



DECEMBER 2019 -MARCH 2020

GREETINGS

Dear Friend,

I hope this finds you and your family safe and doing well.

Within the last couple months, you have contributed to Chabad of Frisco. As Pesach approaches, we wanted to take this opportunity to personally thank you and highlight some of the amazing events and programming your generous support has enabled us to provide to our flourishing community.

Through your support you are changing lives, strengthening the Jewish community and the impact you are causing will have ripple effects for generations to come. There is so much shared growth and we are happy to give you a glimpse into ways you are helping.

COVID-19 RESPONSE

We wanted to start by sharing Chabad Frisco's Response to Covid19.

Chabad has temporarily moved all classes to virtual platforms. We are continuing to hold our ongoing programming virtually including Hebrew School, Bat Mitzvah Club, Rosh Chodesh Society and more.

We have also been focusing our efforts on bringing the community together through the following initiatives:

- 1) **Chabad of Frisco Whatsapp Group** We created a large messaging group for everyone to stay in touch and connect with each other virtually.
- 2) **Daily Zoom Check In** Congregants join a daily zoom call to connect and gain inspiration. We learn the daily portion of the Parsha and check in with each other.
- 3) **Zoom Classes** We've been continuing to offer our Hebrew School lessons, Bat Mitzvah Club sessions, Rosh Chodesh Society classes, cooking classes, matzah bakes and more.
- 4) Chabad of Frisco continues to be dedicated to catering to the **physical needs** of all Frisco Jews. We've been ensuring everyone has the necessary supplies and offering any assistance people may need. Just last week a woman from Atlanta contacted us that her sister in Frisco was due to deliver a baby this week and couldn't find any hand sanitizer. After reaching out to our network, we were able to find someone with an extra bottle. We picked it up and delivered it to the expectant family. This is just one small incident of connection that our community has been able to facilitate.



Hi Mushkie... gave me your number. I wanted to see if anyone in your community has a spare bottle or 2 of purell that they can drop off on my brother and sister in law's doorstep in Frisco? They have a scheduled c-section on the 30th and have been desperately trying to find hand sanitizer all over Dallas. They are very worried about bringing the baby home during this crisis without it. I'd be happy to Venmo or PayPal money to anyone who can help us out! It can't be ordered anywhere!



VIRTUAL CLASSES



• We hope and pray that there is healing for the world and we will be able to reunite in person soon!



Here are a few highlights from the past 4 months:

<u>December</u>

- We celebrated Chanukah with a public Menorah Lighting at City Hall. Over 600 people gathered to usher in the Festival of Lights. Attendees enjoyed doughnuts, latkes, dreidels, children's activities, and a musical concert by New York based musician Tali Yess. We honored 8 educators from our community highlighting their outstanding efforts and dedication to our future. Frisco Mayor Jeff Cheney gave his greeting to the crowd and was honored to light the Shamash candle.
- We hosted our first community Kumizits, guest Moishy Kalmenson led the community in soulful singing on a Saturday night following havdallah and menorah lighting.



January

- We hosted a Shabbat dinner for our Hebrew School families. Students collaborated to create a custom Shabbat Guide with illustrations and instructions. This made a strong home-school connection and parents were able to get a small glimpse into what and how we learn
- The Bat Mitzvah Club families came together for a Shabbat Dinner.
- We hosted an event called "Precious Souls" in celebration of 70 years of the Rebbe's leadership. Through a combination of video and discussion, we were able to learn how the Rebbe viewed and valued each individual.



February

History was made in Frisco, Texas as we completed and dedicated our very first Torah scroll — a first for the city and for our Shul. Close to 200 people gathered to celebrate the completion of the Torah that will have a new home in Chabad of Frisco. We want to thank Gene and Judy Levine for generously dedicated the Torah in memory of their parents, Helen & Philip Abel and Bessie & Solomon Levine.





March

- We celebrated Purim with a Women's Hamentashin Bake, a children's party and megillah reading at Jump Zone, and an evening of sushi and Purim mitzvot for adults.
- We have been working on delivering 100 boxes of Shmurah Matzah to homes across Frisco. This special matzah brings energies of faith and healing which we hope to spread across Frisco.
- We are putting together Seder To Go Kits for people to celebrate the seder from their own homes.



This is all in addition to the regular programming consisting of:

Hebrew School
Bat Mitzvah Club
Cteen Club
JLI Courses – "Judaism's Gift to the World"
Shabbat Services
Kabbalah and Coffee
Tuesday Talmud Study
Babyccino Mommy and Me
Mezuzah Hanging
All community needs

In conclusion, the impact your contribution has had is beyond measure. We look forward to continuing this partnership and spreading the light of Judaism farther then ever.

Wishing you and your family a kosher and joyous Pesach.

Warm regards, Rabbi Mendy and Mushkie Kesselman

