

## Choosing a Caterer

***As soon as you decide, but at least 3 months before your event, please notify Tari in the OZ office as to your choice of caterer.***

***Ohavi Zedek maintains a kosher kitchen*** under the supervision of Rabbi Amy, and this must be considered when choosing a caterer. Caterers fall into three general categories:

1. OZ caterers with extensive experience in OZ's kitchen and who require no *mashgiach*:  
Kathy Guevara, Kabella's Catering, 482-4158 or 488-0878  
Cheryl Goldstein, 863-2115 (is in Florida during the winter months)
2. Caterers with some experience in OZ's kitchen, but who still require a *mashgiach* present:  
Rachel Jacobs, VT Kosher, 658-0119  
Elise Goldman, The Accidental Caterer, 802 318-6584
3. Caterers who have never worked at OZ and need rabbinic approval before being hired, and a *mashgiach*.

***All outside caterers must obtain rabbinic approval before being hired; a mashgiach is always required for those caterers.***

*Mashgichim* serve two functions: (1) to insure that caterers operating in our kitchen maintain *kashrut* in accordance with the policies specific to Ohavi Zedek and our rabbi and (2) to advise caterers as to the proper use of OZ's kitchen (i.e., what dishes and cookware are for milk/meat, where items are stored, how to use OZ's equipment, etc.) and the synagogue's specific rules and policies.

Since kosher caterers may or may not adhere to the same standards of *kashrut* that are maintained at Ohavi Zedek, they must have a *mashgiach* present. If you are unsure whether your caterer will require a *mashgiach*, please check with the synagogue office or Rabbi Amy.

OZ will arrange for a *mashgiach* to be present, if one is needed. Following the event, OZ will bill families for the cost of the *mashgiach*'s services.

Caterers must carry liability insurance to work in OZ's kitchen and provide a copy of a certificate of insurance (if not already on file in OZ's office). OZ will provide your caterer with a copy of the OZ's "Kashrut Guide."