



## Portland Jewish Community Center

September 1, 1995

Alan Wolf  
President

Karen Lerman  
Executive Director

Dear Board of Appeals Members:

The Jewish Community Center is a nonprofit community agency subsidized by the Jewish Federation of Maine and the United Way. Briefly, at the Jewish Community Center we provide supervised classes and activities for children ages six months to 11 years. Our elder program addresses the isolation and loneliness felt by many senior citizens in the community through classes, discussion groups, trips and exercises. Also offered is a program for parents and families that focuses on education and support for parents around such issues as single parenting, mental health and family communication.

When the Jewish Community Center located at the current Ashmoor Street address over a dozen years ago the building was in a B-1 zone. Around 1989, the zone was changed to R-5. A review of the microfiche in the Building Inspectors Office reveals that a permit was issued to designate us and the building as a non-profit private corporation. It was our understanding that we did not need a conditional use permit to run our youth programs. It has recently been brought to our attention that we need to obtain a conditional use permit in order to run some of our programs. We would respectfully request this Board to grant our application for day care use.

It is our understanding that a conditional use permit shall be granted unless the board determines the following:

- a. There are unique or distinctive characteristics or effects associated with the proposed conditional use;
- b. There will be an adverse impact upon the health, safety, or the surrounding area; and
- c. Such impact differs substantially from the impact which would normally occur from such a use in that zone.

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Recipient Agency of Jewish Federation of Eastern Maine  
and United Way. Member JCC Association, NH Youth Council  
Association and American Camping Association