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PROGRAM: 3 Cups of Coffee

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JEWISH EXPONENT

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE JEWISH IN PHILADELPHIA

Ways to Volunteer This Chanukah

By Jesse Bernstein - November 27, 2019

The thing about doing good for others is that there is an inexhaustible supply of opportunities and, of course, others. Twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year, there are people who need helping and a lot of different ways to help them.

That December has become a season to "give back" in the United States has much to do with Christmas and little to do with Chanukah. But you'd be hard pressed to find a bad time to recommit to service, so why not do it around the festival of lights?

This year, we have a couple of lesser-known options for giving a helping hand to those who need it.



3 Cups of Coffee pairs job-seeking individuals with professionals in their field (Photo by Linette Kielinski)

<u>JEVS Human Services</u> offers a program called <u>3 Cups of Coffee</u>, which just celebrated its first anniversary. First created by <u>Pennsylvania Women Work</u>, it is a short-term mentorship program designed to help job-seeking individuals

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connect with professionals in their chosen field for job advice and networking assistance. Professionals fill out a simple application to be connected to prospective mentees. After they're paired up, based on mutual career interests, the two meet up for three one-hour coffee meetings over six weeks. Better yet, lucky mentor-mentee pairs who find themselves near a Saxby's can get a free coffee for their efforts.

In the year that the organization has operated the JEVS banner, 16 pairs have been made, according to Chris Richter, marketing communications manager at JEVS. The barrier for entry is low, and the time commitment is, too.