

**Yad Chessed Charity Fund**  
**46 Columbia Street**  
**Brookline, MA 02446**

ANNUAL REPORT  
September 1, 2004 to August 31, 2005

## INTRODUCTION

Once again, it is a pleasure to present you with the sixteenth annual report of the Yad Chessed Charity Fund. A report on the various activities of the Fund follows.

## DIRECT ASSISTANCE

Together with our "Gemach", or interest free loans, direct assistance is the central activity of Yad Chessed. Yad Chessed pays for necessities. While the majority of our help is for food assistance, we have also helped pay for housing, heat, medical treatment, and other items. We assist a number of people on a regular basis, usually in the form of distributing monthly food certificates. This generally averaged about 50 families per month. Only rarely does Yad Chessed give cash assistance and the amount is very small. During the past fiscal year, \$126,400.98 was given for direct assistance which compares with \$136,186.87 which was given the previous year. This included \$68,330.93 for food, \$30,162.95 for housing, \$5,740.50 for clothing, \$7,559.29 for medical and dental needs, \$2,825.36 for heat, \$3,229.24 for other utilities and \$8,552.71 for other necessities.

## INTEREST FREE LOANS

Some people do not require or will not accept direct assistance. They may be temporarily out of work, arranging their child's wedding, starting a new business or have unexpected bills. Yad Chessed is glad to help these people with an interest free loan which is paid back generally over the ensuing year. This past year \$37,969 was given out in loans and \$27,948 was paid back.

## PURIM PROGRAM

One of the important commandments of Purim is "matanot l'evyonim" or "gifts to the poor". In his famous Mishna Torah, Moses Maimonides described this commandment as follows: "One is duty bound ON THE DAY OF PURIM to distribute to the poor." However, for many people in the Boston area, it is very difficult to fulfill this commandment when they do not personally know any poor people. Each year Yad Chessed makes arrangements to allow both individuals and synagogues to carry out this commandment.

In the 2005 Purim Program twenty seven congregations and educational institutions and various individuals donated \$45,908.09 for "matanot l'evyonim" (compared to \$40,053.38 the previous year). \$1890 went for food assistance for 18 refugee families (23 individuals) from the former Soviet Union. \$45,895.50 went to help 203 other needy families (581 individuals) in the community. Store discounts enabled us to provide \$51,930 in assistance. \$2000 went to help

needy people in Israel. (More funds were allocated than were collected on Purim day to make allowance for late arriving donations, for discounts on the cost of the food and for undelivered and unused food certificates. The difference was made up by regular tzedakah funds.)

## HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

Yad Chessed has a program for Mo'ot Chitim for Pesach. Yad Chessed provides assistance for needy people so that they may purchase food to celebrate Passover. In addition, we provided additional food assistance for people for the High Holidays and Sukkot. While most of the assistance was used to help people locally, we also disbursed \$1000 to help needy people in Israel for Pesach.

## ISRAEL

Yad Chessed is set up primarily to help people in the Boston area. However, some of our donors requested that we help people in Israel. Therefore, for Purim we gave \$2000 to Yad Eliezer to help people in Israel from our special Purim program of "matanot l'evyonim" and before Pesach we gave \$1000 to Yad Ezra for Mo'ot Chitim for people in Israel. For more information on these programs, please contact Yad Chessed.

## SOME WORDS OF APPRECIATION

Without the help of a number of people, Yad Chessed would not be able to carry out its work. Jewish Family and Children's Service refers many applicants, investigating their situations and advising what help would be most appropriate as well as mailing the monthly food certificates. One person records and deposits the continuous flow of contributions and loan repayments to Yad Chessed using a computerized management system that he has developed specifically for this task as well as producing the required financial reports, calculated summaries, and printed mailing labels. Another person had his office prepare our Rosh Hashanah and Chanukah mailings. In addition, he paid the printing costs for all of our mailings. The seventh and eighth grade of the Jewish Community Day School prepared our Pesach mailing. An accountant provided a review of our statement of assets and fund balance which is required by the State of Massachusetts. To all these people who have given of their time, a very special thank you.

## A FINAL WORD

This past year, our unrestricted contributions went down almost 6% (from \$191,734.67 the previous year to \$180,417.39 this past year). Our unrestricted grants went down over 2% (from \$181,533.37 the previous year to \$177,221.48 this past year). Our interest-free loans went up almost 29% (from \$29,493 the previous year to \$37,969 this past year). Thank you to all our donors for making it possible to help the many needy people who requested assistance.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES  
for the year September 1, 2004 to August 31, 2005

RECEIPTS:

Unrestricted contributions	180,417.39
Donor advised contributions (Note 2)	25,344.68
Contributions for fundraising & overhead (Note 1)	1,356.57
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$207,118.64
Interest free loan repayments	27,948.00
Interest and dividends	73.12
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$235,139.76

EXPENDITURES:

Grants 177,186.48	
Donor advised grants (Note 2)	24,209.32
Interest free loans	37,969.00
TOTAL GRANTS AND LOANS	\$239,364.80
Fundraising and overhead (Note 1)	1,356.57
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$240,721.37

EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS OVER EXPENDITURES	(\$5,581.61)
Write-off of uncollectible loans (Note 3)	\$30,370.14
NET DEFICIENCY OF RECEIPTS OVER EXPENDITURES	(\$35,952.75)

BALANCE SHEET

August 31, 2005

ASSETS:

Cash	10,275.01
Food Certificates	3,680.00
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	\$13,955.01
Interest free loans receivable	40,489.03
TOTAL ASSETS	\$54,444.04

LIABILITIES: \$0.00

BALANCE (ASSETS MINUS LIABILITIES) \$54,444.04

Notes:

1. The cost of fundraising and overhead was paid for by donations specifically designated for that purpose.
2. Donor advised contributions and donor advised grants refer to contributions that are donated for specific situations. The rest of the donor advised contributions will be disbursed in the next fiscal year.
3. Forgiveness of all loans since start of Fund (16 years) that are no long considered collectible.