AN EVENING WITH SCHOKE JFS RECOGNIZES DEDICATED COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Elayne and James Schoke Jewish Family Service will hold its annual gala, An Evening with Schoke JFS, Sunday, April 26th at 5:30 pm at the Italian Center of Stamford, 1620 Newfield Avenue. The gala will honor the service of community leaders with a special celebration of the agency’s work across Fairfield County. The evening’s events will be hosted by our Master of Ceremonies, Stamford’s own, Alan Kalter and is co-chaired by Liz Kitay and Ronnie Sichel. Sandy Speter will chair the auction.

Schoke JFS will award the 41st Annual Mitzvah Awards to Michael Alexander and the Jewish Sportsmens League (Bruce Blasnik, Gary Bloom, Henry Bubel, David S. Cohen, Marty Donner, Bob Dorf, Bill Gilbert, Paul Gordon, Ed Kweksin, David Lewis, Carl Rosen, Paul Sabbah, David Swerdloff). The 14th Annual Young Leadership Award will be given to David Brand. Risa Goldblum will receive the annual Volunteer of the Year Award.

MICHAEL ALEXANDER

Michael and his wife, Adrienne, have lived in Stamford for over three decades. Michael has successfully led a thirty-five-year career in financial services, attending business school at night to complete an MBA. After working on his own for a short while, he joined a local firm that has become Kolbrenner & Alexander, LLC. Along the way, he continued learning and earned his certification as a Certified Public Accountant and fulfilled a lifelong dream to attend law school. He recently changed the name of his wealth management and financial planning practice to Holbrook Wealth Advisors.

Michael has served on the board of Congregation Agudath Sholom for over a decade, first as a board member and later as Treasurer. He is currently on the board of Hillel at the University of Maryland. Michael’s connection to Schoke Jewish Family Service began in 2009 when he joined the board as Treasurer. Michael served as President from 2012 – 2015 and Immediate Past-President from 2015 – 2017. He continues to be a vocal supporter of our agency’s mission and sponsors Schoke JFS’ annual shredding event, which benefits our agency’s case management and food pantry clients.

Michael is a healthy living, food, and wine aficionado. He and his wife Adrienne are the proud parents of Caroline, Elizabeth, and Daniel. Elizabeth is married to son-in-law Eli Reicher. Caroline and her husband, Brad Alhadef, are the proud parents of grandson Aiden.

JEWISH SPORTSMENS LEAGUE

The Jewish Sportsmens League was founded over twenty years ago following an inspirational Rosh HaShanah sermon at Temple Sinai encouraging members to find their own way to give tzedakah. The group meets on a monthly basis for dinner, followed by a poker game in a member’s home. Each hand begins with the dealer placing five dollars in the “Rabbi’s Cup.” At the end of the evening, the money in the “Rabbi’s Cup” goes to the host’s charity of choice. The League also places ads in the journals of Jewish organizations supported by its members.

Two decades later, the group has donated over $120,000 to Jewish and other causes in Stamford. The League celebrated its “Bar Mitzvah” with a golf and poker trip, which has now become an annual event. It celebrated its twenty-year
A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Some Lessons from the Story of Purim

M ost of us know the story of Purim – The Jewish people face total destruction by the evil Haman, but are saved by our heroes Mordechai and Esther.

Our heroine, Esther, was living a life of luxury in the palace, in royal robes, wearing perfume, and could have chosen to remain out of sight, complacent, choosing to do nothing. Instead, the famous line from the Megillah sets her on the path to redeeming the nation – “Who knows that you have not come to your royal position for a time such as this?” So, Esther decided to use her resources to change the outcome and transform the community.

Schoke JFS will hold our annual Mitzvah Award Celebration, honoring a group of people who, like Esther, could have chosen to remain silent, but instead, stepped forward at times of need to help others. Each year, we choose people from the community that share the same values as Schoke JFS. I am always humbled by the amazing dedication and devotion of these honorees.

Michael Alexander, David Brand, Risa Goldblum and the Jewish Sportsmens League will be honored at An Evening with Schoke JFS on Sunday, April 26, because, like Esther, they stepped forward at critical moments in time to help others.

Michael served Schoke JFS in numerous leadership roles on our board, but also stepped forward on his own, to aid clients who needed his special financial guidance. He rolled up his sleeves, and provided his expertise when there was nowhere else for these clients to turn.

David was driven to inspire the members of his congregation to gather food over the High Holidays for our Freedberg Family Kosher Food Pantry, that feeds food insecure clients. David’s actions helped feed hungry families for months.

