



jewish community  
day school of rhode island

The Jewish Community Day School  
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A Feinstein Leadership School  
Good Deeds Program

Helping to better the lives of others  
is the greatest of all achievements!

As a Feinstein Leadership School, we are committed to  
teaching our students to be caring of others.

Head of School: Robert Sarkisian  
Feinstein Coordinator: Susan L. Adler

“The world rests on three things: Torah, Service, and Acts of  
Loving-kindness.” (Ethics of Our Fathers 1:2)



Alan Shawn Feinstein is founder of the Feinstein Foundation, a charitable organization dedicated to hunger relief and empowering students of all ages to help better their communities. The Feinstein annual campaign against hunger has become the most successful grass roots effort to fight hunger of all times. 40,00 plus Rhode Island Jr. Scholars and their teachers spearhead this campaign each spring.



## *What are our Feinstein Junior Scholars up to?*



### *JCDS Brings Light to Chanukah*



Each day of Chanukah, the students lit the Chanukah Menorah together during an assembly. The students brought in Tzedakah money, clothes to be donated as well as canned goods. The clothes were donated to the Camp Street Ministries, the canned goods were donated to a local food pantry, and \$68.88 of Tzedakah money was sent to Haiti. All of this was organized by Ilana Kapach, teacher of the Pre-K. We are proud of ALL of our Feinstein Jr. and Sr. Scholars.



### *Canned Food Drive was a Huge Success*



During the month of October, the students and staff collected and brought in canned goods that were to be donated to the Full Plate, the Kosher Food Pantry in Cranston. We collected 3,526 cans. Our motto was "Yes We Can, Fill the Van!" Deb Blazer, mom of Alicia and owner of Accounting for Taste, donated her van to be filled with cans. On Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, the students formed a human Tzedakah chain and helped to bring all the cans to be loaded into the van. To thank us for our efforts, Alan Shawn Feinstein delivered a check to our school in the amount of \$3,526. He spoke to our students over the intercom and told them how proud he is of them and all that they do. We too are proud of what they do to bring a smile to someone's face.

### *Former Middle School Students continue to do go Good Deeds*



Many of our former middle school students continue to be Feinstein Jr. Scholars. In honor of their Bnei Mitzvah, they raised the awareness of others who are less fortunate.

- David Herzberg-Mayer collected new or slightly used sports equipment which he donated to the Pawtucket Boys' & Girls' Club. Some of his friends and family made donations directly to the club in honor of his Bar Mitzvah.
- Eve Stein donated 10% of her Bat Mitzvah gifts to The Emunah Sarah Herzog Children's Center, Afula, Israel. Set in the center of downtown Afula, the Emunah Children's Center is a residential and community based program serving over 160 children and adolescents at risk and their families.
- Rachel Nassau volunteered at the Full Plate, the Kosher Food Pantry in Cranston. She helps organize the shelves and donates items as well.
- Sophie Harlam raised over \$16,000 for Room to Read, which is an organization that helps build schools and libraries and provides scholarships to help girls get an education. They work in many countries but she decided to help girls in Nepal because girls there are sometimes sold as slaves through a practice called Kamlari, a historically accepted social custom. She realized how lucky and privileged she is to be able to go to school, with lots of books, paper, and pens - things we often take for granted. According to Sophie, "Educating girls is a smart investment! Educating one girl helps to educate future generations because girls that attend school are more likely to send their own children to school. Also, educated girls are more likely to be healthier themselves and their children are much more likely to live longer, healthier lives. Finally, it's VERY inexpensive. It only costs \$2,500 to send one girl to school for ten years!"

**We are proud of our Feinstein Jr. Scholars!**

***Jacob, Lyndsay and Steven Katzman are  
Feinstein Jr. Scholars***



Jacob, a third grader, and his brother Steven, who is in Kindergarten, and his sister Lyndsay who is in Pre-K, are lunch makers at Crossroads Rhode Island. Three times during the summer, they made over 300 sandwiches and brought them to Crossroads. According to their mom, Nicole, the children do everything from shopping to preparing the food and delivering it to Crossroads Rhode Island. Kol Hakavod Katzman family!

***Laliv Gal Receives the Genesis Award***



Laliv Gal, one of our DeLet Fellows received the Genesis Award. She and her husband received this award for their continued efforts to educate children, both at home and abroad, about their heritage. This award was given by the CJUI - Christians and Jews United For Israel. They were recognized by CJUI for their roles in the Zionist Youth Movement, an organization that teaches children about Jewish history and culture. Kol Hakavod Laliv!

***The Gamm Family Visits the Ronald McDonald House***



While Joey was raking leaves, his sister Sandy was picking up toys from the ground. Their mom was baking brownies. Tessa and her dad were picking up trash from the parking lot. The family members also collected recyclables and turned them into money which was donated to the House. The children made Thanksgiving and winter decorations to hang on the walls. They also helped to serve some food. Thanks to Joey for writing the details of their visit. According to their website, "The Ronald McDonald House of Providence provides programs that directly improve the health and well-being of hospitalized children and their families. Our programs allow families to spend additional time with a sick child, help ease financial burdens, provide a sense of normalcy and keep families together during times of medical crisis." Kol Hakavod!



