

ONE FOR ALL

A PUBLICATION OF



Achieving the Dream of Parenthood

HOW WE HELP

PAGE 6



Pesach Roundup

PAGE 4



CHESEDCHAMPS Kids Summer Challenge

PAGE 9



Donate your car

PAGE 11



Tesla Raffle is Back for its 10th Year!

BACK COVER

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

3 Tribute to Dr. Yosef Walder z'l

8 Volunteer Spotlight

11 Memorialize with Meaning

A MESSAGE FROM

**RABBI
SHMUEL
FUERST**

DEAR FRIEND,

Reflecting on this past Pesach season, I am overwhelmed by your care for your neighbors and I'm thankful for your trusting ChesedChicago with a sacred mission to serve Chicagoans facing financial challenges. We simply could not do what we do without your commitment to making our community and K'lal Yisroel stronger.

We were deeply saddened by the loss of Dr. Yosef Walder, z'l. We are humbled and honored to pay tribute to him in this newsletter.

One of the highlights of this issue is our fertility treatment assistance program for couples who are trying to build a family. Since ChesedChicago's inception, we've been dedicated to helping couples achieve this goal, despite challenges that might arise. Our partnership with Dr. Ilan Tur Kaspas has been gratifying and rewarding.

Please read further about ChesedChicago's car donation program, as well as a heartwarming memorial initiative that one woman undertook, which has changed the lives of many families.

Thank you for your continued support of ChesedChicago. Wishing you a healthy and happy summer season!



Rabbi Shmuel Fuerst
Co-Founder, ChesedChicago

OUR SERVICES

 **Provisions**

Our warehouse provides essentials such as:

- Neiman-Fine Community Food Pantry
- Food Vouchers
- Clothing
- Furniture & Appliances
- Baby Needs
- Toys, Bikes, School Supplies
- Bridal Needs
- Medical Equipment
- Co-Op Shop for Klei Kodesh
- Seasonal/Holiday Distributions

 **Medical Assistance**

We're here for you in times of medical need, assisting with and facilitating services such as:

- Fertility Treatment
- Mental & Behavioral Health
- Medical Insurance
- Extraordinary Medical Expenses

 **Financial Stability**

We provide a wide range of finance related assistance programs, such as:

- Tax, Debt, and Financial Counseling
- Government Benefits Assistance
- Interest-Free Loan Fund
- Single Parent Assistance
- Simcha Assistance
- Utilities Assistance
- Eviction Prevention and Home Repairs
- Education and Camp Assistance

 **Second Time Around
Pick-Ups / Drop-Offs**

Our incredible second-hand program upcycles numerous essential household and clothing items. The main categories we provide include:

- Clothing
- Furniture
- Appliances
- Housewares

 **Education & Family
Services**

Our team offers critical services that assist families in need, including:

- School-Based Therapies
- Pediatric Non-School-Based Therapies
- Youth Volunteerism
- Mentoring

AFFILIATE PROGRAMS

Simcha Link

JobLink

Ginat Shoshana

Jane Webster Simcha Gemach

Ateres Chaya Bridal Gowns

Remembering Dr. Yosef Walder z'l



Along with the entire Chicago community, ChesedChicago mourns the recent passing of Dr. Yosef Walder z'l.

Dr. Walder z'l was a true visionary, not only in his business endeavors at IDT, but also with his dream for a more just Jewish community. His communal partnerships are well known and always targeted helping organizations helping the most vulnerable.

Carried on by his amazing wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Walder, Dr. Yosef Walder's z'l, work planted seeds for decades to come. Back in 2006, Dr. Walder z'l was one of the first proponents of the then Chicago Chesed Fund to purchase its signature building at 7045 Ridgeway. His encouragement and philanthropic support have made a difference in the lives of countless individuals and families served by the facility, now, 20 years later. Put simply, the ChesedChicago warehouse and our capacities would not have existed without him.

