100 for 100 WRJ NORTHEAST DISTRICT MITZVAH PROJECT

The Executive Committee of the WRJ Northeast District participated in a 100 for 100 Mitzvah Project, collecting hats, mittens or gloves, scarves, socks, coloring books with crayons, and new or gently used children's books. Gift bags containing one outer wear clothing item, one pair of socks, and an age appropriate coloring book, or a reading book were put together by women attending the WRJ Northeast District Executive Board meeting on October 5-6, 2013. In all, 111 bags were produced in celebration of Women of Reform Judaism's 100- year celebration.

We were put in touch with Zaida Esteremera, Case Manager of Casa Nueva Vida, Inc. Casa Nueva Vida has 2 locations, one in Jamaica Plain (Boston) MA, and one in Lawrence, MA. They currently service 30 families, composed of women and children, inhouse, between the two locations. They provide training and educational opportunities, including a teen program. They are expanding the Lawrence location to be able to service 10 more families.

In addition, Zaida is in touch with other women and children in need within these communities. She will be able to distribute all 111 of our bags. Their website is <u>casanuevavida.org</u> if you would like to see what they are doing.

We delivered the bags to Casa Nueva Vida on October 9, 2013. Zaida and her staff were excited, and extremely thankful for our generosity. The shelter was sponsoring a barbeque dinner that evening, and Zaida intended to begin distributing our bags to deserving children during that event.









