Purim: Use Your Voice

WHY SOCIAL ACTION ON PURIM?

The story of Purim teaches us the importance of advocacy, justice and community. We celebrate by retelling the story of Mordechai and the noble Queen Esther and how they protected the Jewish people when wicked Haman threatened to kill them all. By using her voice to speak out on behalf of her community, Queen Esther enacted change and convinced King Ahasuerus to save the Jewish community.

The celebration of Purim is the perfect opportunity to use your own voice, as Queen Esther used hers, to protect the hungry people in your community. By serving as a voice for the voiceless, you can help create change and rewrite the story of hunger.

ACTIVITIES FOR ADVOCATES

• Give a speech at your synagogue about the importance of feeding those who are hungry.
• Email outreach@mazon.org for a MAZON petition and collect signatures from family, friends, classmates and neighbors.
• Tap into your creativity by using your voice to make a video or write a blog. Share your interpretation of how the Purim story relates to hunger issues and send the blog or video to MAZON.
• Write a letter to your local government representative about what you know about hunger and what you’d like them to do to help those who are hungry.
• Organize a creative fundraiser for MAZON.

FOR DISCUSSION

• Before Esther tells King Ahasuerus that she is Jewish, she seeks support from other members of the community. Why is this support crucial to her eventual success? How does community strengthen the possibility of long-term change? What does this mean for us as advocates working to promote social justice?

MAZON encourages you to take action to fight hunger throughout the year. No Holiday from Justice activities can help deepen your experience of the Jewish holidays. To request materials, please call (800) 813-0557 or send an email to outreach@mazon.org.

MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger is a national nonprofit working to end hunger among people of all faiths and backgrounds in the U.S. and Israel.