We also are grateful for Mrs. Elizabeth Walder's work in supporting ChesedChicago's efforts in our community.

Helping others was in Dr. Walder's DNA.

"Chicago will always have the positive imprint of Dr. Walder," said Rabbi Shmuel Fuerst. "We, at ChesedChicago, are eternally grateful to Dr. and Mrs. Walder for believing in and supporting our mission. May he be a meilitz yosher for his family, and for the city of Chicago, which he loved so much." 🌟

**We, at
ChesedChicago,
are eternally
grateful to Dr.
and Mrs. Walder
for believing in
and supporting
our mission.**



PESACH ROUNDUP

PESACH PACKAGE INCLUDED:

1. 6" plastic plates
2. 9" plastic plates
3. Aluminum pans, various sizes
4. Apple juice
5. Apples
6. Applesauce
7. Baking powder
8. Baking soda
9. Brown sugar
10. Cake meal
11. Cake mixes
12. Canned carrots
13. Canned mushrooms
14. Canned potatoes
15. Carrots
16. Chicken
17. Choc chip/ sprinkle cookies
18. Chocolate chips
19. Coat n' bake
20. Confectionary sugar
21. Cooking spray
22. Cottage cheese
23. Cranberry sauce
24. Cream cheese
25. Dish soap
26. Duck sauce
27. Eggs
28. Foil candle holders
29. Garbage bags
30. Gefilte fish
31. Grape juice
32. Ground almonds
33. Ground beef
34. Ground walnuts
35. Hand shmura matzah
36. Hearts of palm
37. Heavy-duty aluminum foil
38. Jelly
39. Ketchup

THEIR WORDS SPEAK VOLUMES

The "Shop the Aisles" dry goods shopping was so nice this year. Every year at Pesach I'm in tears. I was able to get everything I needed this year. I'm speechless. You are a lifesaver. Thank you so much.

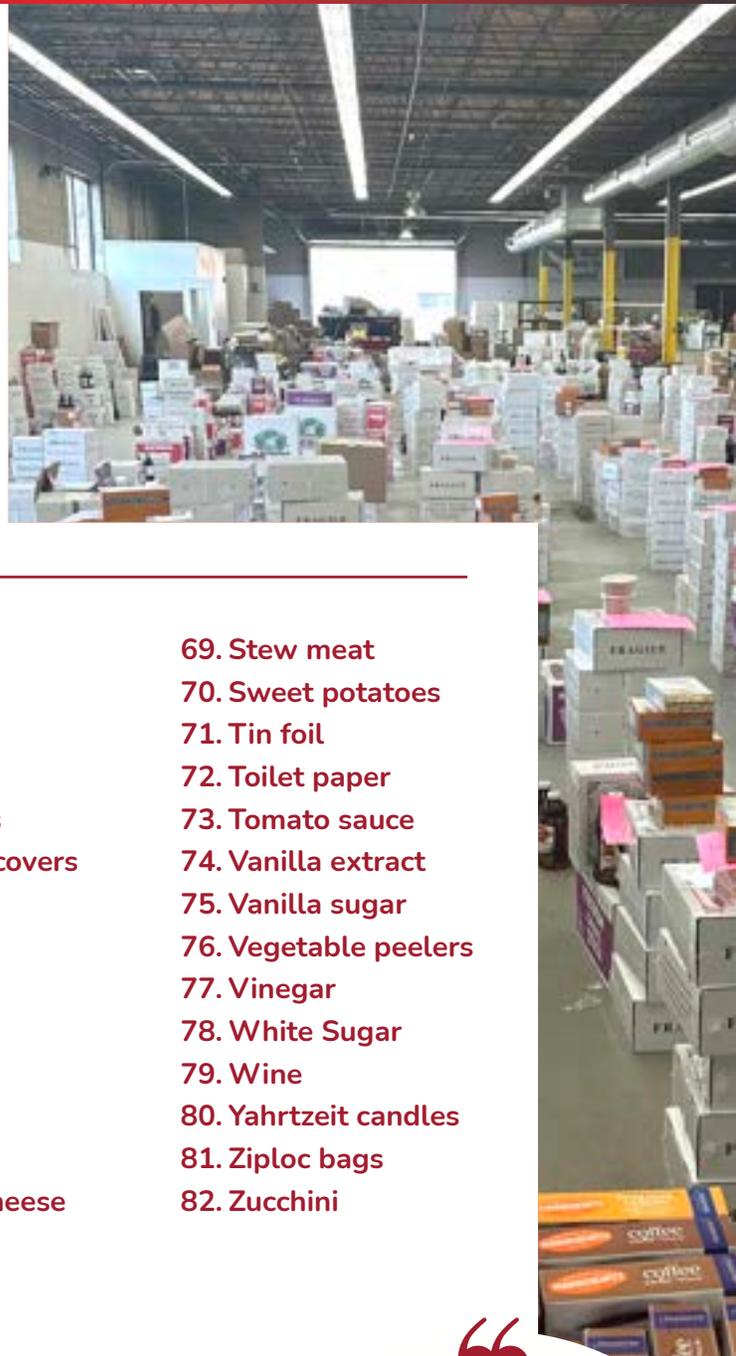
Today's operation at ChesedChicago was a huge kiddush Hashem. Everything was so organized and ran so smoothly. We were greeted by staff members who were smiling and friendly. The whole thing was done so well, it was amazing.

