



## Reinvent Yourself ~ Pursue Your Passions

Relocation Grants up to \$50,000 per Family  
Dothan, Alabama

**The IDEAL place for age 55+ Jewish living!**

Make your life even better, find new challenges and move boldly forward in Dothan. Our high quality of life offers Jewish adults every opportunity to continue their active working lifestyle.

Whether you're moving southeast to be closer to family, friends or pursuing your passions, come join us in Dothan!

**Dothan's cost of living is 36% of the national average!**

**If you move here from Baltimore, MD:**

**Housing is 53% less**

**Utilities are 31% less**

**Health care is 18% less**

- ✧ Southern charm and warm hospitality
- ✧ Thriving small city, vibrant and growing extended family congregation (Temple Emanu-El)
- ✧ Regional hub of higher education, health care, and commerce
- ✧ Get involved with spirited, abundant volunteer opportunities
- ✧ Lively arts scene, lots of outdoor fitness and affordable housing

BLUMBERG FAMILY  
JEWISH COMMUNITY  
SERVICES OF DOTHAN  
(334) 793-6855 ext. 270  
BFJCS.org

To help your family relocate to Dothan, we can provide up to \$50,000 of financial assistance for those who qualify.

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practices that accompanied its teachings, the movement had a powerful reforming influence on Jewish life. It turned Judaism away from a grim, sterile religious academicism practiced by an elite to a joyous, democratic expression of love of God and people.

### Emancipation

The Eastern European Jewish world remained tightly shut against western influences into the 1800s, but Western Europe was seething with new ideas. Manufacturing and commerce were growing. Kings fell as revolution broke out in France and spread to neighboring lands. The Jews of those lands were suddenly free to move out of ghettos. It was an exhilarating change for many, but some of the newly emancipated Jews became embarrassed and uneasy about their traditional ideas and practices. Conduct that had seemed appropriate in the ghetto appeared chauvinistic and even crude in the outside world. In Seesen, Germany, a movement for reform of Jewish worship began. In 1810 the reformers opened their first synagogue. It would revolutionize Jewish life for more than two centuries to come. (To learn more about the origins of Reform Judaism, see "In Search of Belonging" on page 48.)

### Zionism & Israel

Seventy years after the first Reform temple in Germany opened its doors, many Jews in Eastern Europe began to migrate to the West in search of greater freedom; a few others, inspired by Jewish history and tradition, sought to establish their own national home in the land of Israel. Jews around the world contributed money to help build the land. The Holocaust, destroying one third of world Jewry during World War II, was a factor in bringing the question of Jewish statehood to the podium of the United Nations, which voted to establish both Jewish and Arab states in British-occupied Palestine.

On a tense evening in May 1948, the leaders of the Jewish Agency for Palestine declared the establishment of the State of Israel. Immediately the Egyptian air force bombed Tel Aviv and the armies of five Arab states attacked the new state.