



# Newsletter

May 20, 2006, First Edition

*It is the mission of the 501 (c) (3) corporation to raise funds to restore the synagogue to its original condition and to provide an endowment to operate and maintain it as a living history museum and lifecycle events center. It will be open to people of all faiths, cultures and nationalities to allow them to gain insight into the lives of the men and women who passed through these doors.*

## Plans for the Restoration Complete

Architect Robert Armon has completed the drawings and specifications for the work to be done in restoring the synagogue and patient tent. The funds to pay for this phase of the restoration have come from individual donors and a grant from the Colorado Historical Society. So far, one firm, Reconstruction Experts, has submitted a bid for the work to be done at \$421,000. More bids will be requested.

The plans include replacement of the electrical wiring and plumbing; installation of heating and air conditioning units; making the entrance handicap accessible; floor joists replaced; hardwood flooring repaired and replaced as needed; repairing wood parts and masonry in the ark; repairing and cleaning the exterior surfaces, the windows, the furnishings; and restoring the patient tent after it has been moved off to the side of the synagogue.

The City of Lakewood is on board with the plans, the Colorado Historical Society has approved them, and so now that the architect has done his part, we are ready to proceed with the actual restoration construction. The hold up now is the money.





## Reaching Out

We know that restoring the synagogue and making it a showpiece of Lakewood's history is an effort that involves the larger community. We continue to build relationships with Lakewood City Councilors (Debbie Koop serves on our Board), Mayor Steve Burkholder, the Commission on Culture and the Arts, the Alameda Gateway Commission and the West Colfax Community Association, to name a few. We know that creating more visibility for the project increases the number of citizens we reach.

With education firmly in mind, Susan and Bernie Goldman have been on a mission to reach as many fraternal and community organizations as possible with the ISHS story. Just in the last year, they've spoken to: The Lakewood Kiwanis, The Applewood Questors, The Belmar Optimist Club, the Lakewood Historical Society, St. Anthony's Health Passport Group, and local synagogue groups. Some of these groups have responded by offering support.

But our goal is to reach as wide an audience as possible – we know that people all over the United States, both through the NVO and the families of patients who were treated at the JCRS, have a connection to our mission. Our outreach includes programs with the Jewish Genealogical Society, The Rocky Mountain Jewish Historical Society and Beck Archives, and Colorado Historical Society, which has helped fund some of our progress.

You may have heard Bernie Goldman being interviewed by Colorado Matters on Colorado Public Radio (March 13, 2006); perhaps you read about the presentation to the Kiwanis featured in The Hub of the *Denver Post* in February of this year. If you listen to KEZW 1430AM in Denver, or watch Channel 8 in Lakewood in the upcoming months, you'll hear about our progress. And if you haven't yet, please visit our website at [www.IsaacSolomonSynagogue.org](http://www.IsaacSolomonSynagogue.org).

If you have any ideas of people we should know about, or can help us spread the word or raise funds to renovate this lovely jewel, this historically and community relevant little synagogue, please contact one of us. We're anxious to hear from you!

## A Special Relationship

The foundation is blessed with a host organization that is both eager to help our mission and to learn more about JCRS history. Rocky Mountain College of Art + Design, which purchased the campus in 2003, takes seriously its stewardship of the synagogue and of the community's history. One of the first collaborations between this foundation and the College was the design of our logo. All of the students in a graphics arts class submitted logos and we chose the one you see at the top of this newsletter. An interior design class took paint flakes from the ceiling of the synagogue and analyzed them, so we now know the original color for the renovation. A model-making class has created a to-scale model of the building that has been given to us for use in presentations, and a visual sequencing class created books based on the stories of patients, one of which is being published. Other classes at the college have heard the ISHS story and are considering further ways to be involved.

## In Recognition

The foundation thankfully acknowledges the following people and organizations who have contributed to our project thus far:

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