

Spotlight

Newsletter
December 2020
Issue 1



Welcome to the first edition of Spotlight! The purpose of this newsletter is to share the success and progress of each department, in addition to highlighting the different programs and supports offered by Yedei Chesed.

Yedei Chesed was established in 1992 by community members who recognized the need for special needs individuals and their families to be integrated into the community. Yedei Chesed is committed to a goal beyond just the provision of conventional services or being a passthrough of Medicaid and State dollars.

Yedei Chesed's innovative programs, which go beyond those offered by NY State, are designed to provide meaningful support to families. Our programs, family supports, group homes and volunteer efforts all give those we support the ability to access all types of assistance – physical, emotional and spiritual – among like-minded members of our community, providing a real anchor of support. Many of the programs innovated by Yedei Chesed have since been replicated by other organizations, underscoring the need for projects such as these within the community. Our unique programs and services continue to evolve as, based on our participants' feedback, we constantly work to make them better suited to the needs of those we support. Taking the first step of reaching out for assistance is hard. Yedei Chesed's staff cares and is here to support our families throughout. Our uniqueness lies in the care behind every interaction with those that reach out, from the first inquiry through ensuring that every individual and family is matched with the most suitable programs and services. Yedei Chesed thereby continues to be a mainstay of our community, and a home away from home for individuals with special needs and their families.



A PUBLICATION OF YEDEI CHESED

48 Scotland Hill Rd, Spring Valley NY, 10977
spotlight@yedei.org ❖ www.yedei.org ❖ 845.425.0887





SIBSHOPS

The girls' SibShops which took place Sunday, November 10 was a hit. Girls from grades 1-8 were invited to participate in this exciting event. They created beautiful bottles of edible sand art by mixing sugar and sour salt with food coloring. The atmosphere was one of warmth and togetherness, as girls from all different schools laughed and had fun together. Thank you, Mrs. Chaya Sarah Poll, for organizing this special event!

The boys enjoyed a fantastic SibShops event on Monday, November 18. They were treated to a fabulous virtual tour of the Bais Hamikdash! The specialized glasses enabled them to see the different rooms of the Bais Hamikdash, the Keilim, Kohanim and Leviyim! Thank you Mr. Shlomo Kertzner for an unforgettable experience!



LADIES' NIGHT

The Ladies' Night Out is always a success; and this time was not any different! Yedei Chesed goes all out to provide the women with a beautiful and uplifting evening. The elegant and tasteful décor, elaborate menu and exciting raffles created the perfect ambience, allowing mothers to relax and enjoy. Thank you Mrs. Suzanne Fishman!



FAMILY MELAVA MALKA

The most incredible family Melava Malka! Over 75 families joined us at the DoubleTree Hilton Hotel on מוצ"ש November 30. The highlight of the evening was a fabulous magic show by Mr. Shlomo Levinger. The families also enjoyed face painting, balloon sculpting, ceramic painting and other crafts. A milchig buffet was served.

Thank you Mrs. Suri Spielman and Mrs. Suzanne Fishman for ensuring the success of this wonderful program!



PLEASE NOTE:

Rabbi Rabinowitz is available to meet with parents every Sunday at 48 Scotland Hill, and during the week for special circumstances. Please feel free to contact Mrs. Suzanne Fishman at 845.425.0887 ext. 271 to set up an appointment.

- **Chizuk Hotline 845.510.4446**

Listen to a ten minute chizuk message, which is updated every Monday by Rabbi Rabinowitz.

- **January 23-26**

Weekend Retreat! At the DoubleTree Hotel in Tarrytown.

Com-Hab



TRIPS

The Chol Hamoed trip to the New York Aquarium was a smashing success. The children enjoyed watching an interactive sea-lion show, exploring colorful aquariums, and participating in an exhilarating 4D experience.

Thank you Mrs. Suri Spielman!



COM HAB SHABBATON

Shabbaton is the highlight of the year! The hotel experience, combined with delicious food catered by Glauber's, and a packed program of fun and games, makes it an unforgettable experience for both the staff and the kids. The Shabbaton took place ר"ח כסלו, November 29-30 in the DoubleTree Hilton Hotel in Tarrytown and was followed by a fabulous Family Event. Thank you Mrs. Suri Spielman for heading this successful program!

We're looking forward to the next Shabbaton January 24-25!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Com-Hab Provider Appreciation Dinner! Sunday, December 8. Thank you to all devoted providers!



Respite



LEGAL HOLIDAY

● Monday, November 11

(Veteran's Day) Macaroni the Clown, all-time favorite at Magic Moments, was invited to entertain the children with his amazing tricks and jokes. After a delicious pizza lunch, the children enjoyed a "Wacky Science" show by Dr. Shnitzel! Dr. Shnitzel did some fascinating science experiments, like making colorful "snow" and blowing steam rings with an AirZooka.

Thank you to Satmar girls' high school for providing us with excellent staff for the program!

● Thursday, November 29

(Thanksgiving) The highlight of the day was John the Magician, who amazed us with his incredible magic tricks. The program also included crafts projects, dancing, and a bouncy house!

Thank you Bais Yaakov Ramapo for hosting this program!

Thank you to our wonderful coordinator, Mrs. Suri Spielman!

We look forward to working with other schools in Monsey for our legal holiday program.



