

Flatbush & Queens Communities Rally Behind Our Place



In an overwhelming show of support, hundreds of lay leaders, community activists, politicians & Rabbonim attended a gala emergency Melave Malka held in the home of Avi & Zisi Fishof on Motzoi Shabbos.

The event was graced by the presence of Harav Avrohom Schorr shlita, who gave divrei brocho, and Rabbi Nosson Scheman who spoke movingly about Our Place. In addition, a young man, Yisroel, related his personal story, from the day he began

with substance abuse, and how Our Place saved his life by paying for his rehabilitation. He is now working half of the day and learning in the afternoons and evenings.

Last week, Dr. & Mrs. Ari Walfish of Kew Gardens, opened their home and together with Moshe (Mark) Engel, co-hosted a Parlor Meeting that raised thousands of dollars for Our Place. R' Avi Fishof compared these lost freezing yiddishe neshomos to the Bais Yisroel zt"l who froze during a 'chamsin' thinking of the yiddish soldiers freezing while on guard at the Chermon. He then introduced Rav Yisroel Belsky who passionately pleaded that Klal Yisroel take care of these 'nechsholim achrecho'.

Our Place has been receiving numerous letters all basically echoing the same sentiments. I will quote a sample written by a

seventeen year old yeshivah student:

"I come from a very normal heimishe frum family. Around three years ago my older brother who we all looked up to began hanging around the wrong people and became involved in things he should have stayed away from. I clearly remember the pain and anguish my family went through during that period - my brother, the 'metzuyan' in yeshivah from my frum family, going off the derech. This is the story you read about others, not my family! The situation turned worse, as he never came home anymore. Fortunately, one evening he ended up in Our Place where R' Chaim Glanz and others lovingly accepted him with warm and open hands and literally saved his life.

To make a long story short, he is engaged to be married in three weeks to a very frum girl and will be learning in the Mir in Israel. This would have never happened without OUR PLACE. They have helped and continue to help hundreds of yiddishe nefashos who are at their lowest level of decay. Please, I beg of you, I am only seventeen, but do not let Our Place

close down. Please donate whatever you can. It is the achrayos of our community for acheinu b'nei yisroel."

Signed BF/Flatbush.

Anyone wanting to contribute, can send their donations to: Our Place NY 44 Wall Street 2nd floor, New York, New York 10005.



EXCITED FOR THE SEDER BUT NOT FEELING UP TO THE PREPARATIONS?

Enjoy lavish meals with the homemade touch delivered directly to your door.

You'll feel like true Royalty this Pesach!

Chicken Menu



FULL SEDER MENU

Beef Menu



Side Dishes



Fresh, Scrumptious Gourmet Food delivered straight to your door.

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Food prepared by Renowned Chefs from the Renaissance Catering Hall.

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FOR A FULL MENU PLEASE CALL US NOW AT:
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Pesach Menu

Fish

- Baby Salmon..... 2 pcs. \$12
- Salmon Fillet - Reg/Sweet-n-Sour..... 2 pcs. \$14
- White..... 2 pcs. \$10
- Carp..... 2 pcs. \$10
- Gefilte Fish Reg/Carp..... 5 pcs. \$8 10 pcs. \$15
- Moroccan Style Salmon (7-9 Oz. Each)..... 2 pcs. \$18
- Tilapia Francaise In A Lemon Sauce..... 2 pcs. \$10
- Buffalo Tilapia..... 2 pcs. \$10
- Mock Fish Balls From Ground Chicken..... 5 pcs. \$8 10 pcs. \$15

Chicken

- Bottoms Roasted/Sweet-n-Sour..... 4 pcs. \$15 8 pcs. \$28
- Grilled Cutlet..... 4 pcs. \$18 8 pcs. \$35
- Crunchy Coated Cutlet..... 4 pcs. \$20 8 pcs. \$40
- Stuffed Capon..... 4 pcs. \$30 8 pcs. \$60
- Capon Stuffed W/ Pastrami & Onion) 4 pcs. \$40 8 pcs. \$80
- Dark Grilled Cutlet..... 4 pcs. \$21 8 pcs. \$42
- Hawaiian & Ginger Chicken..... 4 pcs. \$23 8 pcs. \$45
- Chicken Marsala..... 4 pcs. \$22 8 pcs. \$44

Beef

- Soft Deckel In A Demi Glazed Sauce... 4 portions \$30 8 portions \$60
- Brisket..... 4 portions \$35 8 portions \$70
- Roast Beef..... 4 portions \$28 8 portions \$55
- Minute Steak In A Cream Bordeaux Sauce... 4 portions \$33 8 portions \$65
- Braised Flanken..... 4 portions \$30 8 portions \$80
- Stuffed Cabbage..... 4 portions \$16 8 portions \$32

