

Chabad Lubavitch of Hamilton



2019



Chabad Lubavitch of Hamilton is a Registered Charity and qualified to give tax-deductible receipts



Chabad Lubavitch of Hamilton Mission Statement

***Chabad Lubavitch* of Hamilton is a community-based non-profit organization dedicated to igniting the spark and fanning the flames of Judaism in every man, woman and child in the Hamilton-Wentworth, Burlington and Brantford area.**

Chabad Lubavitch is founded upon the Mitzva, “Love your fellow as yourself”. Following the guidance and inspiration of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, we aim to fulfill this by giving every Jew the ability and opportunity to do another Mitzvah, learn another word of Torah, transform the world into a G-dly place and bring Moshiach.*

*Please see page 11

Chabad, where every Jew is family

CHABAD HOUSE

Sent by the Lubavitcher Rebbe in 1980, Rabbi Zalman Itkin, a”h and his wife Fajgi established Chabad Lubavitch of Hamilton and the surrounding areas. Focusing on the arenas of need, they started Chabad at McMaster and holiday programs for adults and children in the broader Jewish Community. Rabbi Itkin gave classes throughout the surrounding areas as well, for the community in Guelph, a lunch and learn at University of Waterloo and for a number of years ran the Hebrew Sunday School in Brantford.

With the influx of Jews from Soviet Russia, Rabbi and Fajgi Itkin made sure to provide for the spiritual needs as well as assisting in acclimatization to Canada for the new immigrants. Religious texts in Russian, a mass wedding for couples who, due to communism, were never given the chance to have a proper Jewish marriage, and personal assistance were just some of the steps taken.

Concurrent to this there was a lively and active focus on student programming- Shabbat dinners, classes, personal mentoring, holiday programs and more.

In 1994 the Chabad House was purchased to provide a hub for all the student activities and office space for the broader needs of Chabad in Hamilton.

Following the passing of Rabbi Itkin in December 2006 (17 Kislev, 5767) Rebbetzin Fajgi Itkin continued the work of Chabad Lubavitch and in August 2007 Rabbi Chanoch and Shaina Rosenfeld moved to town to join the team.

Over the last 25 years, Chabad House has become the home of weekly Shabbat dinners, BBQ, a giant Sukkah, classes, lectures, the Ralph Travis Memorial Library, JLI and the office where all the planning, accounting, and communications are based.

Total cost of building and maintenance: \$31,472

Total cost of Salaries: \$87,120

Did You Know?

There are close to 250 campus Chabad Houses across the world.

A Home Away from Home for Every Jewish Student

Café Chabad

A Jewish student attending McMaster University can often be found going back and forth from class to the library and back to class again. Schoolwork consumes a lot of time during the day and night.

Café Chabad offers a safe environment to stop for a moment and relax in a Jewish setting. Fresh, homemade soup of the day, coffee and tea are always available during Café Chabad hours.

A student may choose to spend some time in the Chabad House, schmoozing with fellow students, or with Rabbi or Shaina Rosenfeld. They may snooze on the couch or simply pop by and take a coffee or soup back with them to school.

The beauty of Café Chabad is the relaxed environment it offers. There is no specific action to be done, just warm your heart and bones with something hot on a cold winter day, just like you would do at home.

Café Chabad currently serves between 1-15 students a day, Monday and Wednesday 6:00-8:00 pm, Tuesday and Thursday 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm and is offered free of charge.

Café Chabad cost: \$5000

Did You Know?

Chabad at Mac serves more than 150 bowls of Shabbat soup each month

Think Jewish

These years of training and study are also years of maturation. The typical student has never been this independent before. This is truly a time of transition from a dependant teenager into an independent adult.

It is therefore crucial to keep the mind and heart connected to Jewish thought and teaching. Chabad House offers this opportunity to every Jewish student in several ways:

- 1) Text based and informal one on one study on any Jewish topic is available to every Jewish student. Whether it’s the guys with Rabbi Chanoch or the girls with Shaina, this provides a wonderful tool for the Jewish student to fill their minds with Jewish thought, each at his or her level.

