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CHABAD OF FAIRFIELD

# Appreciation Report

SPRING 2019



**How YOU are raising Jewish pride and smiles in the  
Fairfield/Easton/Trumbull Jewish Community**



**Find out how you keep Gaby  
connected**

# The Difference You Have Made in My Life.



**Leigh Goodman**  
*Chief of EMS Trumbull*

**W**e stumbled into the living room — and lives — of the Landas quite unexpectedly in 2010. Brian and I had spent several years raising our kids with a somewhat globally challenged approach as we travelled and lived on four continents.

We had been looking to find a Hebrew School for our four kids, and had had one or two inadvertent misses along the way. Rabbi Shlame and Miriam welcomed us into their home and their hearts and before we knew it, our family had found a home away from home at Chabad of Fairfield.

The Landas have created a refreshingly magical environment for each of us to embrace our Jewish heritage and community in a truly unique and personal way. We always look forward to sharing experiences with them. They have created a community where honesty, kindness and integrity are weaved into a world which inspires and empowers each of us. They connect with us in an authentic and accepting way, sprinkling humor and innovative ideas into history, tradition, education and community action. When I am with them, I feel at home; able to be myself without fear of judgement.

I love watching my family embrace the Jewish community and family that Chabad has created. The Landas inspire me each day, and I'm so grateful they welcomed my colorful and chaotic family into their lives, embracing each unique family member in a truly personal and organic relationship. I can't imagine not sharing our lives with them and I am thankful to each of the donors who make it all possible.



**Gaby Sharbin**  
*Student President, Chabad @ UCONN*

I imagine most parents send their children to Hebrew school, Jewish camp and youth groups hoping that something will resonate. Parents hope that once their kids are ready to leave for college and live on their own, they will remember something more than the difference between a bet and a vet.

Chabad of Fairfield instills something more.

Rabbi Shlame and Miriam Landa work hard to cultivate an environment in which Jewish learning is fun and being Jewish is an important part of a growing up.

At Chabad, the Jewish educational experience extends beyond the classroom. I always looked forward to “Bat Mitzvah Club”, and “Tweens in the Kitchen”, where we learned lessons from our matriarchs and discussed mitzvot through fun and engaging games.

CTeen, the Chabad youth group, completely influenced my high school experience and strengthened my Jewish identity. CTeen Shabbatons were packed with teens whose enthusiasm for Judaism was contagious. I had never before seen such a strong and passionate exclamation of Jewish pride, and I was inspired to do more and be more.

However, what's important is that this inspiration was not fleeting. When I left for college, I knew that I needed to make involvement in Jewish life a priority. The values and determination I gained here lead me to join Chabad on campus once I started college, and I am fortunate to be a part of cultivating a welcoming and engaging Jewish environment as President of Chabad at UConn.

Rabbi Shlame and Miriam Landa work hard to provide a strong Jewish foundation which persists until adulthood. None of this would be possible without the generosity of Chabad's donors. I can't thank you enough for the gift you've given me and so many others.

# Why I Support Chabad



**Jonathan Slavin**

*Global Head of Equity Trading at Morgan Stanley*

**M**y husband David and I are so pleased that Miriam and Shlame and their beautiful family have moved into our community. There is great haimishness at Chabad, whereby everyone who comes in is made to feel welcome — whether you come once a year or each time there is a service or social activity. We have made many new friends and really enjoy the learning sessions with the Rabbi. Chabad is a wonderful place for us to enjoy our Jewish identity! We are proud to be part of the Chabad family, and enjoy all the diverse activities throughout the year. It is a pleasure to support our inclusive community both financially and with our time and I thank you for doing the same.

**M**y experience engaging with Chabad of Fairfield has always been extremely fulfilling. The Rabbi and congregation are warm and inviting, and they deliver a Jewish heritage-rich message of goodness and understanding in a world filled with complexity. My family has been made to feel welcome and appreciated in many ways and on many levels. We continue to donate in an effort to support their — which have become **our** — efforts to sustain and develop the organization, along with the message of righteousness, and I thank you for doing the same.



◀ **Learning made fun**

▼ **800-strong pledge to light up the world**



## THE SMILES YOU BRING



I am thrilled to share with you the latest edition of our appreciation newsletter.

I hope you enjoy it.

It's one way you can see the impact of your support.

You can get a glimpse of the activities at Chabad and get to know some of the people who you help. Children, Adults, Families and more.

I wish you could have been there when they've expressed their thanks.

Sometimes tearfully but often joyfully.

We can't do it without you. So their thanks belong to you.

You've filled a hole in their heart and gave them an opportunity for beautiful spiritual expression.

Something that we all desperately need.

They've celebrated, studied, prayed and explored Judaism together.

Thanks to you.

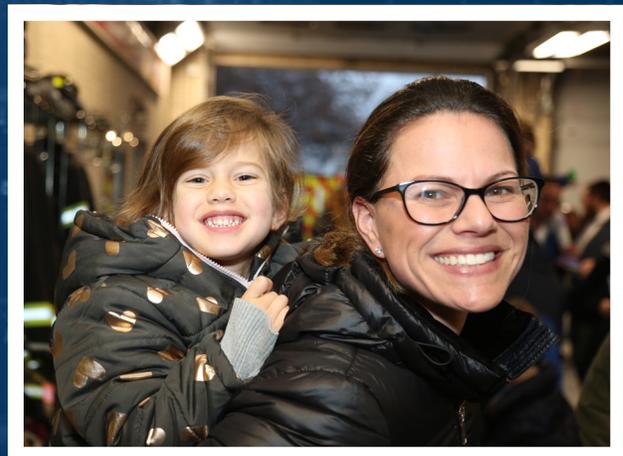
I also want to thank you for allowing Miriam and I to do what we love.

We can't imagine doing anything else.

You make it possible.

Thank you,

Rabbi Shlame Landa



## Chabad of Fairfield

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