The Jewish Sportsmens League, a group of thirteen men who meet monthly to play cards, realized that in their fun they could help others, and make significant contributions to charitable organizations regularly as a result of their gathering.

And Risa Goldblum is so passionate about our Thanksgiving food drive, that she spends dozens of hours each year, packing, unpacking, organizing, and at times buying items for this project that provides more than fifty holiday meals yearly.

I chose just one activity that these individuals perform, but each of them volunteers and serves our community in myriad other ways. Like Esther, each of these award recipients acted when they saw the need.

Let’s congratulate them, and consider joining them in helping the thousands in our community that need our assistance.

Matt Greenberg, CEO
The adolescent experience is historically a time of turmoil and transition for most young adults, with hormonal surges and a preoccupation with social groups rather than immediate family. Today’s teens have vastly different experiences than those who came of age a decade ago. Those born between 1995 and 2012 are children growing up with smartphones and tablets, who believe the internet has existed since the beginning of time. As teen depression and suicide rates have been on the rise since 2011, it might be safe to say this generation is on the brink of a mental health crisis. The deterioration can be traced to their addiction to the digital world.

There is no definitive proof that excessive use of electronic devices has a negative effect on the adolescent population. Nonetheless, according to University of Chicago psychologist Jean Twenge, who researched generational differences for the past twenty-five years, evidence suggests that there is an inverse relationship between the time spent on digital devices and happiness. The question arises as to what came first. Are the feelings of unhappiness, often anxiety and depression, a result of excessive screen time, or does the screen time serve to soothe the unhappiness, as addictive activities often do?

Research suggests many teens are using their devices for a minimum of four hours per day, and most teens remain on social media well into the late evening hours. It is long understood that as the adolescent brain continues to form, a minimum of eight to ten hours of sleep per night is optimal. Again, it is difficult to trace whether the lack of sleep might cause increased depression and anxiety or if depression and anxiety might result in a lack of sleep.

The uncontrollable urge that seems to drive teens to constant connectedness may be rooted in the need to belong, a universal need for most young people. As social interactions become more accessible on social media, the feelings of loneliness and exclusion take on more of a significant role. FOMO (Fear of Missing Out), according to the urban dictionary, is the anxiety that an exciting event may currently be happening elsewhere, often aroused by social media posts. This is exacerbated by sites such as Instagram, Facebook, Snapchat and TikTok, where teens anxiously await to see how many others validate and approve of their posts, the new measure of popularity and acceptance. The flip side is cyberbullying, the most extreme form of public humiliation.

It has been noted the teens of today are spending less time outside the home, less time interacting face to face, and less time dating, which translates into less time practicing interactive relational skills. Learning how to communicate and interact by sharing stories at a dinner table or spending time in the same room with a friend (with no distractions) appears to be a lost skill.

As the world of electronic communication is not about to go away, what is necessary to shift the paradigm? Parents need to limit their own screen time and set a good example for face to face communication with appropriate boundaries. Schools need to prohibit phone and screen use outside of education purposes. The bottom line is teens are young, impressionable children who are still developing. It is the adults’ job to set the tone for the digital environment.

You are invited to join parents and teens for a free showing of the film, Screenagers Next Chapter, which explores the challenging issue of excessive screen time. Merkaz Community High School and Schoke JFS will present Screenagers Next Chapter on Tuesday, May 5th, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm at Congregation B’nai Israel, 2710 Park Avenue, Bridgeport. The showing of the film will be followed by a talkback with Nadja Streiter, a Psychotherapist and Parent Coach in Westport, CT with expertise in treating problematic internet and technology use and video-gaming addiction.

To attend the free event, you must get tickets online at http://nextchapterbymerkaz.eventcombo.com/2019.
Need meals ready to eat and delivered to your home?
Schoke JFS has the answer!

The Schoke JFS Reporter reached out to Helen Unger, a Bridgeport resident who likes to read, knit and play MahJong, and is a recipient of the Pamela and Michael Hirsch Home Delivered Meal program. In the photos above, Helen receives her meals with a visit from Schoke JFS volunteer Marion Bowman.

She heard that the food was "good" and decided to try it out about a year ago when the program began. She has been a regular participant since then and enjoys the service and food so much she has recommended it to many of her friends. As Helen says, "Where can you get a kosher dinner for $7.50 that is even delivered to your kitchen!"