2) Grill the Rabbi

The Rabbi grills a side of beef and then the students grill the Rabbi! Q&A sessions for the guys with Rabbi Chanoch are on the table periodically. These are great ice breakers for the student who is less inclined to attend an official Jewish study group. Any question on Judaism is allowed. The only bad question is the one not asked.

3) Grill Shaina

This is for the girls. A no-holds-barred Q&A similar to the Grill the Rabbi where anything can be asked on any topic in Judaism. No questions are off limits and the discussion is freeflowing.

There are currently 5-10 regular one-on-one lessons per semester and approximately 23-29 students in each Q&A group. Think Jewish is offered free of charge.

Cost of Grillin’ Rabbi: \$3,150

Cost of Grillin’ Shaina: \$2,100

Did You Know?

This booklet was produced
in-house to reduce costs

Jewish Identity at McMaster University

Of utmost importance to us is to facilitate the strengthening of the sense of pride in being Jewish among Jewish McMaster students. Some of the ways we accomplish this:

- 1) Kosher on Campus. Working together with Hospitality Services on arrangements, kosher sandwiches are now available for purchase in La Piazza in the Student Centre during the school year.
- 2) Kippas on Campus. Kippas in McMaster colours are offered to students at cost price. Students are encouraged to openly display their Jewishness in school.
- 3) The University has established a set of guidelines for religious accommodations. We make sure students are informed and fill out the necessary forms. In the event of additional issues, we will do everything we can to resolve said issues allowing our students to keep Shabbat and the Jewish Holydays..
- 4) We periodically meet with the president of McMaster and/or the dean of students to discuss the challenges a Jewish student may face in university.

Cost of materials for the year \$750

We are here for you 24/7

The university experience is – for many – the first real experience away from home for an extended period of time. It is important for every student to have someone they know who will care for them in a time of need. Our personal cell phone numbers and email addresses are handed out to every Jewish student. We are always available for whatever a student may need.

Chicken soup express will deliver hot, homemade chicken soup to the bedside of students who are not feeling well.



Cost for Soups for the year: \$500

Holiday and Seasonal

Every Jewish holiday has a unique message, an individual aspect in our relationship with G-d. Chabad House offers a variety of Holiday experiences and activities to enable each Jewish student to celebrate their Jewishness through the Jewish holidays. Just a few of many examples (some may change from year to year).

- 1) Rosh Hashanah student friendly Shofar service and festive meals.
- 2) Yom Kippur pre-fast festive meal and post-fast break fast
- 3) Sukka on wheels driving through campus with a Lulav and Etrog.
- 4) Chanuka party where you can make your own Latkes and help build the Menorah.
- 5) Tu B’shvat wine and cheese with our unique custom of 15 fruit
- 6) Purim Party with megillah and costume contest
- 7) Model Seder

Life wouldn’t be the same without a little fun and socializing. We offer opportunities for Jewish students to socialize with other Jewish students in a safe and kosher environment: Our well known ChaBaBQs.

From the Welcome Back BBQ to the BBQ in the Sukka to the “get rid of the Chametz” BBQ or the “just like that” BBQ, Chabad BBQ’s are known amongst the students as the best BBQ’s in town! Burgers, hot dogs, chicken, veggies all the trimmings and the friendly environment ensure that our BBQ’s are among the best attended student programs we offer.

All holiday and seasonal programs are offered to students free of charge.

Cost: \$12,050

Did You Know?

That every Chabad House is 100 % responsible for raising its own funds

Shabbat Dinner

Shabbat Dinner is the crown jewel of Chabad House. It offers students a pause from the life of study to reconnect with their inner Jew, to connect with their fellow Jew, over the best homemade kosher food in town.

