MyZuzah Moments - April 29, 2022



We offer a warm welcome to **Aggie Grossman**, MyZuzah's new Program Associate (far right)! Today marks the end of her first week with the team, which she has spent absorbing tons of history about the project, meeting colleagues and partners, and learning the ropes of how we do what we do. The whole team was lucky that Aggie's arrival coincided with a visit from one of our first partners and the Israel-based source of all our mezuzah klafim, Rabbi Avraham Yechezkel Lessin. It was a treat to be able to have the whole MyZuzah team together for the first time in three years!

With the conflict in Ukraine continuing, we are doing our part to help Ukrainian Jews and their communities feel protected and at home wherever they seek refuge. In Germany and Israel, our partners have put up scores of mezuzot for refugee families, but this week we had the opportunity to meet a family that arrived in Maryland and put up mezuzahs in their new home. In partnership with **Rabbi Berel Wolvovsky of Chabad and Beth Shalom Congregation of Potomac**, Aggie and Alex met **Golda and Timor Chmeruk**, who left home in Kiev for the U.S. with their children until the fighting ends. [Click to watch a video](#)!









Our team is lucky to work with a fitness trainer named Jesse White, and I am proud to say that we have recruited him to the MyZuzah cause! Jesse was working with a young man and noticed that the boy was wearing a Jewish star necklace made of interlaced hockey sticks. They struck up a conversation about Jewish identity, and Jesse learned that this young athlete is very interested in exploring Judaism. We gave Jesse a mezuzah to pass along, and here is the picture he shared (left):

In our efforts to keep reaching Jews of diverse backgrounds, sometimes we land closer to home than expected. Alex started a conversation with **Victoria Raggs**, Executive Director of the **Atlanta Jews of Color Council**, only to learn that Victoria had proudly displayed a MyZuzah mezuzah on her home since **2018**, shortly after MyZuzah came into formal existence! Victoria is looking forward to completing the circle and working with us in the Atlanta Jewish community.





Partner Organization Updates:

Our partner, **Akiva Ben-Ezra**, an Israeli who has been traveling to **Guam** for the holidays for the last six years, continued putting up mezuzahs for the Jews he met on the island. Some are part of the Jewish community, and others he simply happens to meet! The night after Passover, he was enjoying a walk on the beach and preparing to fly home, when he randomly met someone as the sun set who said he is Jewish and just moved from Hawaii. For three other members of the community, he went to inspect the mezuzahs they had long had in their homes, only to discover that the cases were empty!

In **Israel**, **Rabbi Adiel Boaron** shared these pictures from his work in **Ma'aleh Tarshiha** and **Moshav Tzuriel**, in the Galil.







Individual recipient messages:



This mezuzah is going on the door to our baby's nursery. He is expected to arrive on Sept. 8. Jeffrey and Amy Albertson, **Dunwoody, GA**



My mezuzah keeps guard over the door of the van where I live! Vita Zissel**, Encinitas, CA**

Here is an assortment of pictures that we received over Passover, from all across the U.S.!













