



HIGHLIGHTS OF YEDEI CHESSED



Vol. 3, Issue 7

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On December 1 - 3, 2006, Parshas Vayetze, Yedei Chesed hosted a Magic Moments Weekend Retreat at The Lodge in upstate New York. The parents enjoyed a wonderfully relaxing and motivational Shabbos while having the opportunity to network with other parents. Rabbis Baruch Rabinowitz, Chanoch Rosenberg, and Zalmen Markowitz delivered powerful messages throughout Shabbos that were thought provoking, as well as inspiring.

Additionally, everyone enjoyed Divrei Torah given at the seudos by Mr. Eliezer Gewirtzman, Mr. Yaakov Steinhart, and Rabbi Mutty Leiser. We would like to thank Mrs. Sarah Sander for leading several wonderful mother's support groups over Shabbos. After an emotional and moving Shabbos, the olam was treated to a magical performance by Mr. Ben Cohen and a delicious Melava Malka.

Yedei Chesed would like to thank Mrs. Sarah Gargir and everyone else who joined in this wonderful experience to make it the special and memorable event that it was.



Chanukah Gifts

The Medicaid Service Coordination Department enjoyed its annual tradition of giving Chanukah gifts to all MSC clients. Each gift was carefully selected ensuring that it would add even more happiness to each child's Chanukah. We were especially grateful this year for the donation of thirty presents from the Alumni Association of Bais Rochel.

Mrs. Tova Pollen was asked to speak on behalf of Yedei Chesed to an alumni group from Bais Rochel. They wanted to hear about Yedei Chesed, our mission and what we do for the

community. In addition, they wanted to do a chesed for the children we serve and buy them Chanukah gifts. The service coordinators provided them with the developmental age and interests (no names) of some of our consumers and they bought appropriate gifts. Mrs. Krassy Klein, a Bais Rochel graduate coordinated this event and it was beneficial for all involved. We hope everyone had a very happy Chanukah!



WORKPOINT

Where Work Is The Point

Workpoint's Day Hab program participants have been growing, helping, and having fun. Our woman's program has been baking the most unbelievable and delicious stuff imaginable. Sicilian pizza, chocolate chip cookies, and brownies are just some of the things that have brought pleasure to many. Our flower arranging program is about to expand into the community to service community nursing homes among other places. Our young men have been very busy with community service, packaging items, helping people move, and enjoying every moment of it. Our trip days have been educational, exciting, and just plain fun! We've been to the Kedem wine plant, the Englewood hospital, the Jewish Children's Museum, etc.

For information on how to get involved with this program on the move, contact: Dr. Shmuel Abramson at 425-0887 #249.



New Sibshops for Boys



This past month, Yedei Chesed started a sibling support group for boys. This group, led by Rabbi Brodie was a tremendous success. The boys had a great time learning how to juggle and how to make balloon sculptures. The boys also enjoyed meeting with new friends. This group will be meeting monthly. For more information or to sign up for this group, contact Rabbi Brodie at ext. 232.



Girls' Sibshops

Sibshops this month was a lot of fun! The youngest group put together a homemade cookie set including cookie mix, chocolate chips and a little beater. They also enjoyed a Chanukah drawing contest! The two older groups went on a Chanukah shopping spree. They went to Target and had a scavenger hunt there, where they had to buy different items to match the clue on the poem each group got. All the girls went home having had a fantastic time and with a Chanukah gift for their sibling with special needs!



Magic Moments News Report

Mrs. Dvora Arnstien and her assistant, Mrs. Miriam Neiman, head a wonderful team of young women each Sunday at our Magic Moments Sunday Respite Program. Our changing location hasn't slowed them down a bit! In addition to lots of hands on playtime, there's a different theme with activities, music and outings each Sunday. The children have baked challah and made menorahs, they've sorted, glued, painted, baked, and played all kinds of games. And music! They love music!

The children enjoyed a Chanukah concert with David Nulman and then a live trumpet player named Jeff also came. At the end of January, we're going to the Uncle Moishy Concert with all our friends and counselors! Magic Moments **IS** magic!

The After School Program is up & running four times a week. The joy that Gitty Lauber, the coordinator of the After School Program, instills in the children is remarkable! On Chanukah, the children baked Chanukah shaped cookies. If you, or someone you know would like to sign up for this program, please call Mrs. Chana Malka Geldzahler at ext. 270.

Magic Moments Calendar:

- January 28, JEP's Uncle Moishy Concert. Our Sunday Magic Moments program will be taking the children straight from the program. If you wish to go with your children, tickets are available thru our office, call Mrs. Leah Roberts at extension 271.
- We hope that you received your Magic Moments Calendar in the mail. Please note that the Lag B'omer event is a family picnic. Please save the date!



Points of Interest:



Yedei Chesed would like to congratulate Mrs. Leah Roberts and Mrs. Bassie Meghnagi on their new positions. Mrs. Roberts is now the FSS Coordinator and Mrs. Meghnagi, the MSC supervisor. We wish both of them lots of Hatzloche!



The young men living on Albert Drive went to Eretz Yisroel to attend the chasunah of a long time direct care staff person at their home. The boys acted the part of the Chasan's family and danced really leibidig with Yedei Chesed hats on their heads. They also hosted one of the Sheva Brachos where there was live music and Grammen. It was beautiful to see our boys being Mesameach someone who has helped them so much! While being in Israel they also did some touring. They visited Kever Rochel, Chevron and even went to Miron for Shabbos. The boys had a wonderful vacation and will remember this trip for a very long time!



Once a month, Yedei Chesed runs a Shabbos Respite program for 6 to 7 children. The volunteers are excellent and provide individualized attention for the children, while giving their families a much-needed respite. Many thanks to Meal Mart for donating the delicious food served on Shabbos! For more information, or to join this program call Mrs. Chana Malka Geldzahler at ext. 270.



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