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Call Bet Tzedek

By Sandor Samuels, BT Board President 2006-2007

Whom do you call if you are elderly and someone is trying to evict you from your apartment or your house? Whom do you call if you are a holocaust survivor and are being denied your rightful reparations? Whom do you call if you need to care for an abandoned grandchild or niece or nephew? Whom do you call if you live in a nursing home and are being denied appropriate care or treatment? And whom do you call if you are being denied your rightful wages or are being forced to work in substandard conditions?

The answer to these and other legal problems afflicting the poor and the elderly in our community is a resounding **BET TZEDEK**. I'm proud to be the President of the Board of Directors of such an organization. I'm especially proud of Bet Tzedek Shabbat, a new outreach campaign that we conducted on March 17th and 18th.



On March 17th and 18th, Bet Tzedek's message was delivered in congregations all across the southland. Rabbis and members of Bet Tzedek's Board of Directors delivered a *drash* – a sermon – for *Parshat Ki Tisa*, the portion containing the thirteen attributes of God. These attributes include compassion, kindness and mercy. The message is simple yet powerful: All who are in need, come and we will try to help.

This is what we do at Bet Tzedek: try to help all who come to us. On Bet Tzedek Shabbat, nearly 10,000 congregants heard our call for more volunteers. **And you, too, can be part of Bet Tzedek.**

Please display the same attributes of compassion, kindness and mercy by volunteering your time to help further Bet Tzedek's mission. Read more about our work in this e-newsletter and on our website. Then call Bet Tzedek's Volunteer Coordinator, Robin Sommerstein, at 323-549-5814 or email her at rsommerstein@bettzedek.org to get involved.

Thanks to the following synagogues and churches for participating in Bet Tzedek Shabbat:

- Adat Ari El
- Beth Hillel
- Beth Jacob Congregation
- Beth Shir Shalom
- B'nai Benet (Simi Valley)
- B'nai David
- B'nai Horim
- Leo Baeck Temple
- St. Peter's Italian Church

- Sinai Temple
- Stephen S. Wise
- Temple Adat Elohim
- Temple Aliyah
- Temple Beth Am
- Temple Isaiah
- Temple Israel of Hollywood
- Temple Judea
- University Synagogue

Sandor E. Samuels is Senior Managing Director and Chief Legal Officer for Countrywide Financial Corporation (NYSE: CFC), a diversified financial services provider and member of the S&P 500. He also serves on the Executive Committee of Countrywide Financial Corporation.

As the organization's Chief Legal Officer, he oversees the transactional, regulatory and litigation affairs of Countrywide and advises senior management on legal issues. Samuels' previous executive positions at Countrywide include Managing Director, General Counsel and Secretary. He joined Countrywide in 1990.

A 1974 graduate of Princeton University, Samuels received his law degree in 1977 from the School of Law at the University of California, Los Angeles. After graduating from law school, he served as Law Clerk for U.S. District Judge Irving Hill.

Samuels is a member of the Board of Directors of the University of Judaism, Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies, Bet Tzedek Legal Services and Adat Ari El synagogue. He also has served as Chair of the Legal Issues Committee of the Mortgage Bankers Association of America.

WELCOME NEW BOARD PRESIDENT

We would like to congratulate and welcome new **Bet Tzedek Board President Sandor E. Samuels.**



Sandor E. Samuels