

"Anyone who saves a life is as if he saved an entire world."
(Sanhedrin 4:5)

OUR HERITAGE

DONOR UPDATE 5784

575

children transferred
from public school to
Jewish day school

MENACHEM EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Mr. Alan Zekelman
Chairman

Rabbi Zalman Shneur
Executive Director

OUR HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Mr. Bob Aronson
Chairman

Mr. Alex Swieca
Vice Chairman

Mr. John Goodman

Mrs. Devorah Leah Hirsch

Mr. Mendel Pinson

Rabbi Menachem Schmidt

Rabbi Noach Weinstein



Our Heritage is dedicated in
loving memory of a
founding sponsor,
Reb Shneur Zalman Hirsch A"H.

Our Heritage, established in the summer of 5780/2020, aims to provide a Jewish education to public school children by offering \$25,000 in matching grants to Chabad Day Schools for enrolling 10 students from public schools.

To date, this program has resulted in 575 transfers to over 30 schools, with a 79% retention rate.



Letter from the Rebbe - 18 Elul 5712

"It is incumbent upon every father and mother, every Rabbi, leader, communal activist, and anyone with influence to see to it that our precious children, the future of the Jewish nation, are enrolled in a Jewish school and receive a proper Jewish education. Tzedakah with an open hand will bolster and strengthen the educational institutions of our children, both girls and boys, and will inculcate our precious children with love and fear of Hashem, a love for His Torah, and a love for the Jewish people. May we merit celebrating Hakhel in the third Beis Hamikdash this year!"

Since its founding, Our Heritage has awarded

\$1,250,000

in matching grants to Chabad Day Schools.

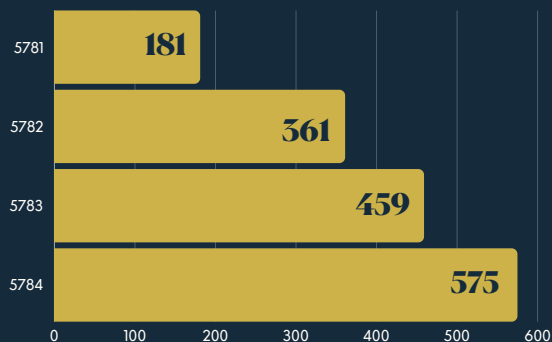
575 students 

worldwide received a Jewish education thanks to **Our Heritage**.

Participating schools noted a

79% retention rate.

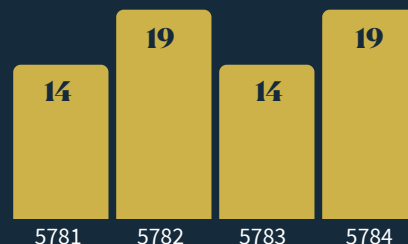
Total number of students participating:



85% of students'

families do not celebrate Shabbat.

Schools receiving grants each year:



Immeasurable Impact

The all-immersive Torah education has allowed these children to explore their Jewish heritage, build a strong Jewish identity, and express their yiddishkeit proudly, inspiring change in their families as well, **transforming the future of the Jewish people.**



Participating Schools

Academy of the Arts
Redondo Beach, CA

Bader Hillel Academy
Milwaukee, WI

Bader Hillel High
Glendale, WI

Bais Chomesh High School
Toronto, ON, Canada

Chabad Hebrew Academy
S. Diego, CA

Chabad Jewish School
Riga, Latvia

Chabad on Pico's
Learning Center
Los Angeles, CA

Chabad STREAM School
Queens, NY

CMCH Elementary & Middle School
Atlanta, GA

Desert Torah Academy
Las Vegas, NV

Gan Katan
Miami, FL

Ganeinu Academy
Fresh Meadows, NY

Hebrew Academy
Orange County, CA

Hebrew Academy Tampa Bay
Tampa, FL

Jewish Institute of Queens
Queens, NY

Jewish North York Day School
Toronto, ON, Canada

Kerem Menahem
Nice, France

Tenaflly Chabad Academy
Tenaflly, NJ

Lubavitch Sparks High School
Brooklyn, NY

Lubavitcher Yeshiva Academy
Springfield, MA

Magen Israel School
Great Neck, NY

Mazal Jewish Day School
Brooklyn, NY

Sacramento Jewish Academy
Granite Bay, CA

Shaloh House Jewish Day School
Brighton, MA

Silverstein Hebrew Academy
Great Neck, NY

Slater Torah Academy
New Orleans, LA

South Florida Jewish Academy
Coconut Creek, FL

Stanford Eisenberg
Knoxville Jewish Day School
Knoxville, TN

Tamim Academy
Boca Raton, FL

Tamim Academy
Burlington, VT

Tamim Academy York Region
Vaughan, ON, Canada

The Cheder of the Bay Area
Pleasanton, CA

**Bold schools are participating this year*





From Public School to Jewish Pride



Scan to see
full video



I used to attend public school, and now I feel incredibly blessed and fortunate to be part of such an amazing Jewish school. In the past, I was unfamiliar with the essence of being Jewish, the concept of a Neshama, and the special relationship I have with Hashem. Alongside the standard subjects, I have the privilege of learning Hebrew, how to daven, and study Torah. Thank you!