The evening begins with Kabbalat Shabbat and the evening prayer, followed by Kiddush and Shabbat Dinner. The needs of all students are taken into account; there are plenty of meat and vegetarian options, and we accommodate students with special dietary needs or food allergies.

The atmosphere at Shabbat Dinner is a very homey one. Many friendships were formed over Gefilte fish, chicken soup and meatballs. There are also a number of married couples who first met at Shabbat Dinner in Chabad House; this is a great source of pride for us.

All are welcome at Shabbat Dinner. Whether a student is affiliated with a different Jewish group or with no particular group, whether they choose to be active Jews or observers, Shabbat Dinner brings everyone together and all Jewish groups are welcome to announce their upcoming events. Chabad House serves as a home away from home, where every Jew is family!

Regional Shabbaton - (Canada Pegisha)- Each year Chabad on Campus across Ontario and Quebec joins together to create a Shabbaton for 100+ Jewish students from all different campuses. This is an opportunity to learn, grown, and connect to other Jewish students at other Canadian Campuses. .

The average Shabbat Dinner hosts 35-45 students, although it can get as large as 70. Shabbat Dinner as well as Shabbat 100 are offered free of charge.

Shabbat Dinners for the year: \$26,000

Regional Shabbaton : \$2500

Did You Know?

We've switched to all real dishes, tablecloths and cutlery to reduce waste and cost, and it feels like home

Jewish holidays for the Jewish community of Hamilton

Chabad Lubavitch of Hamilton strives to enhance the Jewish experience of every Jewish man, woman, and child in the Hamilton – Wentworth area. Our primary mandate is to serve the needs of the Jewish students of McMaster University, however, we don't shy away from work within the community where there is a need for it. Here are some of the holiday programs offered to the Hamilton Jewish community.

- 1) Shofar factory workshop. Jewish children get hands on experience on the making of a Shofar for Rosh Hashanah.
- 2) Sukka on wheels visits as many Jewish businesses as is humanly possible during the few intermediate days of Sukkot. The Sukka on wheels also visits McMaster University and some of the local high schools. Participants on board are given a chance to shake the Lulav and Etrog and have a bite in the traveling Sukka.
- 3) Gore Park Community Menorah- A public menorah set in Gore Park every year starting in 2015 and marked with a communal menorah lighting celebration.
- 4) Public Menorah lighting at Shalom village, with the Mayor in City Hall, as well as a Menorah on the porch of Council Chambers for the duration of Chanuka. Another site of a public Menorah is right in front of the Chabad House at 177 Sterling St.
- 5) Purim celebrations at Shalom village and around town.
- 6) Model Matza Bakery
- 7) The distribution of handmade Shmurah Matzah as well as a Passover food distribution for families in need.
- 8) Chaplaincy visits at the Hamilton-Wentworth Detention Centre

Workshops at the day schools are done for a token fee, some Shmurah Matzah is sold at cost price, everything else is offered free of charge. Our main goal is for the person at the receiving end to enjoy the experience.

Cost of the holiday programs: \$8,450

Did You Know?

144 households received a gift of Shmura Matza last Pesach

The Lamplighter Project

Once upon a time, before electric street lights, there were kerosene street lamps. Several people would be hired to go around town and manually light each street lamp. The lamplighter needed to brave the weather, climb up each lamp, refill the kerosene and rags and light the lamp. Thus, the city or town was illuminated.

Each one of us can be a lamplighter; we can each share what we know with others. To kindle the spark, fan the flame and uncover the blazing light of the Jewish soul.

The name Lubavitch means town of love, a small town in White Russia founded by a Jewish settler who had tremendous love in his heart. This small town later became the seat of the Chabad movement. It was in this town that the deep mystical wellsprings of the Torah were revealed to the laymen for the purpose of contemplation which leads to directed emotion and action, hence the name Chabad Lubavitch.

