

IMPACT!

DONOR APPRECIATION REPORT

SUMMER
2018



CHABAD
MID SUFFOLK

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



Sarah Strent

YOUR NEIGHBOR

As our Cteen (Chabad Teen Network) of West Suffolk year end trip, we went on a Shabbaton to Washington D.C. If I was to choose two words to sum it up, I would choose the words “inspiring” and “incredible”. We began the weekend by visiting the Holocaust Museum. Most of us were in denial because we couldn’t even begin to imagine what horrors and tragedies the Jews faced during the Holocaust. It made us recognize how lucky we are to be here today, together, thriving as a group of proud Jewish teenagers.

Shabbat was extremely influential because we were able to disconnect from our daily lives and tune into our emotional and spiritual selves. It was truly unbelievable how one family hosted over a hundred teens and college students at their own house.

Shabbat day was a blast! We played games, sang songs, and even walked to the White House. That night, we went on a bus tour of all the monuments. I loved making Havdalah in front of the Lincoln Memorial. It felt amazing to represent ourselves and not be afraid to show off our Jewish pride.

This Shabbaton motivated me to be a more kind, respectful, and persistent young woman. With everything bad going on in our society today, it is important to remain optimistic and hold on to our love for Judaism. I took so much away from this trip: I gained more knowledge on Judaism and Jewish history and connected with many Jewish teens I know I will remain very close with. Thank you, CTeen, for another inspiring and incredible weekend!



Steve Lewen

WHY CHABAD

I was raised in a Reform Shul and briefly attended a Conservative congregation. To put it mildly, I wasn’t very involved Jewishly. Yet despite our ‘sampling’ of other congregations, Michele and I keep coming back to Chabad of Mid-Suffolk.

Why?

The tone is set by Rabbi Mendy and Brocha. I remember Brocha greeting me at the door when I first arrived at Chabad nearly a decade ago. I told her it was my first time here. She handed me a prayer book and said, “You are always welcome here.” So it was then and still is today.

No matter how infrequent I attend prayers or community events and no matter how poorly my Hebrew literacy, I ALWAYS feel welcomed by all. There is a caring, loving, community spirit that one always feels upon entering the doors of Chabad.

Rabbi Mendy has been there for me on many occasions, always ready to listen and comfort. He guided me to understand and accept my beloved father’s illness and eventual passing. He helped me through the profound sadness and hopeless feelings I experienced with my dying best friend. And he has helped soothe my frustrations with current world events.

So why do we support Chabad when there are hundreds of other worthy charities? At Chabad of Mid-Suffolk one can experience the full flavor of their contributions using all five primary senses. You can “feel” the religious experience, “smell” and “taste” the wonderful samplings of food and “see” and “hear” the sounds of joy and companionship.

A tremendous return on investment!



Portraits of Growth



Recent CTeen events



Raffle Drawing Event



Mitzvahs Around Town

You wrote this



Won't stop talking

I can't tell you how nice that was to drop off the Challahs on Friday. They were incredibly good-I don't think my mother or my son who was home will ever stop talking about how good they were. J. S. - Huntington



New chapter

We wanted to take a minute to thank you for the mezuzah you gave us for our wedding! It is absolutely beautiful and extremely thoughtful of you! Thank you again for thinking of us as we begin this next chapter in our lives. C. & J. F. - Commack



Always there

I wanted to let you know how grateful I am for all that Chabad did for our family. As I was going through the divorce, you embraced us. My son R always knew (and still knows) that you are there for him and it has changed his life in such a positive way. R. L. - Dix Hills



High point

Thanks for stopping by. I am looking forward to seeing you again on Simchas Torah! It is one of the high points of my year, watching you totally enjoy yourself along with fellow congregants dancing with the Torahs! L.M. - Commack



The Embrace

There are three holidays in the next month, each one taking us to a higher realm. Rosh Hashanah gives us an opportunity to recommit to being the best person we can be. On Yom Kippur we take a brief time out from worldly pleasures and raise ourselves above the regular human experience and connect to a more spiritual world, like the angels.

Then comes my favorite holiday: Sukkos. We sit outside with family, friends and good food. The walls of the Sukkah represent G-d embracing us with an unconditional love, accepting us exactly the way we are. When we pass on that spiritual hug, we become just like G-d!

That is the mindset you have created at Chabad of Mid-Suffolk: An unconditional embrace of every Jew giving them a place where they can come and connect to G-d.

In the name of all those that have received a Chabad of Mid-Suffolk hug through your support: Thanks!

Mendel Teldon