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**CENTER FOR
SMALL TOWN
JEWISH LIFE**

Center for Small Town Jewish Life Names Rabbi Rachael Bregman Director of National Engagement

Bregman Will Engage and Support Jewish Leaders in Small Town Communities

Waterville, Maine—The Center for Small Town Jewish Life, housed at Colby College in Waterville, Maine, has named Rabbi Rachael Bregman as director of national engagement. The Center serves small town Jewish communities, where one in eight American Jews live.

“We are so thrilled to welcome Rabbi Rachael Bregman to the team,” said Rabbi Rachel Isaacs, executive director of the Center. “She has served small town Jewish communities for over a decade. Her extensive experience and innovative approach to community building make her a perfect fit for the Center for Small Town Jewish Life. I look forward to the incredible impact she will have.”



Rabbi Rachael Bregman

In her new role, Bregman will support a growing network of Jewish leaders from small, rural, and under-resourced communities nationwide and help connect small town Jewish communities to the broader Jewish institutional world. Her work will include leading cohorts of the Center’s Makom program, a two-year fellowship that provides training, mentorship, and peer support for new rabbis and professional leaders.

“Judaism offers such compelling wisdom in the world today,” Bregman said. “The Center for Small Town Jewish Life is cultivating pathways for more people to have more access at a time when we, perhaps, need it the most. I am thrilled to be part of a team broadening and redefining what the big tent of Judaism can look like.”

Currently based in Charlotte, N.C., Bregman previously served as the rabbi of a small congregation on the coast of Georgia, where she co-founded Glynn Clergy for Equity. She also founded Open Jewish Project to serve the religious and spiritual needs of unaffiliated Jewish people in Atlanta, and she served as a Chaplain Candidate in the U.S. Navy and Marines. Bregman has hiked the Appalachian Trail, earned a master’s degree in education from Harvard University, and received ordination as a rabbi from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in New York City. She is a certified spiritual director, a pastry chef, hiker of tall mountains, occasional artist, and full-time mom.

About the Center for Small Town Jewish Life

Founded in 2015 at Colby College in Waterville, Maine, the Center for Small Town Jewish Life operates on the foundational belief that vibrant Jewish life should be available to all, regardless of geographic location or economic circumstances. Through direct programming, leadership development, and strategic storytelling, the Center strengthens the fabric of American Jewish life while nurturing the next generation of communal leaders.