

IN TRIBUTE TO ROBIN NIMAN

Robin Niman's approach to community action is simple: when she finds communal needs that are going unmet, she works to meet them. It is with this awareness and sensitivity that Robin recognized the potential of the *mikvah* to be a catalyst for addressing the religious, spiritual and emotional needs of women. And so began her passion to encourage the *mitzvah* of *taharas hamishpacha*, and to advocate on behalf of the women who embrace this *mitzvah*.

Robin brought her dedication to teaching women the beauty and relevance of *taharas hamishpacha* when she moved with her family to Silver Spring nine years ago. Prior to that time, Robin was intimately involved as a Torah teacher and guide about *mikvah* and *taharas hamishpacha* in California. Since the time of her arrival in our community, Robin has run the Kemp Mill Community Mikvah with grace and fortitude, always with one goal in mind: to ensure that every woman who comes to the *mikvah* will come back again.

Her belief that women need and deserve a proper *mikvah* in which to perform this *mitzvah* was the driving force behind her contributions in the planning and building of a new *mikvah* in Silver Spring. It has been a goal that she has worked tirelessly toward for many years. Without her help and inspiration, we would have fallen well short of the beautiful *mikvah* that we are now blessed with. .

Robin's innate desire to help others, as well as her compassion and ready ear, have made her a confidante, mentor, counselor and friend to many. Her enthusiasm and devotion to the beauty of Jewish life, and her integrity as a role model, continue to inspire countless women. Through her degree in Pastoral Counseling, Robin will further extend her capacity to help those in need of understanding and support.

Robin Niman has truly earned the respect and admiration of the Greater Washington Jewish community. It is with great pleasure that the Mikvah Emunah Society recognizes her dedication to the Society and to our community as a whole.

Robin, we are truly in your debt and are so happy that by honoring you tonight and by placing a commemorative edition of this Journal in the new *mikvah* that we can assure that future generations of women who will use the *mikvah* will always know of your enormous talents and dedication that have helped us achieve the building of the Yitzchok Wallerstein Mikvah of Greater Washington.