NIGHT ACTIVITY

The girls' Night Activity program has recently been upgraded! The program, which runs on Tuesdays and Thursdays, is a productive and gainful experience for the girls, giving them the opportunity to develop their talents in a warm, friendly setting. Makeup lessons are given by a professional makeup artist, Mrs. Tziporah Stern. We also have dance lessons, which are mainstreamed with Bais Shifra Miriam girls' high school. The girls love this interactive dance class, given by Mrs. Yocheved Hirsch. Once a week the girls have a social skills session facilitated by Mrs. Shevy Weinberger. They learn communication skills and other life skills through fun and activities. Thank you to our fantastic coordinator, Miss Yocheved Laster!



MISHMAR

The boys at the Mishmar Yeshiva Bachur program are shteiging away! The boys meet in Rabbi Hollander's shul after ma'ariv three times a week. On Sunday, they learn mishnayos, followed by slurpees. They are currently in the middle of learning masechtas Brachos. Tuesday is reserved for special extra-curricular activities. The packed schedule includes social skills with Rabbi Moshe Feder and making ice cream sundaes! On Thursday, there is a shiur in chumash. The boys love learning a vort on the Parashah. Thursday night also means cholent for yeshiva bachurim. The boys go to the local take-out for cholent, kugel and drinks.

Thank you to Rabbi Weil for heading this wonderful program!



Residential



PEOPLE SPEAK

People speak is a discussion forum which takes place every quarter. People from the community who get support are invited, in addition to residents from the six residential homes. They meet at Yedei Chesed Headquarters with Mrs. Chanie Reisman. Refreshments are served and the atmosphere is one of camaraderie and friendliness as people from different backgrounds share their life experiences. The animated and lively conversations that take place at these meetings range from many different topics, including safety, personal goals, responsibilities and so on.

The meeting that took place on Tuesday, November 12 focused on rights. We reviewed the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, as well as rights individual to each person. The participants were very interested and involved, each contributing to the discussion by giving examples of rights that they are entitled to.



Day Services

One of the many programs provided by Yedei Chesed in the Day Services department is known as the Community Prevocational Program. The program participants fill the gaps in our community's endeavors with their skills, energy and enthusiasm. There are opportunities to shine in areas such as organizational, social and communication skills. These opportunities allow everyone to expand their horizons and integrate into the community.

Among the programs that are assisted by our men and women include the following:

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES

JFS is an agency based in Clifton, NJ that works in conjunction with Yedei Chesed, offering an array of programs and services that address the community's needs and challenges. The people we support play a part in the smooth running of JFS on a daily basis! The club SEQUOIA seniors group gathers in the JFS Center, which then needs to be converted back into a shul. Our participants have undertaken this big responsibility. Another program helped by PreVoc members is restocking the JFS food pantry, which services over 130 families in the community, providing them with access to kosher food.

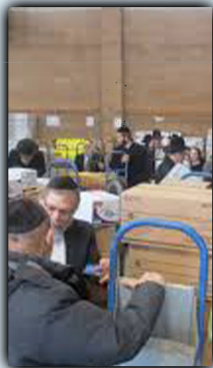


MOTZAI SHABBOS

This program started מוצ"ש December 7 with around 20 participants! Transportation is provided to Yedei Chesed Headquarters, where participants spend the evening together in a fun and productive way. Our goal is to assist people in appropriate socialization and help them build and maintain connections with peers in the context of a Melava Malka and an activity. This month, the activities are geared towards Chanukah, and include making donuts, handcrafting menorahs and pressing olive oil! Thank you to Rabbi Akiva Nussbaum for spearheading this program!

TOMCHEI SHABBOS

Chodesh Food Outlet is a warehouse outlet sponsored by Tomchei Shabbos where food is sold at cost price. The men enrolled at PreVoc volunteer at the sale, maintaining the food supply and assisting the customers.



BIKE 4 CHAI

Bike4Chai is a major cycling event that generates enormous proceeds for Chai Lifeline. The men volunteer at this event, handing out water bottles and snacks and cheering on the runners.

SUKKAH BUILDING

Before Sukkos, the men went to different families around the community who needed help in building the sukkah.



We regret to inform you about the petira of Rabbi Rabinowitz's mother.

The family will be sitting shiva

Monday December 9 through Sunday December 15.

Monday 6pm - Tuesday 9pm:

2000 Fountainview Rd Apt 1107, Monsey
Shacharis: 8:20, Mincha: 3:15, Maariv: 7:15

Wednesday - Sunday morning:

Shulman, 1270 E 31st St Brooklyn
(between Avenue M and L)

Shacharis: 7:45, Mincha: 4:10, Maariv: 9:45

המקום ינחם אתכם בתוך שאר אבלי ציון וירושלים
הי זכרה ברוך



VOLUNTEERS

Over 50 families around Monsey are being helped by the volunteer department! Responsible and caring girls are available to take children out on Shabbos, giving parents a much needed break. Please feel free to contact our volunteer program coordinator, Miss Yehudis Portal at 845.425.0887 ext. 283.

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers!

CHANUKKAH
PARTY
12.15.2019
GRADES 1-5 3:00-4:15 GRADES 6-8 4:15-5:30
21 FESSLER
DONUTS, GAMES, FUN!
RSVP (845) 425-0887 EXT 270
CAN'T WAIT!