



Stephanie Levey has been a dedicated PAS volunteer for nearly two decades, during which time she has served on the Congregational School, Music, Tikkun Olam, and Social Work committees, co-chaired the Bnei Mitzvah track of the synagogue's record-setting 2018 trip to Israel, and raised four children who have been teen leaders in the community. These are only some of the achievements that made her an obvious choice as a 2025 Simhat Torah honoree.

For Stephanie, volunteerism is a family value. Her father was a longtime volunteer and chairman of his synagogue. His hard work influenced her involvement at PAS and inspired her to become a role model for her children.

When Stephanie and her husband, Stephen, were looking to join a synagogue, they wanted a place that would merge their backgrounds – his Ashkenazi Reform upbringing in the United States and her traditional Sephardic upbringing abroad. (Stephanie's parents are Moroccan, and she was raised in France until she was 9.) Stephanie and Stephen were immediately comfortable at PAS, and they were determined to make the community an important part of their lives and the lives of their children.

With her children in Congregational School, Stephanie began volunteering at PAS on the Congregational School Committee. "I wanted to better understand the Congregational School and to contribute in my own way," she said. She then joined the Music Committee and more recently, the Tikkun Olam and Social Work committees.

Stephanie said that being the co-chair of the Tikkun Olam Committee for the past three years "has been another wonderful way to give back to PAS and to contribute to the greater community."

She reflected that "the Tikkun Olam Committee has really grown and has potential to do even more. It's come such a long way over the past few years. Our work encourages the PAS community to come together and to give back to the larger community and outside world."

The committee's work includes ongoing projects, seasonal work based on a theme, and projects to support a need or event, such as park cleanups and get-out-the-vote efforts. It was her committee work that inspired the Monthly Mitzvah challenge.



Stephanie, who has a full-time private practice as a licensed clinical psychologist, served on the task force to find and hire PAS social worker, Suzanne Redlich, and she continues to provide support to Suzanne and her work.

Cantor Azi Schwartz said that it was “such a joy” to collaborate with Stephanie on the Music Committee. “Her deep love for Jewish music, combined with her thoughtful leadership, helped shape a spirit of creativity and community that still resonates,” he said. “Stephanie is also an incredible role model: a successful professional, a dedicated lay leader at PAS, and a caring mother whose children are deeply involved in our community and clearly take their cues from her. Her commitment and presence enrich every space she enters.”

Stephanie shared that “Friday night services were and continue to be a big part of our lives, and my children continue to feel connected to PAS.”

Her oldest two, inspired by their work as teen leaders at PAS, have taken on leadership roles in Jewish groups at college.

The PAS community was particularly meaningful to Stephanie when dealing with a family health crisis in 2021; she felt an incredible sense of support during that time.

Stephanie’s family was among the large group who traveled to Israel in 2018, during which she served as co-chair of the Bnei Mitzvah track.

“The trip was a once-in-a-lifetime experience that built and reinforced friendships and was an opportunity to be in Israel with my family, old and new friends, and the whole PAS community,” Stephanie said. “It reflected what PAS does best – lay leaders and professional leaders working together – which made for a spectacular experience.”

She said she’s “extremely humbled and grateful for this honor. I feel so lucky to be part of a community where so many people want to be involved. It renews and continues to reinvigorate my desire to do more. It has been such a formative part of my life and of my family’s life.”