

בי"ה

# IMPACT!

DONOR APPRECIATION REPORT

SUMMER 2023



How you bring the joy of Judaism to our community



## MY CAUSE



Being a part of the Chabad of Mid-Suffolk community is no small thing. Being a part of Chabad has propelled our small family of four into an entire world of non-judgemental, inclusive Judaism. It is a place where you can immediately feel the warmth of Rabbi Mendy, his amazing wife Brocha and the entire Teldon family. Unfortunately, in these divisive times we as Jews all need a safe place to land, and for our family, that safe place has always been Chabad.

For those who may not know, once you have made friends with your local Chabad community, you automatically become part of a beautiful worldwide network of non-judgmental Judaism.

Paul and I were blessed to be able to join the Jewish Learning Institutes trip to Israel, with a group from our Chabad led by Rabbi Mendy and Brocha this past March. We were there, not only as members of our Mid-Suffolk community, but became part of the larger world wide Chabad community. We had experiences that can only be described as “miraculous” and felt the warm and open embrace of Judaism that only the Chabad can bring.

Our beautiful daughters have also been touched by the amazing outreach of Chabad. They were both so fortunate to have amazing Chabad families at their college campuses where they made lifelong friends and where they were given a true home away from home.

As members and supporters of the Chabad of Mid-Suffolk we have found a warm, friendly and inclusive place to embrace our Judaism. We are forever grateful to Rabbi Mendy and Brocha.

**- Bonnie Leibman**



## MY COMMUNITY

For over 50 years I was a member of a Temple that left me wanting. I was a student in their Hebrew school, studied my Haftorah and had my Bar Mitzvah there. I remained a member at this Temple for the next 51 years.

The problem for me was I felt an absence of spirituality, everyone was nice enough, but I felt a lack of a connection to both the congregation and G-d.

Three years ago, my girlfriend and I decided to attend Chabad during the High Holidays to see if this would be the right fit for us. The service was different than what I was accustomed to, yet I felt at home. There was the spiritual relationship I had desired and not felt previously, which made me long for more of a connection with a Temple community.

I remember the Rabbi saying during one of his High Holiday sermons, just pick one mitzvah and start there. He suggested that on Shabbat we try to eat a kosher meal. So, now on Friday nights we eat a vegetarian meal.

This was a great start, but I needed more. Now, I had a strong feeling to start my mornings by putting on Tefillin which is something I hadn't done for at least 50 years.

I met with Rabbi Teldon who reintroduced me to the ritual of putting on Tefillin.

The Adult Education courses Susan and I take at Chabad open our hearts and minds to the wonders and mysteries of our Jewish heritage. Rabbi Teldon offers his unique wit and insight into the various topics we are presented with.

The Rabbi, his wife Brocha, their children and the congregation have been very welcoming and have made our experience even more enjoyable. Practicing Judaism has become more meaningful and spiritually moving.

My neshamah found a Rabbi and a home at Chabad.

I am grateful that G-d has led me to Chabad of Mid-Suffolk.

**- Dr. Steven Goldstein**



a. Deep in thought, studying with our JLI class



b. The next generation learning Hebrew fluency

c. Spreading the happiness of Passover



d. Having a great time at the Purim adult social

e. Learning the secrets of Jewish intimacy at a Mikvah tour

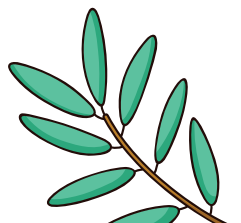


f. Visiting the tombs of our grandparents in Hebron

g. Getting ready to deliver 1,000 boxes of Matzah to the community



h. Brooklyn tour with Shabbat in the Heights





# RABBI'S LETTER

## DEAR FRIENDS,

There is a delicious custom on the holiday of Shavuot to eat dairy foods.

Cheese Cake, Blintzes, Ice Cream, Fettuccine Alfredo, and more, have all crept into the menu of holiday delicacies even though our grandparents never had the opportunity to taste them in the shtetl.

One reason for this tradition is that after receiving the Torah, it took some time for the Jews to learn the intricacies of preparing Meat dishes. So until they understood the process, they stuck to the cereal and milk of the day.

But the explanation I like most is that it is a lesson about the core of what the Torah is. A mother's milk is quite special. It has in it all the nutrients that a child needs and generally, the baby doesn't need supplements from other

sources. Just keep giving the milk and the child will be healthy.

The Torah is the same: Someone might be looking for purpose, inspiration, meaning, values, ethics, direction, and more. But no need to look further. Whatever your soul is looking for, the Torah has it all. Just keep studying Torah and all your questions will fade away.

So as we just celebrated the anniversary of the giving of the Torah during the holiday of Shavuot for the 3335 time, thank YOU for bringing EVERYTHING to our community. Through your support, EVERYONE has an opportunity to get their needs met through their connection to the Torah and Judaism that is readily available to them and their family.

Thanks for EVERYTHING!

- Rabbi Mendel & Brocha Teldon



IT WAS GREAT coming to services. I always feel very comfortable and I feel like I did something right when I come there. Thanks for everything

- Jay



THANK YOU so much for including us and our daughter in the delivery today with the Shumurah Matzah. We will certainly put the Shumurah Matzah each Seder evening on our table after 7:51 pm each night, to fulfill the Mitzvah of eating Matzah. Wishing everyone a very happy and healthy Pesach.

- Ira



THANK YOU for bringing me to the Rebbe's resting place. It was a profound, intense, channel opening to the mind and heart experience! Thank you for your wisdom, friendship and support.

- C.E.



THANK YOU so much for your support and leading the shiva service for our father. It really meant a lot to our family and he always enjoyed attending the holiday services.

- Rich



I WANT to thank you both most sincerely for your wonderful hospitality. It was my pleasure to share that lovely evening with members of your congregation, guests and family. That night will stand out as truly a special blessing for all time.

- Lisa



WITH OUR upcoming trip to Israel, we thought we would send a thank you for all that you did to make this trip a reality for us! We are so beyond excited and grateful that this dream is coming true. To us this dream represents a promise of a new level of our Judaism and spirituality!

- M.



## 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.