



## MyZuzah Moments - July 5, 2024

Yesterday, MyZuzah joined the **Summer Party Family Day Program** at the **Lillian and Albert Small Capital Jewish Museum**, in downtown **Washington, DC**. The staff helped kids decorate their own mezuzah cases alongside lots of other fun activities celebrating the home that so many Jews have made in America.

■■■■ LILLIAN AND ALBERT SMALL CAPITAL JEWISH MUSEUM



### Partner Updates:



In **Toronto, Canada**, we delivered 34 mezuzot to **Camp Shalom**, for a special program they are running this summer in partnership with the **UJA Federation of Greater Toronto**, and the **Jewish Agency for Israel**. The camp has invited 17 Israeli teens from communities in the north and Gaza envelope who have been displaced by the war to join other Canadian teens for the summer, to play and build connections and unplug from the tough situation in Israel. As part of their intention to have this make a lasting impression on both the Israeli youth and Camp Shalom community, the

Israeli teens will be creating mezuzah cases that will be permanently affixed at the camp, and the Canadian teens will be making cases for the Israelis to bring home with them. This will hopefully be the first of several MyZuzah/JAFI summer camp programs this summer, in Canada and the U.S.

Here's a crazy origin story from the folks at **Jewish Silicon Valley**, in **Santa Cruz, California**:  
*We connected with some newly arrived Jews from Spain who only recently discovered they were actually Jewish! The girl in the photo is the granddaughter, who is now having her Bat Mitzvah in a few weeks!*



After six months of finding returned mail, navigating sanction impacts, and hunting down a few helpful agents, our parcel of mezuzahs arrived in **Gomel, Belarus**, where our local partner, Rabbi Ilia Friedkin (below, right), is thrilled to finally be able to provide a sense of connection and identity to the community.



Lastly, in honor of the **4th of July**, it's appropriate to share some photos from our partnership with the **Jewish Welfare Board (JWB)**, which supports military chaplains in the U.S. and Canadian armed forces. One of those chaplains, Gerry Hodge, is a long-time civilian contractor based at **Ft. Sill in Oklahoma**, where new soldiers pass through as part of their orientation and initiation into military life. He has made sure that interested troops receive a mezuzah to take with them to make their next change of station feel like home.



## Recipient Messages:

*I heard about MyZuzah from my conversion rabbi. I loved receiving my scroll and being able to see the writing on the parchment through the clear case. I'm glad to mark my home as Jewish and being a new chapter in my life.* Catherine Cejda, **St. Paul, MN**

Emmanuel Cortez, **Miami Gardens, FL**



Jeffrey Buchbinder, **Cedarhurst, NY**



Danielle Diva, **Buffalo Grove, IL**