Justin Ruzika, Our Heritage Student



The school cultivates Jewish values that are important to us as an observant Jewish family. In addition, **the shaping of our child's personality, education for giving back through helping and volunteering,** make our child more independent and happier, with tools for success for the rest of life.

-Yasmin Afuta, Mother of Ori Ben Ishai

Our daughter has truly blossomed academically and spiritually at Tamim. **The school's dedication to fostering a strong sense of Jewish identity has had a profound impact on her.** She has developed a deep appreciation for her heritage, traditions, and values, and we can see the positive influence of the school's Jewish enrichment in her everyday life.

-Jeff and Ruti Stark

"I came to Kerem Menahem this year. I am in sixth grade and I was welcomed very nicely by all my classmates and teachers. I am so happy because I have only been here two months and I already know how to read in Hebrew."
-Lily Serhani



Joining Tamim this year has truly been a dream come true. Our daughter feels at home at Tamim and has a true sense of belonging. **After just three days of school she told me that Tamim is "meant for me" and her old school wasn't.** She feels loved, cared for and has also blossomed academically. Tamim has helped bring back her confidence and love of school.
-Stephanie Quinto

My kids look forward to school and come home excited about their day because they have such a strong sense of community and belonging. Each student is nurtured in their social and emotional development, while also being challenged academically. Every aspect of KJDS is done with intention and purposely designed for each student's success.
-Sarah Butcher



"What I love so much about Chabad STREAM School is that I am together with other Jewish children learning the Torah and praying every day. I feel safe at Chabad and am so grateful that I am part of such a great school!"
-Evanka Trokel



We are so grateful to be able to send our son to Tamim this year. **The education, philosophy, warmth and spirit** cultivated is beautiful and is helping our son grow by leaps and bounds.

-Deena Werde



We transferred our son from Newton Public School in September 2023. He is now receiving **an excellent academic education paired with outstanding Jewish values.**

We couldn't be happier.

-Albert Dobrushkin



*"I love it here in Desert Torah Academy because I learn about Hashem. I didn't learn about it in the other school, and **everyone is so nice to me.**"*
-Noa Halawani

Stella and Noah's love of learning in a school environment has been reignited as they immerse in stimulating and interesting hands-on learning that has Jewish foundations and principles. Noah and Stella both come home from KJDS excited to tell us stories of their day. **Their energies and demeanor regarding school are night and day compared to their recent public school experiences. Stella and Noah have enhanced their love for Jewish tradition, pride, and lifestyle that extends beyond school.**

-The Weinbergs



Thank you for the opportunity for our daughter to be studying at a Jewish school. It is important to our family to be connected to our history and our nation, **and to make sure Ronya grows up to be a wonderful Jewish woman.**

-Olga Kushneryova



Our 2 daughters went to a Jewish school, but for our son, we tried a private non-Jewish school that was closer to our home. However, we realized that our son was not thriving there, neither academically nor emotionally. So with the help of the fund, the transfer to Shaloh House was made possible. **We encourage our friends to follow in our footsteps.**

-Nina Knobel



Scan to see
full video



Benefitting from Generations of Giving

It's a pleasure to be around people who generously support children, even if they're not their own. It's heartwarming to witness everyone coming together to discuss Jewish heritage. **I personally came from Ukraine** and had a similar experience growing up. **I had generous donors who helped me get a quality Jewish education, and now I can pass that along to my sons.** It's amazing to see the progress they are making. Thank you to everyone who contributes!

Natalie Grishayeva, Mom of Our Heritage student

We moved from Washington, DC, where my daughter did not have access to Jewish education. **With this fund, Shaloh House was able to give me a significant discount that made a transfer to a Jewish school possible for my daughter.** Thank you!

-Ana Guzman



Since Ronel joined KJDS, I feel so proud! **I'm also very relieved that he is in an environment that matches our culture and values. My son learned how to pray, he better understands our holidays, and the connection to his motherland is stronger.** As a Jewish mother, I don't have to worry about my son eating non-kosher in school or learning about things I prefer to be avoided.