Helen was attracted to the program because she said, "It is just too difficult to cook for one person." She admits the meal is so plentiful it helps to supplement the other meals of her day.

We could not have described the program any better than Helen.

The Pamela and Michael Hirsch Kosher Home Delivered Meal program provides meals to those in our community who have difficulty shopping and preparing their own food.

Once a week, a volunteer will deliver the meals and spend a little time visiting with the recipients.

We deliver up to five kosher, microwave-ready catered meals at a time, provided by Jewish Senior Services. Each meal will include a main course, vegetable, starch, soup, fruit, bread and dessert. The meals are frozen for easy storage.

This is a subscription service. The cost for each meal is $7.50. Reduced rates are available for families who qualify.

For more information or to sign up, please contact Jill Knopoff at 203-921-4161 or JKnopoff@ctjfs.org

Recently, a familiar request was asked of the Schoke JFS Home Companion Program, but with a twist. A family needed a home companion to care for their ninety-five-year-old parent who is suffering from dementia. In this case, the aide would need to accompany the patient to Israel and stay with her while she acclimated to her new surroundings, and until a local aide was in place. The senior would be living in Israel with her family. Our agency was up for the challenge.

Fortunately, Isrella Knopf, Senior Services Director, thought of an aide who is always up for a challenge. Lysa Cannon has worked at Schoke JFS over the past three years after graduating from the Schoke JFS Home Companion Training program, where she received an education about working with seniors and their medical issues, as well as an understanding of Jewish culture. She demonstrated a sensitivity to the needs of the Orthodox community, including wearing conservative dress and keeping kosher. Lysa had also gained experience working with people who have dementia and managing personal care. "In addition, Lysa has a great deal of patience and kindness, and is very respectful," added Isrella Knopf.

Lysa, as a woman of faith, was thrilled to travel to Israel—a dream she never thought would be realized. All the arrangements were finalized and Schoke JFS had again fulfilled its responsibility to help with the care of the seniors in the community, wherever that may be. "The opportunity to care for a patient and learn so much more about Jewish culture and religious traditions was an amazing experience," Lysa shared after she returned home.

The Schoke JFS Home Companion Program can be of assistance for seniors who live close by in Fairfield County as well. Aides will drive seniors to their doctors’ appointments, to the supermarket or dry cleaners, as well as to social events. In addition, home companions will assist their clients with the daily activities of life such as toileting, bathing and personal care tasks.

For more information, please contact Isrella Knopf, Director of Senior Services, at 203-921-4161 or e-mail isrellak@ctjfs.org.
On Thursday, November 14th, with over 250 guests in the auditorium of the Ferguson Library, Schoke Jewish Family Service presented the Eighth Annual Saul Cohen – Schoke JFS Lecture featuring Barry Shrage, a Jewish communal professional and a Professor of the Practice in the Hornstein Jewish Professional Leadership Program and Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies at Brandeis University. The talk was titled *What Drives Us Apart and What Holds Us Together? Jewish Identity, Jewish Community, and the Jewish People.*

The lecture is a gift, offered free to the community through the generosity of Mimi Cohen and Saul Cohen, z”l. This year’s program acknowledged Saul’s unexpected passing in March 2019 and honored his life-long dedication to the Jewish community.

Prior to the community lecture, a Patrons’ Reception was held in the library to thank a group of generous donors for their support.

Thanks for a successful evening go to the steering committee: Betsy and Mike Stone, Sheila Romanowitz, Connie and Alan Freeman, Joanna and Mark Frank, and Gail G. and Stephen Trell.

The greater Stamford community thanks Mimi Cohen and Saul Cohen, z’l, for their generosity and vision in supporting this annual and much anticipated lecture.
Happy Anniversary!

SCHOKE JFS CELEBRATES ONE YEAR AT OUR SMILOW FAMILY CAMPUS

Just one year ago, the offices of Schoke JFS were a mass of boxes, used tape, and the smell of fresh paint. Today, the Schoke JFS-Smilow Family Campus at 196 Greylock Place, Stamford feels like home, and provides a modernized, welcoming space from which to serve the community. Many thanks to the Smilow Family for their generous gift to support this venture.

In September of 2019, we invited over 100 supporters and community leaders to an open house. Along with a tour of the facility and a light dinner, the final mezuzah was affixed to the front door in honor of Mimi Cohen and Saul Cohen, z”l, lead contributors to the Mezuzah Campaign.