We have no words of gratitude to Hashem for ChesedChicago and everyone involved for all that they do! From clothing - beautiful Shabbos outfits, robes, socks and more, to the matzah, meat, fish, eggs, produce.... Dry goods... paper goods... the list goes on and on....! Everything was done so professionally and sensitively. Hashem should see how much His children take care of each other- and bring the geula!! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

This year, ChesedChicago supported over 1000 households, who relied on our assistance for essential Pesach provisions. With our community's unwavering support, we were able to ensure true simchas Yom Tov for so many.

360
PANTRY FAMILIES

646
CO-OP SHOPPER FAMILIES



- 40. Lemon juice
- 41. Machine matza
- 42. Machine shmura matzah
- 43. Mandarin oranges
- 44. Marinara sauce
- 45. Matza meal and shmura matza meal
- 46. Matzah ball mix
- 47. Mayonnaise
- 48. Napkins
- 49. Neironim glasses
- 50. Oil
- 51. Onions
- 52. Oranges
- 53. Paper towel rolls

- 54. Pasta
- 55. Pineapple
- 56. Plastic cups
- 57. Plastic cutlery
- 58. Plastic soup bowls
- 59. Plastic tablecloth covers
- 60. Potato starch
- 61. Potatoes
- 62. Roast
- 63. Salad dressing
- 64. Salt
- 65. Seltzer
- 66. Shabbos candles
- 67. Sliced American cheese
- 68. Spices

- 69. Stew meat
- 70. Sweet potatoes
- 71. Tin foil
- 72. Toilet paper
- 73. Tomato sauce
- 74. Vanilla extract
- 75. Vanilla sugar
- 76. Vegetable peelers
- 77. Vinegar
- 78. White Sugar
- 79. Wine
- 80. Yahrtzeit candles
- 81. Ziploc bags
- 82. Zucchini



My wife and I would like to personally thank you for the Yom Tov help extended through ChesedChicago. Making Pesach for a large family is a serious expense and no doubt the relief was very helpful.



"I wanted to thank you for everything ChesedChicago did for us for Pesach. The quality and quantity of everything sent was really top notch, and greatly enhanced our Simchas Yom Tov. Also, the efficiency how everything was done was very impressive.



Let me say how impressed I was by the people and everyone helping out. Everyone was so helpful and gracious and could not wait to help someone. Kol hakavod to you and your team for doing this so well. Tizku l'mitzvos and thank you.





