

Giving Circle in a Box Incubator Cohort

Have you wanted to start a giving circle but been struggling to get it off the ground? Amplifier's newest tool, **Giving Circle in a Box** is a step-by-step guide to start and run a **4-session giving circle**, rooted in Jewish values. It includes tips for goal setting, recruitment, grant making tools, and full agendas and facilitation guides for each meeting.

Giving circles are a simple but powerful way to bring people together to learn about your organization or issue area, build community, grow leadership skills, and make a stronger impact than individuals might have on their own.

Arc of the Giving Circle (all are two hours long):

Meeting 1: Members get to know each other and explore personal and shared values.

Meeting 2: Members identify the mission/focus area of the giving circle.

Meeting 3: Learn about potential grant recipients, whittle down the list, and select finalists.

Meeting 4: Award Grant (or donation) and reflect on the giving circle process.

****Optional Meeting 5:** If capacity and enthusiasm allows, bring the group together for a volunteer project, social activity, or a deeper dive into your organization. This can be done anywhere in the sequence.

About the Incubator:

Amplifier's incubator helps support the creation of new giving circles at Jewish nonprofits, making the process more accessible and successful for organizations that might already have limited staff capacity. ***Incubator highlights include:***

- Facilitation training and consulting from Amplifier.
- Micro grant from Amplifier to each participating organization for their Giving Circle.
- Online convenings to learn, strategize, troubleshoot, and build lasting professional connections.
- A robust toolkit with everything you need to run your giving circle.

Program Overview:

The program brings together multiple organizations that will individually run their local giving circle with support from Amplifier. You will select your own local giving circle members and giving level, based on your organizational goals and priorities, and set your own meeting dates.

The professional running your giving circle will participate in train-the-trainer workshops prior to each local meeting with fellow incubator participants where we will go through the meeting agenda step by step and answer any questions.

Incubator Dates:

- **July/August/Sept:** Confirm your participants and collect funds
 - Includes a planning and recruitment support call with Amplifier
- **Tues., September 17th, 1-2pm ET** | Staff Virtual Train the Trainer for Meeting 1
- **Wed., October 9th, 1-2pm ET** | Staff Virtual Train the Trainer for Meeting 2
- **Wed., November 6th, 1-2pm ET** | Staff Virtual Train the Trainer for Meeting 3
- **Mon., November 18th, 1-2pm ET** | Staff Virtual Train the Trainer for Meeting 4
- **Tues., December 3rd, 1-2pm ET** | Debrief

****Notes:**

- Local Giving Circle meetings should be scheduled in between the train-the-trainers (with flexibility, of course!)
- Dates may shift slightly once the cohort participants are confirmed based on everyone's needs and availability.

Interested in joining an incubator?

Fill out our brief application [here](#) and we will be in touch once received.

FAQ:

What is the commitment on the part of my organization?

- ✓ You have a dedicated staff member who will be the lead professional for the giving circle. This person will join the above zoom cohort calls for training and all giving circle meeting.
 - The professional lead will be responsible for goal setting, recruitment, collecting funds, communication with giving circle members, and facilitation.
 - If you are working with a consultant on facilitation, you are responsible for coordinating with the facilitator.
- ✓ You can recruit members and prep in the allotted time to be ready to start on the above dates.
- ✓ You have the intention of this giving circle continuing in some capacity after the incubator (assuming it meets your goals).
- ✓ There is buy-in from supervisory or senior leadership at the organization for this initiative.

What type of donors/community members/prospects should my organization be recruiting?

That is entirely up to you, and what the goals and priorities are for running the giving circle. Our prep guide walks you through deciding on the goals for your circle and who to invite. We are also happy to set up time to speak and dive in deeper with you.

Where does the money go?

Again that, is up to you! We are helping you run a local giving circle alongside others doing the same thing. Every community is giving to wherever their giving circle members decide. Each community will determine what the minimum gift amount a participant should be giving. Our general suggestion is that it should be a meaningful enough amount that you have a decent pot of money to donate, and you may also consider a minimum gift to your organization, in addition to the giving circle commitment.

What if my timing does not exactly line-up with the dates listed above?

Talk to us! We are extremely flexible and have run this before with giving circles operating on slightly different schedules. We are here to help!

Have more questions? Contact us!

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