When a loved one dies, Rabbi Jeremy and Machar’s Mishpachah Committee are key sources of guidance and support. But Machar has also taken a step to help reduce the stress of making funeral arrangements. Machar has joined the Jewish Funeral Practices Committee of Greater Washington. This membership allows Machar members access to a Jewish funeral package for a predetermined price under $2,000, which is well below the usual cost of a funeral home’s services.

The contract provides for the following: picking up the body at the place of death; transportation to the funeral home, the funeral, and the cemetery; refrigeration; a simple casket; and use of the funeral home chapel for the funeral service, if desired. Other items, like limousine service, are available at a fixed but additional cost. The funeral package price also does not include the cost of a cemetery plot or cemetery charges for opening and closing the grave. Please note that this contract is based on the premise that the arrangements will be for burial; cremation services are not covered.

This does not require making arrangements with the funeral home in advance (“pre-need”). At the time of death, D.C. and Maryland residents should call Hines-Rinaldi Funeral Home (301-622-2290) and request funeral arrangements under the Jewish Funeral Package contract. Virginia residents should call Cunningham Turch Funeral Home (703-549-1700).