhibition, and Clayton tours, free through Nov. 2



Michael and Lily brought cookies for police officers. COLIN DEPPEN / THE INCLINE

Get some advice on hard conversations

<u>Tips on how to talk to your kids</u> (https://www.nextpittsburgh.com/latest-news/how-to-talk-toyour-kids-about-the-mass-shooting-in-pittsburgh/?preview=1) about the mass shooting. [NEXTpittsburgh]

<u>UPMC offers suggestions</u>

(https://share.upmc.com/2018/10/coping-grieving-loss/), for managing grief and for responding to children during tragedy.

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

(https://www.carnegielibrary.org/staff-picks/heretohelp-death/) compiled a list of books that may "help a young child faced with the death and grieving process."

ttps://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-LGHtc_D328)

"Look for the helpers"

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Read these quotes from Mister Rogers (http://www.pittsburghbeautiful.com/2018/10/28/7-mr-rogers-quotes-to-get-you-through-upsetting-times/? preview=1), which can offer some comfort during this time, and "Look for the helpers," as Mister Rogers" advised, because if you do, "you'll know that there's hope." [Beautiful Pittsburgh]

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