

# IMPACT!

DONOR APPRECIATION REPORT

—  
WINTER  
2018



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**How you are making a  
difference in the Commack area**



**Harriet Kulka**

Dean of Students  
Campus Dean of NYIT, Retired

## WHY CHABAD

I grew up in a traditional Jewish home and always believed that as an adult, I would go to Temple and create a Jewish home for my family. Nevertheless, I found that I was often uncomfortable in the Temples I attended. I didn't know what I was looking for, but I knew I didn't have it yet.

Fast forward many years and I meet a young couple who truly have a unique gift. They make each member of their congregation feel special. Every activity is interesting, educational and delicious!

Rabbi Mendy and Brocha have created an atmosphere of acceptance and love. The people I have met at Chabad are lovely, gracious and welcoming. They have become my friends. We take classes together, have informal social gatherings and even have a Super Bowl Party, complete with Kosher food.

I know that my Rabbi and Rebbetzin are here for me. Whether in times of joy or sorrow, I can count on them for counsel and support. I have found what I was always searching for - a Synagogue I feel is my home.

Consequently, I give my charity to Chabad of Mid-Suffolk. I realize that by supporting this organization, I am helping to spread Judaism across the Island. Wherever you travel, there is always a Chabad House whose doors are open and who make a weary traveler feel welcome.



**Adam Waywell**

## YOUR NEIGHBOR

I'm currently taking my second course with Rabbi Mendel Teldon. As a 48 year old Reformed Jewish Man, I think it's important to continue to grow my knowledge of Judaism. The coursework successfully allows me to gain insight by discussing Jewish History while at the same time helps me create meaning in my current day to day life.

In my first course, Great Jewish Debates, I was able to study historical readings from the text with detailed explanation and analysis. In this course, we are tackling a modern theme - Communication, again basing the course work from a Torah/Talmudic based perspective.

These opportunities have filled me in several ways.

I'm not a regular at Temple, services, or home practice of Jewish tradition. Yet, the gathering of numerous fellow Jews to learn, helps me see that I am part of community.

In addition, as a result of the classes, I've attended other events as well. My partner Kaitlyn and I both attended the High Holidays where I felt honored to be gifted the opportunity to visit the Bima and to hold the Torah. Subsequently, we also attended the Chabad Sukkot dinner and again, were happy to experience the gift of community with fellow Jews.



# Portraits of Growth



Hebrew School



Around Town



Chanukah



Adult Education



## M.B. – Dix Hills

Right after class I thought a great deal about what we learned and have been striving to work on myself accordingly. I loved the class tremendously and can't wait for the next one. I guess you could teach an 'old dog' new tricks so to speak. Thanks!



## M.F. - S. James

Thank you again for a great evening on Friday. What a great meal!! I can't believe you're not 300 lbs. Brocha is some cook! My wife really enjoyed your thoughts, as did I. It was a very special evening. Thank you very much for including us.



## R.L. - Commack

My Aunt is currently looking at homes in Commack. After she attended services with us this past Shabbat, she told my mom she has never felt so comfortable in a synagogue before and she wants to become part of the community here. I don't think she has seen the inside of a Shul since my brother's Bar Mitzvah and I don't remember when before that. It is such a blessing to have found this community. My family and I truly feel at home here.



## B.L. – East Northport

Dear Rabbi,  
Wow, did your sermon hit home. . .Some days are harder than others. Your sermon gave us a little more strength to dance in the rain. We thank you.

## Thoughts from the Rabbi



How's this for drama in the Purim story?

At one point, with the evil Haman (Boo!) waiting in the wings, Mordechai gathers 22,000 Jewish children - you read that right – 22,000! He asks them to pray. He asks them to study Torah. And he says, those efforts can and will tip the scales for the good, and the Jews will come out on top. And we all know how that story ended.

It is all about Jewish education. When educating children – be it children according to one's passport or children in knowledge, we are insuring the next generation and the Jewish future.

It's your support that has made Jewish education happen locally, affecting hundreds of families throughout the Mid-Suffolk area.

In the name of the Kindergarten girl who is learning an Aleph and in the name of the 50 year old couple relearning their Judaism, Thank you!

*Mendel Teldon*