March 11, 2020

IU Hillel’s Response to President McRobbie’s Letter

Dear Students and Parents,

IU Hillel is aware that students are being strongly encouraged to stay at home until Monday, April 6 with all classes being held remotely during that period. In addition, non-essential group meetings, events, and large gatherings etc. are being suspended. Hillel’s top priority above creating a “Jewish home away from home” is safeguarding the safety and health of our students. We are working closely with Indiana University and abiding by their suggested guidelines to withhold from hosting large in-person gatherings. After consulting with our Board President and executive team, we have made the decision to cancel all face-to-face Hillel programming through Monday, April 6. If you are in one of our Hillel classes for IU credit, please consult canvas after Friday for instructions. At this point, as long as classes resume in-person on Monday, April 6, we are planning to hold Passover seders and meals as scheduled.

Please know that this situation is rapidly changing and we are monitoring Hillel International’s, IU’s and WHO guidelines to help inform all decisions that are made. We will continue to update all students as we actively monitor this evolving situation.

All Hillel staff will be returning to work in the Hillel building beginning Tuesday, March 24th. If there are any students in the Bloomington area post-spring break, we encourage you to notify our staff. As we collectively respond to the COVID-19 situation, our staff is here for each and every student during this difficult and changing time. The Hillel staff is currently working diligently to create opportunities for students to connect to Jewish life remotely from home and will be providing more information very soon. We look forward to all students returning back to campus on Monday, April 6th. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us and we will do our best to help.

B’Shalom,
Rabbi Sue and the IU Hillel Staff