

RUTH BRANDWEIN (Board Member)

I have been a member of Kol HaNeshama since 2009, and served a previous term on the Board from 2011 to 2015. I rejoined the Board in 2022, now serving in my second year. I organized the popular Books and Bagels program in 2009 and continue to chair this monthly program. In addition, I was a member of the recently concluded Rabbi Search Committee and will also be tasked with developing a long-range plan for the congregation.

I have been a full-time resident of Sarasota since 2010, upon retirement. I am Dean and Professor Emeritus at Stony Brook University School of Social Welfare. I have taught, written, and lectured nationally and internationally on family violence, poverty, single mothers, feminist theory and women in administration.

In Sarasota, I spent six years as a member of the County Human Services Advisory Council, chaired the Sarasota Community Alliance Legislative Committee and currently serve as Sarasota Legislative Chair and Chair of Florida PACE (Political Advocacy and Candidate Endorsements) for the National Association of Social Workers. I also chair the Sarasota League of Women Voters Health Team.

I am the proud mother of Garth and Lorena and kvelling grandmother of four adult grandchildren.