

JEWISHAGGIES

Appreciation Report
Summer 2020



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Your Love... Right Now!

Covid-19 has wreaked havoc on many lives. It has changed the physical circumstances that we find ourselves in, but not our joint mission and impact. The love you give continues stronger.

It is YOU, together with our entire donor and parent community, who ensure that Jewish Aggies have Chabad just a phone call away to reach out to for help, warmth and absolutely anything they need.

In these pages you will find stories of *your* impact. Stories that we continue to create together. Students who you helped... and their home away from home that you have created.

We may not be able to give a hug to a student who needs one when they walk through the door... **but love is more contagious than Covid-19.** And by this community coming together in times like this, you are sending virtual hugs and essential support to our students around the globe.



*We are here for you Warmly,
Rabbi Yossi & Manya*

Not Alone Even in a Pandemic

by Shayna Ambers

I had not left College Station for a few months, I had school and work and I was worried about spreading anything to my parents accidentally and making them sick. I just stayed here. At first, I thought it would be an extra week, so I was like I got this. It's fine. Then it got empty. It was always full of life and now it felt lonely. Chabad reached out to me during an overwhelming time, **I knew you were there to support me.** Weekly Shabbat-to-Go was so nice, made me feel a connection to my community. Everything stopped, but Shabbat



was consistent and 'normal' in my week. Y'all even delivered when I was too scared to go out. The website Chabad at Home was filled with resources and classes. This was amazing for us in addition to our regular board meetings on Zoom helped me stay connected. Chabad is my anchor when everything else went crazy and shut down. Ya'll were still there. Rabbi & Manya made a part of our life feel hopeful and normal. **Thank You for giving us hope and continuing to ground ourselves during this uncertain time.**



Mila
Bubis



Blake
Baum



Simcha
Kirsch



Orly
Gabay



Itiyah
George



Max
Schlanger



Asher
Hoffman

**JEWISH
AGGIE
BABIES**

YOUR Nachas!

Freshman Perspective

by Emily Klavan

I just finished my Freshman year. **I had a difficult time adjusting.** I had roommate challenges, school was a lot at first and I felt overwhelmed. To cope, I ended up going home frequently, almost every weekend I left College Station. After I started coming to Chabad everything changed, I always wanted to stay for the weekends. **At Chabad, you gave me a group of friends and people who were supportive.** I never wanted to leave. Chabad always had fun things going on and it felt like family. At Chabad, my favorite experience so far, has been Shabbat. We all come together, it's something to look forward to at the end of the week. It's a great getaway and everyone is there. **Everyone is talking, really connecting, and not on their phones.** Every time I walked in, no matter what time of day or night, there was always someone there who was welcoming and warm. Whether it was the Lazaroff kids, Rabbi or Manya, another student it didn't matter. The warmth was there with open arms. A place to talk, eat, chill whatever you need, Knowing that there is always someone there helps. **Chabad at Texas A&M University is My home away from home.** With all the adjustments, the intense environment, having somewhere to go where you feel loved and taken care of, no matter what, is a gift to me and all Jewish Aggies.



Emily (left) with Mussia at a girls night

Your Love is Stronger than Corona

Ever since the impact of the virus, students really miss the powerful and meaningful Jewish experiences that you help give. Your ongoing support helps our Jewish Aggies engage Jewishly and stay connected even while physically apart. Between online classes, Seders-to-Go, Shabbat-to-Go, programming on Zoom & regular check-ins, thank you for being there for them in their time of need!

"Since Covid hit & Chabad provided Shabbat to-go, I started lighting candles weekly and enjoying the anchor of Shabbat in my life."



"...Thanks for always being there for me."



"It would have been completely understandable if Rabbi and Manya took a pause to take care of their own family, but they went above and beyond to provide for us and take care of the community as well. Us students could not even help like we usually do. The individual packages for us, showed us that our home away from home, does not stop just because we can't physically be together."



THANK YOU FOR THE WARM HOME YOU GIVE.

-on behalf of HUNDRED's of JewishAggie LIVES YOU TOUCH.



YOUR GIFT

"I ALWAYS LOOKED FORWARD TO SHABBAT WITH MY CHABAD FAMILY. SINCE COVID, CHABAD CAME UP WITH A PLAN EXTRAORDINARILY SPECIAL FOR AGGIES, SHABBAT-TO-GO, (EVEN GF FOR ME). I BEGAN LOOKING FORWARD TO IT WEEKLY. IT **HELPED ME STAY CONNECTED TO MY JUDAISM DURING THIS CRAZY TIME.** I REALIZED HOW LUCKY I AM TO BE IN A LOVING COMMUNITY. YOU GAVE ME SECURITY DURING THESE UNKNOWN AND SCARY TIMES. NOW, I CHERISH LIGHTING THE CANDLES AND REFLECTING MY WEEK."

- Carly Pappert



TOUCHES LIVES

"IT WAS INSPIRING TO SEE THE POSITIVE EFFECTS THAT EVERYONE WHO COMES TO CHABAD HAS ON EACH OTHER. PEOPLE DON'T JUST LOOK BACK AT CHABAD WITH GOOD MEMORIES. THEY LOOK BACK AS CHANGED PEOPLE WITH NEW MORALS, FRIENDSHIPS, KNOWLEDGE AND MOST OF ALL, **WE WALK OUT OF CHABAD AS A STRONGER PERSON THAN WE WERE WHEN WE FIRST WALKED IN.**"

- Menachem Fishman



& CHANGES WORLDS

"CHABAD TO ME MEANS FAMILY. IT'S A COMMUNITY THAT'S THERE FOR YOU ANYTIME YOU NEED THEM AND EVEN IF YOU DON'T. IT'S A PLACE THAT ALLOWS ME TO BUILD MEANINGFUL LONG LASTING RELATIONSHIPS AND **HELPS ME MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE BY STARTING WITH MYSELF.** CHABAD HAS BEEN ONE OF THE BEST EXPERIENCES OF MY COLLEGE CAREER AND I WILL NEVER REGRET ATTENDING."

- Joseph Krawchenko



Our Students Need You Today!

YES! In this uncertainty, I will make sure students are taken care of.

- I will Sponsor Care Packages \$180
- I will Co-Sponsor a Shabbat \$500
- I will Sponsor a Workshop \$1,000
- \$ _____ Other *(Everything is appreciated.)*

Thank you to community partnership   



Shabbat-to-Go

Chabad at Texas A&M University | Rohr Jewish Center | 979.220.5020

JewishAggies.com