Soups

- Chicken Soup..... 2 lbs. \$7 5 lbs. \$15
- Cream Of Chicken (W Chicken & Carrot Cubes) 2 lbs. \$7 5 lbs. \$15
- Butternut Squash..... 2 lbs. \$7 5 lbs. \$15
- Cream Of Celery..... 2 lbs. \$7 5 lbs. \$15
- Beets And Flanken..... 2 lbs. \$9 5 lbs. \$20
- Meatball And Potato..... 2 lbs. \$7 5 lbs. \$15
- Vegetable Soup..... 2 lbs. \$7 5 lbs. \$15
- Thick And Creamy Carrot Soup... 2 lbs. \$7 5 lbs. \$15

Pesach Specialties

- Seder Plate..... \$15
- Matsah Balls (Non Gebroktz)..... 4 lbs. \$6
- Homemade Egg Lukshen..... 1 lb. \$6
- Charoses..... 1 lb. \$4

Kugels

All Kugels Come In 9" Round Pans

- Potato Kugel..... \$10
- Overnight Potato Kugel..... \$12
- Apple Noodle Kugel..... \$12
- Tropical Fruity Kugel..... \$12
- Yerushalmi Kugel..... \$12
- Salt & Pepper Kugel..... \$12
- Two Toned Potato Kugel..... \$12

Sides

All Souffles Come In Portions Of Six Muffins

- Carrots & Pineapple Soufflé..... \$18
- Broccoli & Cauliflower Soufflé*..... \$22
- Vegetable Muffins..... \$18
- Sliced Apple Nut Muffins..... \$20
- Potato Blintzes In A Veg Sauce... 4 pcs. \$15 8 pcs. \$30
- Creamed Spinach..... 1lb. \$8
- Potato Latkes..... 10 pcs. \$8

Festive Specialty Foods

- Duck A La Orange..... Half Duck \$25
- Cornish Hens..... 2 pcs. \$20
- Tongue Smothered In A Pomegranate Vinaigrette..... 1 1/2 lbs. \$45
- Roast Veal In A Chateneaux Sauce... 4 pcs. \$35 8 pcs. \$70
- Yaptchik (Potato Kugel W/ Fried Onions & Beef)..... 9" Kugel \$18
- Moussaka..... 9x13" Pan \$25
- (Layers Of Eggplant & Ground Beef In A Tangy Tomato Sauce)
- Turkey Schwarma..... 9x13" Pan \$35

Shabbos

- Chulent..... 9x13" Pan \$35
- Kishke..... 6 pcs. \$12
- Chopped Liver..... 1 lb. \$11

Kids Menu

- Chicken Nuggets..... 1 1/2 lbs. \$20
- Franks & Potatoes..... 1 1/2 lbs. \$20
- Meatloaf..... 8 pcs. \$12
- "Breaded" Fingers..... 1 1/2 lbs. \$22
- Meatballs & Spaghetti..... 1 1/2 lb. \$13

Desserts

- Apple Compote..... 2 lbs. \$7
- Poached Pears In Sweet Wine..... 2 lbs. \$10
- Apple Crumble..... 9" pan \$15

*UNPEELED VEGETABLES

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Assemblyman Cymbrowitz Visits Our Place in Flatbush - Announces \$5,000 Grant



Assemblyman Cymbrowitz with Our Place's (L-R) Chaim Glancz and Yossie Yurowitz during a recent visit to the organization's center.

After visiting Our Place, a program dedicated to providing troubled youth with a positive environment and the counseling and therapy they require, Assemblyman Steven Cymbrowitz said it is important that we determine the true impact of alcohol and drugs on the Jewish community. Since recently being appointed Chairman of the Assembly's Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Committee, Cymbrowitz has been hearing about concerns in the orthodox community involving alcohol and drugs, that previously no one wanted to admit to.

"I have also been told about the use of hard drugs and the abuse of prescription drugs in our community. While we are fortunate in not having a headline making incidence of drug abuse, the presence of this kind of behavior needs to be addressed to benefit both the addict and to prevent others from ruining their lives," Cymbrowitz said.

"It seems excessive drinking has become a well known *secret* in our community, but unless it affects our own family most of us haven't given it serious consideration. Whether it's Kiddush clubs, some of whose members might be enjoying too much alcohol or Kiddush hopping, going from Kiddush to Kiddush drinking at each, this type of behavior cannot continue to be ignored," Cymbrowitz explained.

"It is easy to pretend that there is no alcohol or drug abuse in our community, but that would be wrong, as I am learning from the experts who are out there every day working to reach those who are in denial and assist those who are seeking help," Cymbrowitz continued. "To deny there is abuse of drugs or alcohol in our community is to deny those who are in need the help they deserve."

"Our Place has a remarkably successful record of assisting young people with drug and alcohol prob-

lems, but I believe that it is important to reach our youth before they give in to the temptation of drugs – be it alcohol, prescription drugs or other illegal substances – and need the services of Our Place. Prevention is the key and we have to be more proactive in motivating our young people to be responsible when exposed to the temptation of either alcohol or illegal drugs," Cymbrowitz stated.