-Shlomit Hava Bracy

"My name is Shay and I am a proud student at Chabad STREAM school. I used to be in public school. I didn't learn anything about being Jewish and Hashem.

At Chabad, I am so so happy! This is my home!"

-Shay Nisanov



Nurturing Jewish Identity through Education



The words of the Rebbe from the late '80s have never been more accurate: **“The purpose of the descent of the soul to this world is to teach a Jewish child the shape of an Aleph!”**

While there are many noble causes, supporting Jewish education is unquestionably the most foundational among all Jewish causes, especially in the face of the existential threat Israel and the Jewish people are currently experiencing.

A child who receives a Jewish education gains a sense of pride in their identity and would never march against their own people. We couldn't achieve this without your support!

Rabbi Blesofsky, Dean of Chabad STREAM School

Scan to see
full video



An Investment that Brings Judaism Home

Thanks to Our Heritage, we recently welcomed children from Israel who temporarily migrated due to the war. We were able to accept them tuition-free. The financial burden on the school is significant, as tuition covers less than 50% of the budget.

Despite the challenges, investing in a Jewish day school and education is undoubtedly the best way to positively impact children and families. Judaism becomes not just in the Rabbi's home or in the Synagogue - it becomes an integral part of their own home. For proof, every single family in our school either hosted their own Seder or joined with friends this past Pesach. That's bringing Judaism home.

Rabbi Yossi Wilhelm, Stanford Eisenberg Knoxville Jewish Day School



Scan to see
full video





“It’s the biggest bang for your buck in all of Jewish philanthropy.”

Bob Aronson, Chairman of Our Heritage,
Former CEO Jewish Federation Greater Detroit
& President of Birthright Israel Foundation

“Every child we support in receiving a quality Jewish education becomes a shining ambassador of Hashem in the world.”

Alex Swieca, Vice Chairman of Our Heritage



Scan to see
full video

PILLAR OF CHINUCH

Alan and Lori Zekelman
Mendel and Reut Pinson
Tuvya Greisman and Modway
Anonymous

3 SCHOOLS

Swieca Children Foundation

2 SCHOOLS

Aronow Foundation
Anonymous Foundation in Milwaukee
Bram Family
Noach Weinstein

1 SCHOOL

Alex and Sophie Swieca
Anonymous
Benjaminson Brothers
Dovid and Malkie Smetana
Efrayim Ahdut
R' Gadi Blizinsky
Galina Datskovsky
Jonas Family Foundation
Leibi Marsow
Yosef Y. Popack

2 FAMILIES

Gorowitz Family
Hyman Jebb Levy Foundation
Mendy Wilenkin
Norman Bobrow
Raffoul Dichy
Sami Dornbusch
Shneur OBM and YLT Devorah L. Hirsch
Shlomo Rechnitz

1 FAMILY

Aron Pinson
Blavatnik Foundation
Eli Posner
Ezra Kest
George Rohr
Josh and Robyn Goldhirsch
Mendel and Sarah Pinson
Mordechai Epelbaum
Reuven Moskowitz

3 STUDENTS

Avrohom Hayman
Boruch Greenberg

2 STUDENTS

Chaim Shapiro
Larry Malitzky
Michael Weiss
Milstein Family
Mordechai Nagel
Natalie Maksin
Reuven Laikin
Yossi Engel

1 STUDENT

Boruch Hayman
Chaim Shneur
Chesky Klein
Daniel Vaturi
Erwin Fisch
Hanoj Perez
Levi Katzman
Levy Lieberman
Marc Kulick
Max Korenveas
Naftali Marasow
Paula Gottesman
Scott Seligman
Shlomo Nasser
Tzvi Gellman
Yehuda Gurwitz
Yitzy Geisnsky
Yosef Lefkowitz

DONOR

Alexander Lasry
Alison Wolfson
Avi Moche
Danny Fenster
Elly Latinik
Gil Treger
Marc Lasry
Max Roth
Shmary Gurary
William Jemal
Yossi Langsam
Zachary Lasry

Please consider sponsoring a Jewish education
for a precious Neshama in public school.



\$2,500

1 child for a
school year



\$5,000

2 children for a
school year



\$10,000

4 children for a
school year



\$25,000

1 School = 10 children
for a school year



Donate online at mymef.org/sponsor

To find out more about Our Heritage, please visit mymef.org/ourheritage

MEF is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. All donations are tax-deductible.

Menachem Education Foundation, 411 Kingston Avenue, Suite 300, Brooklyn, NY 11225, (718) 663-7215