



Rabbi B. Elka Abrahamson

Rabbi B. Elka Abrahamson is President of The Wexner Foundation. She oversees the Foundation's full range of activities imagining how the Foundation might further strengthen and educate Jewish professional and volunteer leaders in North America and public service leaders in the State of Israel. Rabbi Abrahamson has been associated with the Foundation for many years. She was the Director of the Graduate Fellowship Program and Vice President prior to assuming her current role in 2011. A proud member of the Frozen Chosen, Elka, a native Minnesotan, earned her teaching degree from the University of Minnesota and spent the early years of her career creating curricula for religious schools and informal educational settings, particularly Jewish camps. Her Jewish soul sprang to life at Camp Herzl in Wisconsin and her Jewish leadership blossomed at Camp Swig in Northern California. She is still a camper at heart. Elka began her career as associate rabbi at Peninsula Temple Beth El, San Mateo, CA. She then served, with her husband, Rabbi Martin (Misha) Zinkow, as co-senior rabbi at Mount Zion Temple in St. Paul, MN. Rabbi Abrahamson, a dynamic speaker and engaging teacher, is tenaciously optimistic about the Jewish future owing to the remarkable leaders she encounters in her work. She received the Bernard Reisman Award as an outstanding member of the professional Jewish community and is a very proud past recipient of the Ben Mandelkorn Award. Newsweek once named her one of the 50 most influential rabbis in North America and, even better, her award winning hamantashen were featured in the Columbus Dispatch.

Elka is an avid student and dedicated teacher of Mussar. She loves a good football game, especially if the Vikings (or Buckeyes) are winning.