"As Chairman of the Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Committee, I want to fully understand the impact of drugs and alcohol on our community so that those who desperately need help may obtain it without shame or obstacles, and those at risk may be reached before it is too late. Just because our neighbors with drug or alcohol problems may not be blatantly obvious is no excuse, for us as a community, to turn a blind eye," Cymbrowitz said.

After visiting Our Place Assemblyman Cymbrowitz announced that he would provide the organization with a \$5,000 grant to help keep it functioning. Located in several locations, including 1815 Avenue M, Our Place provides a non-challenging environment in which young people may play pool, workout with professional instructors, listen to music, socialize with friends and eat a kosher meal while receiving support and help from licensed social workers and therapists.

"We can't afford to let Our Place close. We must make sure that Our Place is able to continue to meet the needs of the troubled young people in our community. Of course, the human benefits are incalculable, but this organization is actually saving us money. Each young person who is reached before they get into trouble, or who is rescued from their troubled past, is one less person our criminal justice system must deal with," Cymbrowitz pointed out.

Flatbush Masbia Visited by New York City Comptroller John Liu

New York City Comptroller John Liu visited Masbia soup kitchen on Coney Island Ave. As Chief Fiscal Officer for New York City, Liu experienced firsthand the plight of New York's unfortunate and the effect that the current state of the economy has on real people.

The soup kitchen guests, who arrived for dinner, were greeted by surprise volunteer Liu dressed in a Masbia apron and ready to serve them a hot, nourishing meal. The site on Coney Island Ave. opened in November 2009 as part of the Met Council and UJA response to the economic crises. It is one of three soup kitchens opened during the recession. The kitchen on Coney Island Ave. serves as the central kitchen and prepares 500 dinners a day, which get distributed to the four sites. Meals are cooked on a daily basis with an emphasis on fresh produce from the New York City Food Bank and City Harvest.

Masbia soup kitchen started as a grassroots charity to feed the hungry. Over the past five years since we opened, MASBIA served over 250,000 meals which means thousands of people (many of them children) have gone to bed with food in their stomachs, full and content. Masbia opened with the hope that people in the community would support its efforts to fight hunger and relies largely on private donations.

Liu's visit comes as the Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty and Masbia are gearing up for Passover, with preparations for large-scale distributions of food for the hungry. "On Passover we say 'Everyone in need



should come and eat', but at Masbia we say this all year round," said Alexander Rapaport, executive director of Masbia.

This Passover season, Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty (Met Council) is gearing up to feed an estimated 50,000 Jewish families in need, distributing over 2.5 million pounds of food. Necessities such as matzah, grape juice, tuna, oil and other Kosher for Passover items will be distributed to seniors and families in need; helping them make this a bountiful and festive Passover season.

"With increasing food prices and reduced government aid, more households than ever are turning to their local food pantries for assistance," said Met Council CEO William E. Rapfogel. "The enormous amount of food that we are able to distribute across the city will make a huge difference in the lives of thousands of New Yorkers this Passover season."

"In a tough time like we are faced with these last few years Masbia is absolutely what we need, in fact it is so good here at Masbia that it's just a matter of time before Tim Zagat gets here and rats this place for his guide," said Comptroller Liu.



A Marine Park Family's Purim Seuda: YAD EPHRAIM TO THE RESCUE

When a Marine Park woman needed assistance with putting together a last minute Purim Seuda for no less than *ten* family members at her ill sister's bedside in Methodist Hospital, she knew whom to call. Within moments, several dedicated Yad Ephraim volunteers put their Mishloach Manos deliveries on hold, instead heading for the Yad Ephraim Kitchen headquarters. They packed ten portions each of a piping hot, five course Purim meal—complete with *kreplach* and stuffed cabbage—and delivered the Yom Tov Seuda-to-go to the grateful family in Room 702.

"It was like the ultimate Mishloach Manos, and it totally made our Yom Tov," exclaimed the woman, "the goodness, the *chesed* of people like these should bring Mashiach now!"

Yad Ephraim was established 5 years ago, with one goal in mind: to ease the pain and suffering of our Jewish hospitalized brethren—and their attending family members,

who all too often experience hunger, hopelessness and helplessness when finding themselves in a hospital room keeping vigil for a loved one for hours on end.

As part of their mission, Yad Ephraim, with the aid of their rotating crew of 300 volunteers, hand delivers hundreds of hot, fresh meals and snacks, paired with loving care and compassion, to Emergency Room and hospital patients and their caregivers. Headquartered only a stone's throw from Maimonides, they service Maimonides Hospital daily and other NYC hospitals upon request. Yad Ephraim is under the direction of Rabbi Pesach Greenberg, Founder and Executive Director, and Rabbi Moshe Steinmetz, Volunteer Coordinator. To request a meal for yourself, for a patient or an attending family member you know, or to learn more about Yad Ephraim, call 718.431.0404 or visit www.yadephrain.org.