



KEDUSHA
SPIRITUALITY

This pillar represents one who understands and appreciates G-d's presence in the world and sanctifies our lives through the study and practice of mitzvot.

The Seven Pillars inspire Akiba's philosophy: individuality, respect, love of Israel, lifelong Jewish learning, global responsibility, spirituality and comprehensive Judaic and general education.

RABBI MIKE ROVINSKY '76

KEDUSHA PILLAR PROFILE

MORE ABOUT MIKE

St. Louis Director of Midwest NCSY Jewish Youth Group

It was Akiba's passionate Torah educators of the 70's, who infused our educational experience with frequent invites for Shabbat and Yom Tov meals at their homes, Shabbaton experiences, camping trips and Torah classes that touched not only our minds but our neshamos (soul) as well, that laid the seeds for my passion for Torah Judaism and the path that my life has taken.

Following a long career in formal education and administration both back at Akiba and in St. Louis, I took what was to be a 3 month leave of absence from a HR software company I helped start with a student to "help out" the local NCSY Jewish youth group program. Sixteen years later our local NCSY program, last year alone, engaged 811 unique teens, 7,094 times at 342 events.

My life's mission has been to share the beauty of Torah and our heritage with those who were not as fortunate to receive a meaningful and inspirational Torah education. I strive to achieve this in everything I do whether it's through my work with NCSY, adult classes, community organizational involvement and as a mohel with my bris milah (circumcision) practice, which takes me throughout the United States making bris milah a heartwarming and meaningful Jewish experience and serves as a gateway for many of my bris families to further Jewish engagement.