

Avrohom Y. Perlstein

Avrohom Y. Perlstein is a Chaplain at the Oregon State Penitentiary in Salem. At OSP he runs a Restorative Justice Program which includes a writing class and an inside out class that partners with Willamette University. Students are brought in during a semester where they interact with inmates and work together to create a reform project. When Avrohom is not at OSP he is the Rabbi and Director of the Chabad Center for Jewish Life in Salem. The Center serves the Salem Jewish community as a resource in town for any person who wants more out of life and wants to know the traditional approach Jews have used through their 4000 year history.

Avrohom got his BA in Rabbinics, Hebrew and Philosophy through the Yeshiva Gedolah of Miami after doing stents at the Rabbinical Collage of America in Morriston, NJ and Yeshiva Gedolah of Buenos Aires, Argentina. He then received a MA in Rabbinics in 2004. Since then he's worked as an administrator and teacher for the Yeshiva High School of Tucson, Arizona. He worked as a program director for the Shul Center in Bayside, Wisconsin. In 2007 Avrohom moved with his wife and two children to Salem, Oregon to establish the Center for Jewish Life. In 2014 Avrohom signed on with the Department of Corrections as a Chaplain and has held that position ever since. In all that Avrohom does he is dedicated to his tradition which drives his decision making, which is focused on making the world a more peaceful and engaging place for all. Many RJ practices are deeply rooted in ancient tradition like Judaism, it's those same values that motivates Avrohom to pursue every avenue to facilitate a wholesome outcome of every conflict he comes across, be it in the prison or in the community.

His belief is that every person is endowed with a profound ability and desire to want to do/be good. It can always be accessible and revealed as long as you reach for it. Treat humans in a humane way and a compassionate manner they will respond in kind, it is part of our nature to do so.

Avrohom lives in Salem with his wife and seven adorable children.