**2021 Torch Award Application
Temple Israel Men’s Club, Charlotte, NC**

**Category: Programming for Younger Men, 39 or Younger**

**Title: HeBrews Coffee Club**

**Date: 2020-2021 Religious School Year**

**Summary: Before Covid, we planned to set up an unused room at the religious school with coffee, bagels, and schmear at least once a month to encourage dads to drop in after dropping off their kids at Sunday school for a no agenda, purely relational drop-in event. With Covid, we moved the gathering to the closest coffee shop with outdoor seating.**

**Details: We let dads know through the school emails, personal phone calls, and word of mouth to come to the local Caribou Coffee the first Sunday of the month for a free cup of coffee with other dads. We hung out our banner, and a different MC Board member volunteered to host each gathering so it wouldn’t be too demanding on any one person. We had Sundays with 2-3 guys all the way up to 12 at the first event. There was general discussion, new introductions, and planning couldn’t have been easier.**

**Timeline: Set the calendar in advance, find the place, whether at your religious school or not, and communicate and promote. This is another excellent “Bring-a-Friend, Make-a-Friend program.**

**Impact: The dads appreciated the opportunity, and the conversation was enjoyed. Other MC members who happened to visit the coffee shop joined in, which led to inter-generational discussions. We met a dad who joined the club and will lead a HMV program on alternative and holistic medicine, as he leads our region’s largest hospital system’s alternative medicine department.**