



MyZuzah Moments - April 11, 2025

In February, we sent **185 pounds** of mezuzahs across **89,743 miles** in North America to reach new homes. More evidence that our work is not an easy lift!

Each week, we offer our mezuzah recipients over 20 time slots to join our **Virtual Dedication** program, where a rabbinic student or Jewish communal professional leads a 15-minute Zoom call to help groups of recipients appreciate their connection to the wider Jewish people, learn a little bit about why we put up mezuzahs, and then say the blessing together as they mount the mezuzah on their doorposts. We know that the experience is meaningful based on our surveys of recipients, but it can be just as impactful for the facilitators! One of our professionals shared a [message on LinkedIn](#) this week, which you can read to really appreciate the mark MyZuzah makes on **everyone** who participates in our work:



Moshe Lencer • 1st
Director of Campus Affairs | Champion for Jewish Advocacy, Inclusion, a...
21h • 🌐

This tiny scroll shook me. 🌟📖

And as we prepare for Passover, I can't stop thinking about it.

During my time as a Dedication Fellow with MyZuzah, I had the privilege of helping Jewish young adults worldwide put up mezuzahs, many for the very first time.

One participant stood in the doorway after we finished and said:

"For the first time, it feels like this space is really mine."

That moment changed both of us.

Because a mezuzah isn't just a ritual item, it's a declaration. Of pride. Of visibility. Of belonging.

And what is Passover if not the story of becoming seen? Leaving the narrow places. Walking into freedom. Owning who we are.

I'm deeply grateful to MyZuzah and the [Mayberg Foundation](#) for their vision, empowering thousands to say:

"This is my space. And I'm proudly Jewish in it."

When I worked at [Alpha Epsilon Pi](#), I wrote about this moment in "How to Get Your Very Own MyZuzah." That experience continues to shape my work today as Director of Campus Affairs at [American Jewish Committee \(AJC\)](#), where I fight daily for students to live openly, safely, and joyfully as Jews.

This Passover, as we open our doors for Elijah, let's remember what it means to mark our homes with pride.

Let's remember what it means to walk in joy, even when the world feels heavy.

Let's keep showing up, scroll by scroll, step by step, never alone.

[#JewishVisibility](#) [#MyZuzah](#) [#JewishJoy](#) [#JewishPride](#) [#Passover](#)
[#CampusAdvocacy](#) [#AJC](#) [#DedicationFellow](#) [#MeybergFoundation](#)
[#MezuzahMoments](#) [#AEPi](#) [#FreedomStartsAtHome](#)

Partner Updates:



The Conference of European Rabbis has distributed over **400 mezuzot** as part of our partnership, most recently among the communities of **Munich, Augsburg, Malmö, and Barcelona**. Here is a picture of one of their latest recipients, in Augsburg, Germany.

One partner who we met through the CER is **Rabbi Pinchas Zaltzman**, the Chief Rabbi of **Moldova**. His son is bringing thirty more of our mezuzot to his community from Israel today, and he sent me a very emotional message as I worked to coordinate the mezuzot before Passover:

*You see, I don't make a living from the rabbinate in Moldova, but I give my blood to this country for more than half the year. It's such a remote place and such Jews are poor in knowledge and even more so in finances. Moldova is one of the poorest countries in the world. Thank God, we have active synagogues. There's an afternoon school, and a Sunday school. Every year, several families come closer to Judaism. Every year, at least 20 to 30 people are sent to the Land of Israel. And these mezuzahs. None of them last a day. They're all divided up. There's a list, more or less. Everything is divided up. People who didn't know what a mezuzah is, didn't understand the importance of Jewish identity and its meaning. Some places are also a bit anti-Semitic. In spite of that, one fellow posted his mezuzah on the door of the house, and he did it with pride and bravery, even if it comes at a personal cost. And once again, a yashar koach for this help for us and for the shared zechus to bring light into the lowly places with these simple people. We will bless you, may God help you, may you have abundant blessings and success, and may you be blessed to continue to perform this kiddush Hashem, and may we all love this mitzvah. I really appreciate that you looked after us. May you be blessed. May you continue to be faithful messengers of the Jewish people. May you be blessed and may you be blessed and may you have a kosher and happy holiday. **Rabbi Pinchas Zaltzman***

In the parlance of these days..."Let all those who need mezuzot, come and ask!"

Back on our North American shores, **Dr. Yakir Englander** of the **Israeli American Council** spoke last month at an event in **Cleveland** about the ethical responsibilities of the IDF, and on the sidelines he gathered a group of Israeli-American leaders and American-Jewish leaders for a special workshop where they acquired community resilience tools, including mezuzot. He wrote:



We focused on tools for regaining control in chaotic situations. After learning this tool, we discussed the mezuzah as a symbol for restoring order from chaos and protecting the personal, family, and community home. At the end of the evening, after 4 hours of acquiring tools and engaging in deep conversation, we presented them with a gift - a personal mezuzah. For many of them (sad to admit), there is no mezuzah at their home

entrance, and they promised to use this mezuzah to proudly display their Jewish identity. The partnership between MyZuzah and the IAC is unique and so important precisely because our community doesn't take having a mezuzah at their doorway for granted. Because of this, our shared journey is critical as the values of the Jewish mezuzah are woven into the Israeli-American identity.



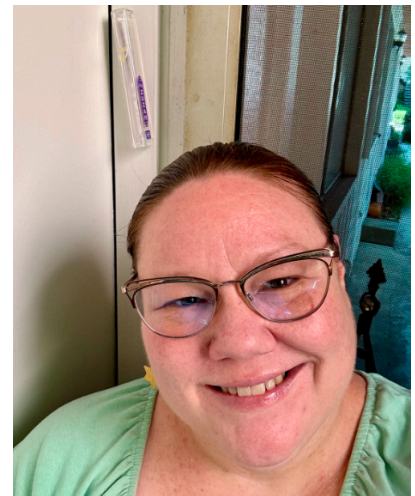
Individual Recipient Stories:

*My dad is a 94-year-old holocaust survivor living in three concentration camps, including Bergen-Belsen. I wasn't raised in the Jewish faith. Still, since October 7th, I have felt an overwhelming pull toward acknowledging my "Jewishness" and supporting Israel and the Jewish community in any way I can. Thank you for what you are doing. Am Yisrael Chai! Lucy Mueller Wiesemann, **Elmhurst, IL***



*I'm so glad I found you on Reddit – my girlfriend and I now have a really Jewish home. Daniel Todd, **Indianapolis, IN***

Vicky Ballmes, Santa Barbara, CA



*I feel more connected with my Judaism with a mezuzah on my door. Ari Shniderson, **Washington, DC***

*I am now more safer, my home is guarded. Natalia Slobodyanyk **Chicago, IL***



*I heard from our local Hillel director, Rabbi Ben, who was giving out mezuzot to students in need who couldn't get one themselves for their home. Even though I am no longer a student, I am grateful to be part of the community and show my home is a Jewish one! Gabriel Kaplan, **Scottsdale, AZ***