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**News Release**

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**JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER PITTSBURGH HIRES  
SARA SPANJER AS YOUNG ADULT DIVISION DIRECTOR**



The Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh announces the hire of Sara Spanjer as Young Adult Division director. In this position, Ms. Spanjer will focus her efforts on leadership development and manage all fundraising activities related to the Young Adult Division, including cultivation and solicitation of donors ages 22–45. Ms. Spanjer’s first day at the Jewish Federation was July 20, 2017.

Spanjer comes to the Jewish Federation from Congregation Rodeph Sholom in New York City. She is excited to explore the city of Pittsburgh and bring her skills and knowledge to help the Young Adult Division (YAD) grow and prosper.

“I’m thrilled to be in Pittsburgh and excited to meet the thriving young adult community, which I’ve heard so much about. I look forward to building a long-lasting relationship with the Jewish Federation and the community,” Spanjer said.

As YAD director, Ms. Spanjer will focus on programs such as the Wechsler Leadership Development Institute and the SteelTree Fund, in addition to young adult philanthropy. She will be the driving force to further develop of the Ben Gurion Society and participation in the National Young Leadership Cabinet.

She will also partner with leading local and national organizations in the young adult world, to develop beneficial partnerships to amplify the Jewish young adult community in Greater Pittsburgh.

YAD Chair Randal Whitlatch welcomes Sara and is enthusiastic about seeing positive changes to the division. “I think that Sara brings a magnetic personality to the YAD director role and a passion for building Jewish community, which will help greatly in our dual mission of engaging young Jews from across our 22- to 45-year-old age demographic and inspiring them to get more invested in Jewish Pittsburgh through the Federation,” said Whitlatch. “We are striving to get young Jews in Pittsburgh to be part of the Federation movement by investing their time and dollars in the myriad of causes we support, and I

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think Sara is going to do a fantastic job of bringing that message to the growing number of young Jews in our Pittsburgh community.”

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Ms. Spanjer has a strong background in Jewish communal service. She was associate director of Jewish and student life at The Weber School, in Atlanta, Ga., for seven years. Most recently, she served as associate director of youth and teen engagement at Congregation Rodeph Sholom. In addition to earning an undergraduate degree from Georgia State University, Sara earned a certificate in Jewish studies from the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh, one of 148 independent Federations associated with The Jewish Federations of North America, raises and allocates funds to build community locally, in Israel and around the world. With the vision of a thriving, vibrant and engaged Jewish community, the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh aims to carry out its work in the context of cooperation and inclusiveness. For more information, visit [www.jfedpgh.org](http://www.jfedpgh.org).

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