

**Barbara Center, M. Ed.**

For over a decade, Congregation Shir Libeynu has supported and nurtured my Jewish and lesbian identities. I've been able to honour my spiritual roots and sexual orientation in a safe and open community. Countless members came forward when I was diagnosed with cancer and went through years of intensive treatment. Shir Libeynu has become my home and my family.

Joining the Board of Directors is my opportunity to give back in some small way. My career included various management, administrative, and executive director positions in the non-profit sector. I trust that my experience applying for grants and writing policy and procedure manuals will benefit our congregation. Currently I am a member of the Native Canadian Centre of Toronto, the seniors group at The 519 Church Street Community Centre and my housing co-op.

I look forward to working together with you to benefit and grow this most wonderful gem in the heart of our city.