HELPING COUPLES ACHIEVE *The Dream* OF PARENTHOOD

Many of us know people who are struggling to start a family. Current statistics show that one out of every six couples is faced with infertility. The pain of childlessness is something no couple should have to endure. Chesed-Chicago tries to reduce the financial strain this challenge has on couples by providing financial assistance, allowing them to pursue fertility treatments.

ChesedChicago has enjoyed a long-standing relationship with Dr. Ilan Tur-Kaspa, of IHR (Institute for Human Reproduction), who has partnered with us in this important and meaningful endeavor.

Here's a recent conversation we had with Dr. Tur-Kaspa about his amazing work.

How did you come to start working with Rabbi Fuerst and ChesedChicago?

After I founded the Institute for Human Reproduction in Chicago (in 2004), Rabbi Shmuel Fuerst visited me at

Ilan Tur-Kaspa, MD, is an international specialist in Reproductive Medicine and Infertility. Dr Tur-Kaspa was born in Israel. He graduated from Hadassah Medical School-Hebrew University and specializes in Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Medicine and Infertility in Israel and the US.

He is the Founder, President & co-Medical Director of the Institute for Human Reproduction (IHR) in IL, IN, and WI. He specializes in personalized fertility care, advanced Assisted Reproductive Technologies (ART), AI to optimize IVF outcomes, reproductive imaging, and fertility preservation. He is one of the world's most experienced fertility specialists involved in advanced IVF/ICSI treatment with preimplantation genetic testing (PGT). Besides the thousands of ART treatments he conducted over the years, over 3500 were IVF/ICSI-PGT cycles, to assist couples in conceiving a healthy child, for single gene disorders, translocations, HLA matched child (to save a sick sibling), and for aneuploidy.

Dr. Tur-Kaspa is the author/coauthor of 110+ peer-reviewed scientific publications and book chapters, and he is a co-editor of the books "Ultrasound Imaging in Reproductive Medicine" (2014, 2019) and "Biotechnology of Human Reproduction" (2003). He had served as a Professor at the REI Division, Dept of OB/GYN, University of Chicago, and as President of the Chicago Association of Reproductive Endocrinologists. He was the 2020-2021 Chair of the Reproductive Imaging Special Interest Group of the American Society of Reproductive Medicine (ASRM).



the clinic. It was an honor to meet him and to be able to discuss advances in fertility treatments as well as how to integrate the halacha into the clinical setting. He told me about Chesed-Chicago, and I immediately responded that I'd be happy to assist. Aside from helping medically, I wanted to be involved with part of the financial support needed for the couples to fulfill their dreams of a family and fulfill the commandment to 'be fruitful and multiply'. I've learned a lot from Rabbi Fuerst over the years, and he has referred couples to consult with me when trying to conceive. This 'fruitful' relationship has continued since our first meeting; with him, his family, and the amazing ChesedChicago.

What exactly do you do?

When I'm asked: 'What do you do?' My initial response is 'I make people happy!'

As a fertility specialist, I try to be a good 'shaliach' helping couples to build a family. Aside from the physical aspect, fertility treatment involves addressing the emotional roller-coaster, anxiety, shame, fears, and sometimes difficulties within the couple's relationship. I treat female infertility, male infertility, and repeated pregnancy loss. We highly respect and keep the Torah's halachos. We are happy to say that today, bez'H, we can assist almost everyone to have as many children as they wish for.

What motivates you to stay involved with ChesedChicago?

The mission of ChesedChicago and IHR is similar: helping couples fulfill their dream of having a family. It is with great honor and pleasure that I can actively support the Jewish community in Chicago and all over the US while doing my job. 🍷

Each year, ChesedChicago provides hundreds of thousands of dollars to cover the prohibitive costs of fertility treatments.