Learning itself is not enough, it must lead to action. Simply doing a Mitzva is not enough; it must lead to an intellectual and emotional relationship with G-d. The result is a Jewish lamplighter. Here are some of the ways we accomplish this.

- 1) Matza and seder provisions for the needy.
- 2) Fresh Challa is delivered around Hamilton every Friday, to add to the joy of Shabbat.
- 3) Holiday goodies and material are distributed before and during each holiday. (i.e. honey cake before Rosh Hashanah, Purim baskets etc.)
- 4) An opportunity to lay Tefillin is provided to Jewish men at work, who did not have a chance to put them on in the morning.
- 5) Mezuzot are available for every Jewish doorpost.
- 6) Assistance is provided to those who wish to transition to a kosher kitchen.
- 7) Torah thoughts are sent out in the e-Parsha emails.
- 8) Training brides and grooms for married life according to Jewish law and spirit.
- 9) Assisting the addition in acts of Tzedaka.
- 10) Text based study in the office, for 10 minutes of time, with Chayeinu.org publication

The Lamplighter Project is offered to Jewish people of all ages free of charge.

The Lamplighter Project (incl. distributed goods) cost: \$30,000

Did You Know?

Every Shabbat dinner is entirely home-made

Summary of Expenses

Campus PROGRAMS	Yearly
Weekly Shabbat Dinners	26,000
Cafe Chabad	5,000
Kosher BLT- Tefillin Club	875
Regional Shabbaton	2,500
Chicken Soup Express	500
Jewish Identity	750
Grill the Rabbi	3,150
Grill Shaina	2,100
BBQ	2,250
Rosh Hashana	1,500
Yom Kippur	1,000
Sukka	1,000
Sukkot meals and parties	2,000
Chanukah Party	500
Tu B’Shvat Seder/Wine and Cheese	800
Purim	1,000
Pesach	5,000
Total:	55,925

Community PROGRAMS	Yearly
Sukkah Mobile	750
Chanukah Programs	1,500
KIDS Magazine	2,000
Shmurah Matza	3,643
Mishloach Manot	1,500
Model Matza Bakery	700
Mezuza Campaign	5,000
Rabbi Z. Itkin Memorial	1,800
Lamplighter project-misc.	19,200
Total:	36,093

CHABAD HOUSE	Yearly
Mortgage	14,400
Utilities	4,167
Maintenance and Cleaning	2,500
Website and IT	3,000
Insurance	1,500
Office	2,500
Total:	28,067

SALARY	Yearly
Rabbi	83,645
Programs Co-ordinator	NO
Executive Director	SALARY
Total:	83,645

Expense:	Amount
Campus Programs	55,925
Community	36,093
Chabad House	28,067
Salary	83,645
Total Expenses:	203,730.00

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Become a Lamplighter – help us help others!

We are extremely cautious to keep our cost of operation as low as possible. Whether in small steps, such as using energy efficient bulbs or in larger steps, using outside designers only when absolutely needed, we have trimmed overhead wherever possible.

100 cents of every dollar donated will fund all of the above programs. We do not pay dues nor do we send percentages elsewhere. It all remains right here in Hamilton unless there is a specific collection for a specified project.

Chabad Lubavitch Hamilton is striving towards financial stability and sustainability. To this end, a group of supporters give monthly donations to support our good work. The credit cards of each monthly donor are charged once a month for the agreed on amount. We take security very seriously, we keep all credit cards locked away; we will never share your personal information with anyone else.

At the start of the 2019 fiscal year, our base of monthly donors stands at \$6,947 per month from 79 donors, a 40% increase over last year! It is our goal to reach \$10,000 a month over the coming few years. Please consider joining today! www.chabadhamilton.com/donate

Corporate and private sponsorship make up a large portion of our donations. Every dollar will make a difference! Please consider increasing your donation today.

Did You Know?

100% of your gift remains in
Hamilton

WHERE EVERY JEW IS FAMILY!