The Freedberg Family Kosher Food Pantry, our large, adaptable conference room, and upgraded office space have all helped to improve delivery of our services across Fairfield County. Activities such as chair yoga for Holocaust survivors, our annual Thanksgiving meal distribution, community gatherings, and volunteer trainings have all expanded with our new location.

For more information about our services, call 203-921-4161 or visit our website at www.ctjfs.org.

Schoke Jewish Family Service

UPCOMING EVENTS

AN EVENING WITH SCHOKE JFS
Sunday, April 26th at 5:30 pm at The Italian Center, 1620 Newfield Avenue, Stamford
SAVE THE DATE for the 41st Annual Mitzvah Award Recipients, Michael Alexander and the Jewish Sportsmens League; 14th annual Young Leadership Award, David Brand and Volunteer of the Year, Risa Goldblum. Cocktails, Dinner and Auction will be ahead of the presentation of the awards. To attend, rsvp online at www.ctjfs.org.

SCREENAGERS NEXT CHAPTER
Tuesday, May 5th, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm at Congregation B’nai Israel, 2710 Park Avenue, Bridgeport
Presented by Merkaz Community High School and Schoke JFS, the film will be screened and followed by a talkback with Nadja Streiter, a Psychotherapist and Parent Coach in Westport, CT with expertise in treating problematic internet, technology use, and video-gaming addiction.
To attend the free event, you must get tickets online at http://nextchapterbymerkaz.eventcombo.com

Schoke JFS thanks United Jewish Federation of Greater Stamford, New Canaan, and Darien for supporting these new initiatives:

HEBREW FREE LOAN PROGRAM
Providing Interest-Free Loans

CONNECT TO COMMUNITY
Supporting Holocaust Survivors

PROJECT SAFE
In-Home Counseling to Older Adults

B’YACHAD
Support to LGBTQ+ Teens and Their Families

For more information about these programs, call 203-921-4161 or e-mail info@ctjfs.org.

Thank you to everyone across our community who supported Schoke JFS through their donations to the United Jewish Federation.

Many thanks to the Smilow Family for their generous gift!
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What’s Happening at Schoke JFS?

Anachu participants exercising in a chair yoga class to build resilience of body and mind.

Risa Goldblum and Shari Brenner prepared Rosh Hashana food bags for clients of the Freedberg Family Kosher Food Pantry.

Jewish Twenties and Thirties young professionals gather for a trivia night.

A BIG THANK YOU to all our donors!

Your donations allows Schoke JFS to continue to provide support and services to individuals and families in our community who are faced with difficult life challenges and often have nowhere else to turn.
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In honor of Sherri and Allen Rosenthal's new granddaughter
In honor of Ben Juba's engagement, son of Rachel and Jay Juba
In honor of Esther and Harvey Rein's new grandson
In honor of Dana Rus' engagement, daughter of Linda and Len Rus
In memory of Flossy Fischel, wife of Sam Fischel
In memory of Jeffrey Russ, brother of Len Russ
In memory of Judith Price, mother of Lynne Frenkel
In memory of Lilli Cirillo, mother of Connie Freeman
In memory of Betty Weber, mother of Harvey Weber
In honor of Robin and Jason Fischel's new baby
In honor of Rebecca Schwartz's engagement, daughter of Sheryl and Mark Schwartz

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JOHANNA AND SELIM AKYUZ
In memory of Flossy Fischel, wife of Sam Fischel

ADRIENNE AND MICHAEL ALEXANDER
In memory of Sybil Mailman, mother of Mitchell Mailman

BARBARA ARONICA
In honor of Gail G. Trell

Marilyn and Mervyn Balsam
In memory of Fran Rosen

JODI AND RICHARD BOXER
In honor of Stuart Waldstreicher

MARCIA BRAUNSTEIN
In honor of Alan Freeman's birthday

MICHELLE BRODY AND HAL BLUMENFELD
In honor of Michael Alexander's birthday

RACHELLE CHEIFETZ
In honor of Ronnie and Steven Sicelle's 50th wedding anniversary

SHARON AND STEVEN CHRUST
In honor of Linda Gornitsky's birthday

ELISE SOSNOW AND STEVEN COHEN
In honor of Howard Tichauer's 90th birthday
In honor of Meryl and David Gordon's new granddaughter
In honor of Sherri and Allen Rosenthal's new granddaughter

MARK COHEN
In memory of Gerald E. Cohen

MARSHA COLTEN AND ROBERT COHEN
In honor of Howard Tichauer's 90th birthday
In honor of Meryl and David Gordon's new granddaughter
In honor of Sherri and Allen Rosenthal's new granddaughter

