



B"H

The CWRJew

Annual Newsletter 2019

The incredible impact YOU made
on the Jewish students at CWRU.

At the annual NYC Shabbaton.

I am an alum...



I give to Chabad **because of what Chabad gave to me.** With each dollar I give, I am passing on an opportunity that I was afforded while at school, and really, the same opportunities I have had the good fortune of having while an alum.

An opportunity to meet a person who yesterday was a stranger and tomorrow is a best friend. An opportunity to connect with a Jewish identity that has made such an impact on my view of the world. A support network when I fail and a fan base when I succeed. I'm also giving a quiet study spot during finals, a home-cooked meal and the best cholent one can have ever have (and don't even get me started on the desserts). I am providing a laugh over a cup of coffee between classes, a lesson nobody else could teach and the opportunity for an answer to a question that nobody else would give.

When I give to Chabad, I am not giving to a student that I have never met.

I am giving to a former version of myself. Through my own experiences, I realize that there is no better way to positively impact the social, academic, and religious life of students at CWRU.

Ben Nudelman, '16

- THIS IS WHY WE GIVE -

"As we stood on campus after our admitted students tour, I figured we should try to meet the Chabad Rabbi.

So, I called. Miraculously, he said, "turn around, I'm right here!" Sara and Rabbi Mendy then opened their home to our daughter Blanche and it has been incredible. I have witnessed first hand how every person is accepted and how they celebrate the joys of being Jewish. It is priceless to know that Blanche has a Jewish family to celebrate all the Jewish Holidays away from home.

"When your child is a part of Chabad, you and your whole family benefit."

When terror struck Jews in Pennsylvania and California, Rabbi Mendy and Sara spread more light by having a candlelight vigil, and performing more acts of kindness. For instance, they created a Finals Study Space that included Ramen (a kosher staple in college life), coffee, and fruit in honor of Lori Kaye. Moreover, Blanche and her friends commented how there is a Spanish club, a French Club, but no Hebrew Club. Immediately, Sara graciously volunteered to spearhead a Hebrew club that met every Friday that included bagels, friendship, and great conversation. Even her children help by carrying the bagels to club meetings. As I left their house in February, they wouldn't let me leave empty handed. They made me the best bagel I have ever eaten for the plane ride home. When your child is a part of Chabad, you and your whole family benefit."



Cheryl Spinner

...and I am a parent.



Vigil for Pittsburgh



Shabbat across CWRU, 100 students, 9 hosts



Overflow at Freshmen BBQ



Orientation Fair



Lunch with a Holocaust Survivor



Israel Interns



Precious moments you created

- THANK YOU FOR A YEAR OF JOY -



Chanukah on Ice



DIY Shofar Workshop



Purim



Havdallah & S'mores



Girls' Paint Night

Coming from a proudly Jewish family in one of the most secular cities in the world, I wasn't sure how college would impact my Jewish identity.

I worried, along with my parents, that finding a community on campus would be difficult.

Despite my fears, Chabad and the Alevskys (including the kids!) were there from the moment I stepped onto campus, welcoming me into their home and their community.

I met many of my closest friends at Chabad's Shabbat dinners and it never failed to be the high point of my week.

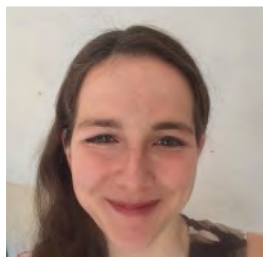
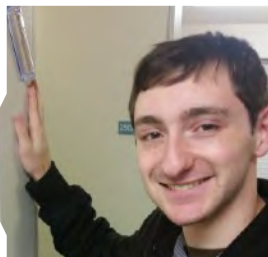
I learned most of what I know about Jewish observance and philosophy in my weekly personal study sessions with Rabbi Mendy. And farbrengen-hops and shul visits with the Alevskys have been **some of the greatest experiences of my life.**

College would not have been the same without Chabad.

I will cherish the memories I made there for the rest of my life.

Aaron M. '19

- YOUR IMPACT - on all of us...



While I attended Chabad events sporadically throughout my undergraduate years at CWRU, **it was really during my fifth year, as a grad student, that I began**

to appreciate what Chabad at CWRU offered me. The vast majority of my friends had moved on and I was no longer able to participate in some of the activities that had brought me meaning and community as an undergrad. **At Chabad events I made new friends and was able to appreciate the support and connections of the Jewish**

community. Due to some technical issues, I wasn't sure whether I would be able to defend my thesis, and I was stressed out all the time. I'm still convinced that one of the main reasons that I was able to get through the presentation was the presence of many of my family and friends in the audience. I was particularly touched that Sara somehow made time in her busy schedule to show up for my technical presentation at 2 PM on a Friday. **She showed up for me not because she owes me anything - I am not particularly observant,** nor have I held any sort of leadership role in Chabad - but because she saw an opportunity to be kind and to support someone who needed it.

Rachel L. '19

...in one year alone



43 Mezuzahs affixed



6,284 hours of Jewish life

428

unduplicated attendees (+38%)



1,626 meals served



485 coffee dates/learning sessions

163 programs



101 birthday gifts



35 Shabbat dinners



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