Each of us can make our synagogue a more welcoming place to newcomers, visitors, and people with disabilities.

- If you see a child having a difficult behavior moment, offer the parent a friendly smile, a sympathetic nod, or an offer to help.
- Offer to help someone who may be having trouble accessing the entrance to your congregation. Be proactive in holding doors, making room in your pew, offering an arm, or carrying something.
- Not all disabilities are “visible.” If you see a person exhibiting atypical behavior, understand that it might be a sign of a disability. Embrace the person as being created Btzelem Elohim--in the Divine image.
- If you see someone who is disheveled or out of sorts, consider that he or she may be experiencing issues related to mental illness, substance abuse, or a behavior disorder. Act with hesed, loving-kindness.
- Some people with attention and sensory issues may find it hard to sit through services. Young children may also need to move around. Practice acceptance and understanding of their need to move or get up and down during services.
- For everyone new to a synagogue, a warm welcome is appreciated. Be sure to seek out people who are sitting by themselves at services or following services and offer “Shabbat Shalom” or simply “Nice to meet you.”
- Remember that a warm smile, nod, or small kindness can make all the difference for any of us.

"For my house shall be a house of prayer for all people."
(Isaiah 56:5)