SANDRA DALLMAN
In memory of Nathan Norkin, father of Connie Norkin

SHIRLEY AND ALAN ELLIOT
In honor of Howard Tichauer's 90th birthday

LIZ AND LARRY FELDMAN
In honor of Beverly Stein

CONNIE AND ALAN FREEMAN
In honor of Beverly and David Stein's new grandson
In honor of Meryl and David Gordon's new granddaughter
In memory of Betty Weber, mother of Harvey Weber

STUART GARRELL
In honor of Marvin Rosenbaum

DEBBY AND JACK GOLDBERG
Wishing Beverly Stein a speedy recovery

MERYL AND DAVID GORDON
In honor of Pam Ehrenkranz and Matt Greenberg's new grandson
In memory of Betty Weber, mother of Harvey Weber
SCHOKO JFS THANKS OUR SUPPORTERS FOR THEIR SPECIAL TRIBUTES
Period Covering January 1 – December 31, 2019

MICHAEL GORDON
In honor of Sally Kleinman

LINDA GORNITSKY & HARVEY WEBER
In honor of Meryl and David Gordon’s new granddaughter
In memory of Lili Cirillo, mother of Connie Freeman

PAULA AND BENJAMIN GREEN
In honor of Rhoda and Avi Freedberg’s new granddaughter

LYNN AND DAVID GREENBERG
In memory of Nathan Norkin, father of Connie Norkin

PAM EHRENKRANZ AND MATT GREENBERG
In memory of Anna Rosenthal, mother of Allen Rosenthal
In memory of Erez Fass’ Bar Mitzvah, son of Gina and Jonathan Fass

KAREN AND ZEV HOLZMAN
In memory of Flossy Fischel, mother of Harvey Weber
In memory of Lilli Cirillo, mother of Connie Freeman

IN HONOR OF RHODA AND AVI FISCHEL’S NEW BABY
In honor of Betty Weber, wife of Sam Fischel
In memory of Flossy Fischel, wife of Sam Fischel
In memory of Betty Weber, mother of Harvey Weber

ELYNN AND DAVID GREENBERG
In honor of Linda Gornitsky’s birthday

DEAN LEDERFEIND
In honor of Michael Alexander

GLORIA AND SHELDON LEVINE
In memory of Isrella Knopf and Carolann Reid

LISA AND SETH LINZER
In memory of Esther Trencher
In memory of Rabbi Harry and Helen Lazarus
In memory of Sylvia and Joseph Linzer

CAROLINE LISKER
In honor of Erez Fass’ Bar Mitzvah, son of Gina and Jonathan Fass

CARMINE MARINO
In memory of Aaron Lane, son of David Lane

MARIA AND MICHAEL MCNULTY
In memory of Nahum Sapir, father of Marina Sapir

PATRICIA MOSLEY
In memory of Aaron Lane, son of David Lane

DOREEN AND HOWARD NUSBAUM
In honor of Rachel and Jay Jubas

JOAN ORLOVITZ
In honor of Howard Tichauer’s 90th birthday
In memory of David Resnick

HOLLY AND LARRY PHILIPS
In honor of Mitchell Breakstone

JAMES PRINCE
In honor of Alan Radmin’s Bar Mitzvah

LISA AND HARRY RICH
In memory of Rhoda and Avi Freedberg’s new granddaughter

ARLENE AND CARL ROSEN
In memory of Donald Rich, father of Harry Rich
In memory of Flossy Fischel, wife of Sam Fischel
In memory of Betty Weber, mother of Harvey Weber

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Period Covering January 1 – December 31, 2019

STAMFORD CHEVRA KADISHA
In honor of Shara Israel

BEVERLY AND DAVID STEIN
In honor of Donald Rich, father of Harry Rich
In honor of Erez Fass’ Bar Mitzvah, son of Gina and Jonathan Fass
In memory of John Van Schalkwijk
In memory of Nahum Sapir, father of Marina Sapir
In honor of Rhoda and Avi Freedberg’s new granddaughter
In honor of Pam Ehrenkranz’s birthday

ALEXANDER TROY
In honor of Aaron Lane, son of David Lane
In honor of Aaron Lane, son of David Lane

