



Machaneh Ramah B'California  
385 Fairview Road  
Ojai, CA 93023



## Hachanah L'Kayitz 2025

Dear Ramah Families,

We can't wait to see your *chanichim* (campers) stepping off the buses in Ojai in just a few short months. This is the first in a series of emails called *Hachanah L'Kayitz*, which means "Preparing for Summer," to help you and your children get ready and excited for camp. These emails will include technical information and tips to prepare campers for being away from home, and explain why we do what we do. This is a holy partnership and we are excited to share it with you!

Last summer was a historic summer for Camp Ramah. Bringing Jewish kids, young adults, and adults together in an immersive Jewish bubble was what we all needed. The community and sense of belonging were palpable. Campers and staff alike shared that they were able to breathe deeply and not worry about speaking openly about their Jewish identity with pride. We welcomed over 70 campers and over 30 young adults from Israel, most of whom came straight from their army or national service in Israel to spend the summer with us. As you can imagine, this was such a gift for our American and Israeli campers and for our staff. We were all enriched by this *mifgash* (connection and gathering).

We are so proud to see, in so many ways, that Ramah continues to live up to our own high expectations and mission-driven values to create a sense of belonging, connection, Jewish identity, community, and more, all while playing in our giant Jewish playground. The values that came to life so vividly last summer are mirrored in the reflections we received from parents, campers, and staff.

## Our mission says...

"Camp Ramah in California creates lifelong relationships through joyful, welcoming, and immersive Jewish experiences rooted in Torah, Avodah, and Gemilut Hasadim. Ramah is committed to the future of the Jewish community and betterment of the world"

## Survey says...



This summer we are excited to focus on and lean into what we believe is OUR specialty: RELATIONSHIPS. The connections formed at every level – camper to camper, camper to staff, and staff to staff – are the foundation upon which everything at Ramah is built. These give us our strong sense of belonging, community, Jewish pride, and joy.

We cannot wait to bring you on this journey with us. Please see below for more important information, including Passover Community Fun Day, our Family Handbook, who's who at camp, a packing list, our Israel Ikarim, orientation information, and where to find all your 2025 needs in one place.

Wishing you all an early Chag Pesach Sameach and true freedom for all,

Ariella  
Camp Director



# FAMILY HANDBOOK

## 2025

Join us on Thursday, April 17th in Ojai from 10am-3pm for

## PASSOVER COMMUNITY FUN DAY!



Spend a day at camp swimming in the breicha (pool), trying the ropes course, and a BBQ lunch on the givah (hill)

Register today at  
[ramah.org/passoverfunday](https://ramah.org/passoverfunday)

\*registration will close on Tuesday April 15th at 10am



**\$36 for Adults**  
**\$18 for Kids under 18**

Contact [michal@ramah.org](mailto:michal@ramah.org) with any questions



**Security  
Protocols**

**Israel  
Ikarim**

**Strategic  
Plan**

# BRUCHIM HABA'IM (WELCOME) TO OUR NEW HEALTH CENTER MANAGER!

We are excited to say *bruchim haba'im* (welcome) to Kristina Calamia, RN, our new *Marp* (Health Center) Manager! For the past few summers, Kristina has been an integral part of our health team, bringing skill, expertise, and kindness to her role as a camp nurse. A pediatric nurse for over 25 years, Kristina works as a high school nurse throughout the year. Kristina, together with the entire *Marp* staff and our weekly visiting physicians, will continue to uphold the Marp's tradition of warm-hearted, exceptional medical care.



We are sad to say *lehitra'ot* to Dr. Andrea Kasowitz but are grateful that she will continue to support the Marp transition through staff week and as a resource for Kristina and the entire Ramah leadership team, as an out-of-camp medical consultant this summer. Please feel free to contact Kristina ([kristinac@ramah.org](mailto:kristinac@ramah.org)) or Dr. Andrea ([andrea@ramah.org](mailto:andrea@ramah.org)) with health and medical-related questions regarding the upcoming summer sessions.

For our parent handbook, packing list, FAQs, camper care videos, and more, check out [ramah.org/2025](http://ramah.org/2025)



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