HERE ARE OUR STATS

2016	\$85,987.13	9 COUPLES
2017	\$102,892.8	8 COUPLES
2018	\$149,755.97	15 COUPLES
2019	\$172,179.52	16 COUPLES
2020	\$163,402.63	17 COUPLES
2021	\$140,049.40	21 COUPLES
2022	\$152,676.57	24 COUPLES
2023	\$163,398.98	27 COUPLES
2024	\$74, 937.41	16 COUPLES

61 BABIES BORN
2016 - 2024
as of May 2024



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

FOOD PANTRY



Michele Levin

How did you get involved with volunteering at ChesedChicago?

I went to Israel in February on a JUF TOV volunteer trip, and for our group reunion a month later, we volunteered at ChesedChicago. I had never heard of the organization before, but once I started, I loved it. When I saw and realized what they do for the Jewish community and how much help they need, I thought 'what kind of better place than to come here and help out!'

What does a typical volunteer day look like for you?

When I first came with our group, we created an assembly line to prepare the Pesach provision boxes. I came back on my own to help stock the shelves for Pesach. I also came for the big food distribution day before Pesach. All the cars came through in a line and we loaded them up. That was fun! I was the onion runner.

Now that the busy Pesach season is done, I come in weekly to help in the food pantry. I can't believe how much stuff has come in from the spring food drive. It's kind of fun, keeping the shelves organized and well-stocked.

In your opinion, what is the most important work that CC does?

Being a safety net for people to have a place to go when they are in need.

What inspires you to stay involved at ChesedChicago on a consistent basis?

Everyone here is so wonderful and welcoming. I'm not observant, but I'm traditional and I feel very comfortable here. After I came the first time, I was hooked. I like the way it makes me feel to be here, while at the same time, helping out. ChesedChicago is my happy place!

Do you have an anecdote about ChesedChicago that really moved you?

I learned something important when I came to ChesedChicago: I didn't realize how many people in the Jewish community are struggling. That was shocking. And I see how much ChesedChicago does for the community and how appreciative people are. It's so wonderful to do something where you feel you are making a real difference.

If you could tell future CC volunteers one thing, what would it be?

Volunteering is good for the soul; it just makes you feel good. You're helping others, but you're helping yourself too. 🍷

It's so wonderful to do something where you feel you are making a real difference.

ATTENTION KIDS

BE A



CHESED
Champ

THIS SUMMER!

MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE.

This summer, do an act of kindness each day
(or more than one per day!) and earn a cool prize!

HOW IT WORKS:

- Use the form (other side of this page) to check off each time you do a chesed.
- Use the list of suggested tasks, or add your own.
- Once your sheet is filled, bring it to ChesedChicago to claim your prize!
(one prize per person)

2 PARTICIPATION LEVELS:

- **COMPLETE 25 – 50 CHECKBOXES:**
earn an awesome stainless steel water bottle, with customizable stickers
- **COMPLETE 51 – 75 CHECKBOXES:**
earn a light-up electric popper game



CHESEDCHAMPS SUMMER CHALLENGE STARTS:

SUNDAY, JUNE 23

PRIZE PICKUP STARTS:

THURSDAY, JULY 18

CHALLENGE END DATE *(and last day to claim prizes):*

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29

PICKUP
M-TH
10AM - 4 PM

FILL OUT THE FORM

ON THE OTHER SIDE

A PROJECT OF


ChesedChicago

FOR ANY QUESTIONS OR ADDITIONAL CHESEDCHAMP FORMS, PLEASE CONTACT CONTEST@CHESEDCHICAGO.ORG



FIRST NAME _____ LAST NAME _____
 AGE _____ PHONE NUMBER _____
 ADDRESS _____

THIS IS HOW I BECAME A CHESSED CHAMP:

Check off the box next to the chesed you did to keep track of your chassadim. If something you did is not listed, add it to a line at the end of the list. Tally your checks before handing in your form.