GAIL WATKINS
In honor of Howard Tichauer’s 90th birthday

BARBARA AND HARRY WEBSKI
In honor of Alan Freeman’s birthday

LYNNE WEINBERG
In honor of Jim Schoke

CAROL ZIRKEL
In memory of Nathan Norkin, father of Connie Norkin

LIORA AND SETH ZIRKEL
In memory of Nathan Norkin, father of Connie Norkin

JESSICA ZIRKEL-RUBIN
In memory of Nathan Norkin, father of Connie Norkin

Visit our website
www.ctjfs.org

Now you can donate online and keep abreast of new and ongoing programs and services.
The Freedberg Family Kosher Food Pantry serves over two hundred and fifty clients a year who depend on this resource to feed themselves and their families. Schoke JFS reaches out to the Jewish community several times during the year to request donations - Rosh Hashanah, Thanksgiving, and Passover. The generosity is phenomenal! Between these food drives, we rely on Jewish organizations and private individuals to help the pantry remain stocked.

To maintain a regular supply of donations and introduce children to the importance of tzedakah, the Young Couples Group of Schoke JFS has organized Mitzvah Mondays, a family-friendly event that will teach children to be sensitive to others and give of themselves.

Mitzvah Mondays will be on the third Monday of each month, from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM. During these hours, the food pantry will be open to accept donations. The late afternoon time schedule is to allow for any child from a toddler to a teen to be able to exercise the act of Tzedekah. Many thanks go to the committee chaired by Hilary and Ari Goldstein, Robin and Jason Fischel, Jami and Scott Fener, and Robin and Mike Himelstein for supporting this initiative.

For groups who want to arrange an educational and inspirational visit to the Freedberg Family Kosher Food Pantry, please contact Rebekah Kanefsky, Case Management at Schoke JFS at 203-921-4161 or rkanefsky@ctjfs.org.

If you would like to make online donations, please visit www.ctjfs.org/KosherFoodPantry.

The Freedberg Family Kosher Food Pantry always needs the following donations to continue feeding the community:

- Tuna, Yams, Oatmeal, Soup, Canned Fruit, Canned Beans, Peanut Butter, Tomato Sauce, Juice, Pasta, Rice, Nuts, Dried Fruits, Granola Bars, Tea, Coffee, Couscous, Wacky Mac, Laundry Detergent, Dishwasher Soap, Cleaning Products, Personal Care Products, Pet Food
Grow You! One-on-One Financial Counseling helps Schoke JFS clients to prepare a budget and learn how to manage their money.

Jerri Appel and Ronnie Sichel volunteered at the Schoke JFS Tag Sale to raise funds for our food pantry.

Shana Yakubovich proudly stands beside the Chanukah presents she and her children wrapped for the Matanot Lev program.

Young Families supporting Schoke JFS enjoyed making Rosh Hashana cards for our kosher food pantry clients.

Holocaust survivors participating in Anachnu programming enjoy lunch and dancing at a Café Europa Chanukah party.

Schoke JFS volunteers were recognized at a breakfast in the fall of 2019.
Tribute cards are a meaningful way to celebrate with friends and family members on their Bar or Bat Mitzvah, graduation, wedding, birthday or any other simcha or special event. They can also be sent to family or friends in honor or commemoration of a loved one. There is no fixed amount for a donation and the card will be sent on your behalf. The inscription notes the purpose of your donation.

Send a Schoke JFS Tribute Card

To make a tribute card donation, go online to www.ctjfs.org or call 203-921-4161.
Mitzvah Baskets
Add Tzedakah to Every Occasion!

When you order a beautifully designed Mitzvah Basket for your celebration, the proceeds go directly to the Schoke JFS Freedberg Family Kosher Food Pantry which provides food to thousands of individuals and families in our community.

Mitzvah Baskets and centerpieces are uniquely designed and custom ribbon colors can be used to fit the décor of your event. The decorative baskets are filled with “faux food,” symbolic of the food that is donated to the kosher food pantry.

To order a Mitzvah Basket for your next event, go to www.ctjfs.org or call 203-921-4161.

Shoke JFS Hebrew Free Loan Program

Shoke Jewish Family Service has established a Hebrew Free Loan program. Qualified applicants can receive an interest-free loan to support:
- Emergency Home or Car Repairs
- Medical / Dental Expenses
- Funeral Costs
- Camp Tuition
- Participation in an Gap-Year or Short-Term Jewish or Israel Education Program
- Attending a Vocational or Technical Program

For more information and to determine if your need qualifies, please contact Jonathan Fass at 203-921-4161 or by e-mail at jfass@ctjfs.org.