

The National Association of Chevra Kadisha (NASCK), founded in 1996, was created to assist chevros kadisha in defining, establishing, and achieving the highest degree of *kavod hameis* (Respect for the Deceased) as defined by Jewish law. NASCK also creates and advances programs and initiatives to promote traditional Jewish end-of-life values.

Over the past 20 years, NASCK has used workshops, legislative initiatives, and educational programming to help people navigate the trying time of losing a loved one. NASCK teaches chevros kadisha best practices for dealing with complex taharos, and influences funeral homes and cemeteries to accommodate Jewish funeral practices.

In addition, NASCK has prevented countless cremations through direct intervention, education, and guidance. Through its innovative ideas, programs, and practices, NASCK leads the fight against the growing trend of cremation among Jews.



UNITING CHEVROS KADISHA

•
ENHANCING KAVOD HAMEIS

•
PROMOTING AWARENESS OF
SANCTITY OF LIFE AND
TRADITIONAL JEWISH BURIAL

•
PROVIDING JEWISH
COMMUNITIES WITH ESSENTIAL
END-OF-LIFE RESOURCES



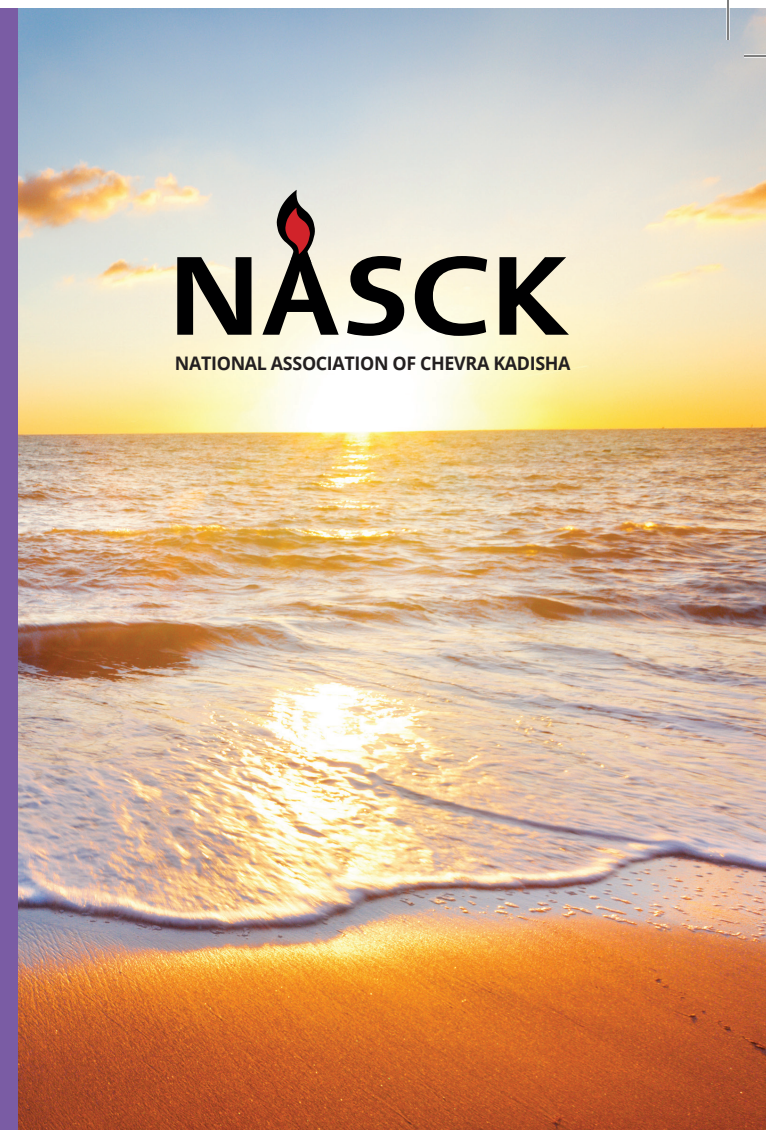
85-18 117th Street
Richmond Hill, NY 11418



New York: (718) 847 6280
Florida: (561) 376-9972



www.nasck.org
www.peacefulreturn.com
www.teamshabbos.org
www.southfloridajewishcemetery.org



*Uniting Chevros Kadisha
Enhancing Kavod Hameis
Respecting Life –
Here and Hereafter*

MOURNERS

"NICHUM V'NECHAMAH," a kit for mourners that includes:

Videos of well-known speakers offering guidance, comfort, and inspiration

Poster for the front door of the *shivah* house with *tefilah* times and a few pointers for the *shivah* visit

Card with a broad range of practical guidelines for *aveilim* and for those visiting the *shivah* house

BOOKS about the soul, the afterlife, and the laws of *shivah*

"ENDURING LOSS," our newest outreach initiative, includes:

Webinars, support groups, and individual meetings helping those who are grieving for a loved one

A series of booklets on a variety of topics through which mourners can find direction and meaning from a Torah perspective

GUIDANCE to those who lost, or are about to lose, a loved one. NASCK offers expert advice on indigent burial, preventing a cremation or autopsy, and answers questions about funeral choices, *aninus*, *shivah*, *aveilus*, and much more.

CHEVROS KADISHA

NASCK.ORG offers access to a wealth of information, products, and services, including:

"CHECK," Connecting, Helping & Enriching Chevros Kadisha, a series of webinars demonstrating best practices, and discussing issues that impact every chevra kadisha

24/6 HOTLINE to answer questions during a *taharah*, as well as other emergency chevra kadisha and burial issues

NEWSLETTER highlighting topics of interest and *halachah* relevant to every chevra kadisha

EDUCATIONAL BROCHURES explain the meaning behind Jewish burial traditions; provide guidance to those encouraging others to choose burial; and highlight the many advantages of Jewish burial over cremation

WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES across the country on a variety of chevra kadisha and end-of-life issues

THE ARON MEHUDAR, an *aron* designed by NASCK to maximize *kavod hameis*. The bottom is removed in a way that eliminates the need for anyone involved in the burial to go into the grave.

COMMUNITIES

TEAM SHABBOS: Hundreds of shuls dedicate Parshas Vayechi to discussing the sanctity of life, awareness and preparation for end-of-life decisions, and to promoting traditional burial. TEAMShabbos.org provides resources to help rabbis open the conversation on these complex and sensitive topics.

THE SOUTH FLORIDA JEWISH CEMETERY (SFJC) is NASCK's most ambitious project to date. In order to lower burial cost and thus fight the cremation trend, SFJC provides all Jews access to dignified, *halachic* burial. Since opening in January 2019, SFJC has provided nearly 100 burials – primarily for people who had been considering cremation – and has buried more than two dozen *mesei mitzvah*.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING: NASCK provides toolkits and hands-on guidance to communities wishing to hold Halachic Living Will sign-up events. NASCK speakers travel to communities across North America to share and promote Jewish end-of-life values.

LEADERSHIP on complex issues regarding burial and cremation; autopsy; interstate transfer; chevra kadisha, funeral home and cemetery practices; and more.