- Make someone smile
- Clean up your toys
- Donate toys or clothes to ChesedChicago
- Help your parents prepare for Shabbos
- Clear the Shabbos table
- Call a grandparent to shmooze
- Share your toys with a friend
- Sign up to volunteer at ChesedChicago
- Help a neighbor or parent with groceries
- Give tzedaka
- Help an elderly person
- Surprise your friend with a treat
- Clean up garbage outside your house
- Give someone a compliment
- Share with your siblings
- Make a thank you card for your morah or counselor
- Help someone find a lost item
- Bikur cholim
- Bring someone a cold drink
- Hold the door open for someone
- Mow your neighbor's lawn
- Babysit for your parents or neighbors

- Bake a cake and give it to someone
- Take care of a family member that is sick
- Make a thank you card for your postal worker
- Deliver treats to a local fire station
- Leave a note in a family member's lunch box
- Pick up litter you see on the street or in a park
- Help your parents set the table for dinner
- Invite someone new to sit with you at lunch
- Tell someone how much you love them
- Write happy messages with chalk on the sidewalk

Choose your own!

TOTAL



Driving Hope FOR CHICAGO FAMILIES

DID YOU KNOW THAT CHESEDCHICAGO TAKES CAR DONATIONS?

If you have a car you no longer need, donate it to ChesedChicago for the benefit of a tax deduction, while helping someone in need!

With the national car shortage affecting car prices and availability, more people are turning to ChesedChicago for cars.

Very often, vehicles that may not have use for one family can be refurbished and transferred to a family in need, making a world of difference in their lives.

Before sending the car off to its new family, we have a certified mechanic look it over to make sure it's in good working condition. If cars are beyond repair don't worry! We'll sell the parts and the proceeds will benefit Chicago families in need.

EITHER WAY, YOUR DONATION HELPS 100%! 🍷

SINCE LAUNCHING OUR CAR DONATION PROGRAM IN

2008,

WE'VE RECEIVED

473

CAR DONATIONS!

If you have a car to donate please contact office@chesedchicago.org

Memorialize WITH MEANING

Mrs. P's mother's passing left her searching for ways to honor her mother's memory. Instead of a simple donation, Mrs. P chose to make a significant impact by donating funds to ChesedChicago with **specific instructions to buy large-ticket appliances for two families each year on her mother's yahrtzeit.**

This tradition has continued for several years, with Mrs. P providing instructions to ChesedChicago on which appliance to buy each year. ChesedChicago facilitates the purchase and delivery to an appropriate household, with both the giver and receiver remaining anonymous from each other. Mrs. P's tradition of giving has not only honored her mother's memory but has also brought practical help and support to families in need. 🍷

THANK YOU!

March 28, 2024

To a very special person in Klal Yisrael, We have no words to express our heartfelt hakaras hatov for your most incredibly generous gift! Our gratitude knows no bounds...

This new oven is truly sent from Above, with you as a very worthy messenger.

Our old oven was not up to the task, but we were trying to cope with it because a new one was out of range :)

This oven could not have come at a better time. When we'll cook for Pesach, iy'H, we will thank you from the bottom of our hearts for enhancing our Yom Tov in such a beautiful and significant way.

May Hashem repay you a thousand-fold for this magnificent chessed, and bless you with abundant happiness, health, and success in all your endeavors.

Wishing you a joyous and uplifting Yom Tov!

Actual thank you note from the recipient family



7045 N. RIDGEWAY AVENUE
LINCOLNWOOD, IL 60712

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X MARKS THE DREAM

WIN THE TESLA OF YOUR CHOICE

OR \$50,000!

10TH ANNUAL RAFFLE

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CCRAFFLE.COM

847.679.7799 X170



All proceeds benefit ChesedChicago and its 80+ programs for Chicago community members in need. Maaser money may be used towards purchase of raffle tickets. Restrictions apply. Please visit CCRaffle.com for rules and more details.