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IMPACT!

DONOR APPRECIATION REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2026



THE LIVES YOU ARE IMPACTING

Find out how YOU raised Jewish pride and commitment throughout our community



MY CAUSE

Before I will answer the questions “why Chabad? why support Chabad?” I need to provide some background information. I grew up in Bensonhurst, Brooklyn in an ‘Orthodox-turned-Conservative’ Jewish home that was not only filled with parental love and guidance, but also, with unconditional faith and trust in G-d. When I married and nurtured a Jewish family, we followed many of the practices of a Conservative Jewish way of living. My son continued his upbringing as his family practices a similar lifestyle.

However, life had a way of fracturing my heart separating me from my beliefs and faith. Even though I went through the motions of practicing Jewish traditions, I belonged to the non-affiliated Jewish population. For many years I felt disillusioned and apart from my core belief system. When I disclosed those feelings to my Rabbi, he confidently advised me that “Esther, you will come back.” His words resonated in me as I still remember that moment and the so many moments during which I searched for ways to ‘come back.’ As life would have it, a couple of years ago my dear friends invited me to join them at a Shabbat dinner hosted by Rabbi Mendy and Brocha Teldon. From that Friday night on I became curiously interested in the Mid-Suffolk Chabad.

So, why Chabad? A simple response is connection. Yes, connection.

Connection to my Jewish DNA occurred especially when attending Chabad gatherings, celebrations and programs. The old memories of my past plus the new real-time memories brought back to life my sense of believing.

Connection to extraordinary Jewish wisdom. The adult education courses and lectures awakened me to the written laws (Torah) and rabbinic discussions and applications (Talmud).

Connection to the Jewish community. The sense of being unconditionally included and accepted fulfilled a feeling of belongingness that reassured me that I was not alone.

These welcoming connections to my heritage, my needs for belongingness and life-long learning are reasons enough to answer the question ‘why Chabad.’ Chabad enables me to comfortably be Jewish without imposing a ‘one size fits all’ lifestyle. I honestly can say that I now understand the meaning of those prophetic words: “Esther, you will come back.”

- Esther Bogin



MY COMMUNITY

As an Israeli Shlichut (representative of the Jewish Agency) on Long Island, there are many goals I hoped to achieve. Above all, I wanted to create meaningful connections and make a lasting impact. While I came to strengthen the community’s connection to Israel, I also found myself searching to deepen my own connection to my Jewish identity. That is where Chabad became such a meaningful part of my journey.

From the very beginning of my shlichut (mission), Rabbi Mendy Teldon made a genuine effort to build a strong relationship with the Israeli delegation through welcoming Shabbat dinners, meaningful conversations, and opportunities to participate in Chabad events. By embracing us so warmly, he not only made us feel at home, but also introduced us to many members of the community, expanding our ability to build relationships and create an even greater impact.

As an Israeli, it is not always easy to define your Jewish identity. Living on Long Island exposed us to the beautiful diversity within Jewish life, and through Chabad I discovered an approach to Judaism that is welcoming, encouraging, and nonjudgmental.

By inspiring us to take on mitzvot one step at a time, Chabad showed me that Judaism is not about perfection, but about growth. As I prepare to return to Israel, I do so with a stronger sense of my Jewish identity and a renewed desire to share what I have learned with my friends and family; the beauty of our traditions, the joy of mitzvot, and the power of prayer and connection.

One of the most meaningful experiences I had with Chabad was the privilege of visiting the Ohel (The Rebbe’s resting place) and 770 (The Chabad headquarters). Standing in those places of such deep spiritual significance gave me an even greater appreciation for the values that Chabad lives by every day. I will always be grateful for the warmth, guidance, and sense of belonging that Chabad gave both me and the entire Israeli delegation.

- Maya Yaron

a. Mens
Yeshiva
Night



a.



b.

b. An
inspirational
evening
with Rabbi
Schmotikin,
author of
*Letters for
Life*

c. A moment to
connect



c.



d.

d. Mazal Tov
to our Hebrew
School students
for completing
the year!

e. BBYO
Shabbat at the
Teldon home



e.



f.

f. High School
Hebrew Culture
Club making
challah!

g. Bringing
in Shabbat
with the
light of the
shabbat
candles

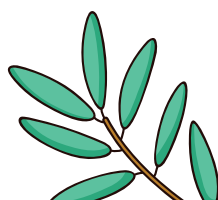


g.



h.

h. G-d's
greatest
security
system





THOUGHTS FROM THE RABBI

DEAR FRIENDS,

The shofar is a simple instrument. It has no keys, no strings, and no elaborate melody. Yet its cry reaches deeper than words.

The shofar reminds us that powerful Jewish moments often begin with one pure act: one person showing up, one family lighting candles, one child learning a Hebrew letter, one donor choosing to care.

That is the impact you make.

Because of your generosity, Jewish life in Mid-Suffolk is stronger, warmer, and more accessible. You help create places where people can pray, learn, celebrate, connect, and feel that they belong.

As we hear the shofar this Rosh Hashanah, we hope you will hear within its call the echoes of every life you have touched through your support.

Thank you for standing with our community and helping awaken Jewish hearts. May the merit of your kindness bring you and your family a year of health, blessing, joy, and peace.

Shanah Tovah!

- **Rabbi Mendel & Brocha Teldon**

“ SUSAN’S FATHER IS IN REHAB RECOVERING FROM A BROKEN HIP. I saw him today and put tefillin on him and his roommate.

- Steve

“ I WAS IN HEBREW SCHOOL FOR 4 YEARS. Tonight, over dinner, I learned more than all of that together!

- M

“ LAST NIGHT WAS A MEANINGFUL KICK-OFF to my personal spiritual journey establishing balance and trust in living.

- Esther

“ THANK YOU FOR MAKING ME AWARE OF MY HEBREW BIRTHDAY. YOUR EMAIL BRIGHTENED MY DAY. With this knowledge, I will make it count. Blessings to you and your family.

- Lillian

“ THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR HAVING US FOR SHABBAT DINNER. Always leave the shabbat service learning something new and inspiration to do more. Thank you for our “legs”, we will be helping others get their “legs” as well.

- Randy & Sandy

“ THANK YOU ONCE AGAIN FOR ANOTHER YEAR OF WONDERFUL LEADERSHIP. We’re in awe of the success of Chabad in the Commack area!

- Beatrice & Akiva



LEAVE AN ETERNAL LEGACY

Contact Rabbi Mendel Teldon about the spiritual and financial benefits that a legacy gift can bring to you and your family: 631.767.3144.

Remember Chabad of Mid-Suffolk in your will.