

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TOUR DE SHULS

(West Hartford, CT) - Beautiful weather, the comradeship of the road, support for a worthy cause: Connecticut's first annual Tour de Shuls bike ride offered a day of fun for families with kids through experienced cyclists.

Routes for the Sunday, June 27 event ranged from five to fifty miles. The youngest pedaled quiet residential streets while more adventuresome traveled country roads through farm and forest. Riders visited several participating synagogues along the way and enjoyed breakfast before the ride plus snacks and live entertainment after. Nine Hartford area synagogues teamed to put on the Tour, raising over \$3,000 for the Tikvah program at Camp Ramah in Massachusetts.

Since 1970, Tikvah ("hope") has met the needs of Jewish adolescents, ages 11 to 18, with learning, emotional, and developmental disabilities. All of the campers want to have fun and make friends. The Tikvah campers are no different. Along with their non-disabled peers, they participate in swimming, boating, sports, the arts, dance, and dramatics.

"Enthusiastic riders and great bunch of volunteers made for the perfect day" said event co-chair Dave Diamond. "It's wonderful to see how the community came together to support the Tikvah program. We'll be back next year, already planning for it."