***Wendy's Smiles Across the Miles***

This program named in memory of Wendy B. Adler, has sent many smiles across the miles. Wendy would send pictures to friends who weren't feeling well. Susan L. Adler began to do the same thing and have her students participate. When Wendy passed away, Susan decided to name the program after her beloved sister-in-law. Each week, "Morah Adler's" Jr. Feinstein Scholars send pictures to sick people and shut-ins in the community and beyond. A letter is sent with each packet wishing the person a quick and full recovery. We have also been sending letters of condolence. When the class receives a letter in return, these letters are taped to a bulletin board by the door of the classroom. Every time the students enter or leave the room, they are reminded of their good deeds, and it gives them a smile. It also gives them a positive attitude for the day. One gentleman wrote, "I cannot tell you how beautiful your artworks are and how much it meant to me to have them hanging in my hospital room, brightening my spirits and helping me heal. I will cherish these special gifts always." Our goal is to help students feel a sense of connectedness to others and an obligation to help those who are not well. In addition to this, packets of "smiles" are sent each month to different nursing homes in the state. If you know of someone who would benefit from a package of smiles, please let Morah Adler know. You can reach her at 751-2470, mailbox 51.



***Leah Ribner-Martin is a  
Feinstein Jr. Scholar***

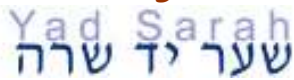
Each time she goes to the grocery store with her Mom and Ima, she selects a can or box of food to be donated to a local food pantry. Way to go Leah!



***Joshua Brandes Gives Tzedakah***

Josh puts some of his allowance each week aside for Tzedakah. When he has saved up enough for a donation, he chooses, with his parents, where the money should go. Kol Hakavod!

## ***Kindergarteners and First Graders Donate Their Tzedakah Money***



G'veret Eskovitz's students collected money in their Tzedakah box and donated the money to many organizations including Yad Sarah.

The donation will go directly toward purchasing new wheelchairs for distribution through the lending program, providing in-home geriatric dental care, bringing outreach services to the homebound, and helping special needs children develop skills through play. Part of a letter written to the class stated: "Your help goes a long way toward impacting the lives of hundreds of thousands of Israelis and their families."

We are proud of these students!



### ***Second Graders Sing at Tamarisk***

On December 16th, the second graders entertained the residents of The Phyllis Siperstein Tamarisk Enriched Assisted Living Residence. They sang Chanukah songs and taught those in attendance about different Chanukah customs from around the world. At the end of the program, some members of the audience shared some Chanukah memories, and everyone sang Oseh Shalom. The director of activities thanked the students for bringing the light of Chanukah to the residents. The class also sent the residents cards for Rosh Hashanah.



### ***Chanukah Pictures Create Smiles***

The 2nd grade class of Morah Adler made Chanukah pictures that were distributed to patients at the Miriam Hospital. Each student created a special picture and added a letter with get well wishes for the patients. The Rabbi at the hospital wrote: "The pictures have brought smiles to people who are quite sad and sick. Please thank them for me and let them know that their drawings and good wishes matter and that they are fulfilling a very important Mitzvah of Gemilut Chasadim, Acts of Kindness." Kol Hakavod Kitah Bet!



### ***Feinstein Community Emergency Fund***

Due to the generosity of Alan Shawn Feinstein and the Feinstein Foundation, we have been able to help members of our community. A few years ago, the Feinstein Foundation sent us a check for \$5,000 to create the Feinstein Community Emergency Fund. We have helped families in our school community as well as the Jewish community of RI. All checks are given out anonymously which is a high level of giving Tzedakah. If you would like to make a contribution to this account, please contact Susan Adler, the Feinstein Coordinator.



### ***JCDs Students Bring Enjoyment to the JCC Pre-School***

On Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders sang Chanukah songs for the pre-school students of the JCC. They sang traditional songs and new songs. Afterwards, the students mingled with each other and made new friends. The older students loved singing for the 3 and 4 year olds of the school. Many students had a chance to sing for their siblings. The groups will visit with each other again before the end of the year.

## ***Remembering Our Soldiers Abroad***



*The United States has set aside a special day to remember our soldiers—those who have served our country in the past and those who are currently serving. As the rest of the world is affected by the war in Iraq and other conflicts, so is the Jewish Community Day School. Some of our school families have close family and friends serving in the military in Iraq, Kuwait, Afghanistan, Korea and other foreign lands. We would like those soldiers, as well as their families, to know that we remember them and their commitment to serving our country. The whole school wrote letters to soldiers thanking them for protecting our country. These were sent out by Staff Sergeant Frank Silvia, father of Daisy and Solomon.*

