

The NYC Gathering Presents

# Families Created through Donor and Surrogacy



## Conversations for Parents

Sunday, November 15, 2009

Professionally-led workshop created by  
**PATRICIA MENDELL, LCSW & JUDITH KOTTICK, LCSW**

Co-sponsored by  
**SARA AXEL,**  
Peer Support Group Leader

**THIS WORKSHOP IS FOR PARENTS AND PARENTS-TO-BE** who are seeking the tools to talk with children about family origins. Hear from professionals, parents and children who will bring to life the disclosure process and provide guidance on how to create meaningful family stories.

Participants will learn how to:

- Develop comfortable, age-appropriate language for the disclosure process
- Identify the different ages and stages children go through in understanding their genetics and family origins
- Answer children's questions with confidence
- Decide when and how to share with friends and family

### When + Where

**Date** Sunday, November 15, 2009

**Time** 12:30-5:00 pm

*Included: Handouts, Babysitting and Refreshments*

**Place** Ansche Chesed Synagogue

251 West 100th Street between Broadway and West End New York, NY 10025  
(#1 Train to 103rd or #2 or #3 to 96th)

### Who Speakers

Patricia Mendell, LCSW ([www.patriciamendell.com](http://www.patriciamendell.com))

Judith Kottick, LCSW ([www.jkfertilitycounseling.com](http://www.jkfertilitycounseling.com))

For further information call (973) 746-7370 or (212) 819-1778.

Return registration form and payment to: Sara Axel, 102 Poplar Street, W. Hempstead, NY 11552

### Registration Form

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS WORKSHOP? \_\_\_\_\_

JOIN CONVERSATIONS FOR PARENTS

### Workshop Schedule

12:30-12:45  
Registration

12:45 – 1:00  
Introduction and Welcome

1:00 – 1:45  
Disclosure: common themes, what we know about healthy families, and current research

1:45 – 2:45  
Creating the Family Story: when to start; how to begin the story; and answering your child's questions

2:45 – 3:00  
Break

3:00 – 4:00  
Talking to “the others” in your life: grand-parents, siblings, extended family members, neighbors, close friends, the pediatrician, the teacher, the clergy, and other children.

4:00 – 5:15  
Panel: donor/surrogate parents, and donor children

\_\_\_\_\_ \$75 Individual

\_\_\_\_\_ \$95 Adults with partner or children

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total amount of check enclosed

*Make check payable to Sara Axel*



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# Families Created through Donor and Surrogacy Conversations for Parents

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A  
workshop for parents  
and parents-to-be who are  
seeking the tools to talk with  
children about family origins.

*See reverse side for details*