

To organize a tzedakah project, or for more information, please call (631) 486-6636, e-mail hands@myadlyad.org, or mail this form to the address below and we will contact you.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Zip _____

e-mail _____

Phone _____

I would like to explore ways to work together with **M'Yad L'Yad** to help those in need in our local communities.

M'Yad L'Yad
74 Hauppauge Road
Commack, NY 11725
(631) 486-6636

hands@myadlyad.org



M'Yad L'Yad-Helping Hands

ENHANCING THE LIVES OF INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES IN NEED

M'YAD L'YAD-HELPING HANDS is dedicated to enhancing the lives of the needy on Long Island based upon the highest ideals of Judaism. Through anonymous pairing of volunteer Sponsors with Recipients, we extend a helping hand to provide not only material assistance, but also ongoing relationships, friendship and dignity. **M'YAD L'YAD** serves those in need throughout Nassau and Suffolk Counties.

M'YAD L'YAD is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations to M'Yad L'Yad are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

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M'Yad L'Yad Helping Hands

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Tzedakah Project

Add meaning to your
Bar or Bat Mitzvah celebration
by helping others less fortunate.

- **Conduct a toy collection**
- **Sponsor a M'Yad L'Yad family**
- **Organize a car wash or bake sale to support families in need**
- **Be creative. How would you like to help?**

M'Yad L'Yad-Helping Hands provides material and emotional support to people in need on Long Island. Through the *M'Yad L'Yad Bar/Bat Mitzvah Tzedakah* project, you can join with us to provide additional assistance to the people we support. By fulfilling the important mitzvah of *tzedakah*, you will improve the lives of those in need and enhance the meaning of your Bar or Bat Mitzvah.

**GET INVOLVED AND
MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

Bar/Bat Mitzvah *Tzedakah* Project FAQ's (Frequently Asked Questions)

What type of project can I do to help M'Yad L'Yad and support Long Island families?

Choose from among these options to help those in need on Long Island:

- Shop for a gift for a recipient.
- Organize a fundraising activity to support M'Yad L'Yad and our program recipients (e.g., a car wash or bake sale).
- Speak to religious school classes about M'Yad L'Yad.
- Collect books, toys and/or clothing.
- Become a sponsor - Let us match you in an ongoing relationship with someone in need.
- Talk about M'Yad L'Yad in your Bar/Bat Mitzvah speech. We will help you find a connection between your Torah parsha and your M'Yad L'Yad project.
- Donate a portion of your Bar/Bat Mitzvah gifts to M'Yad L'Yad to support our charitable program.
- Be creative. We will work with you to find other ways in which you can support the M'Yad L'Yad program of anonymous charitable giving.

Do I have to donate money?

No. While this is an option, it is absolutely not required. You can donate money, but there are many other ways that we can work together.

Do I have to do a *tzedakah* project?

Many students choose to perform a *tzedakah* project, some type of community service, as part of their preparation for Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Some religious schools require children to do so, while others encourage their students to enhance their Bar/Bat Mitzvah experience by fulfilling this important mitzvah.

What is M'Yad L'Yad?

M'Yad L'Yad arranges the anonymous pairing of volunteer sponsors with needy recipients on Long Island. Sponsors send packages of needed items to their recipients to enhance their lives.

Why is this an anonymous program?

One of Judaism's highest values in charitable giving is for donors and receivers to be anonymous. Because we are a local program, this is all the more important, to preserve the dignity and privacy of everyone involved.

Since this is an anonymous program, can I tell people what I'm doing?

We value anonymity between the sponsor and the recipient, so we will not share your name with the recipients whom you assist. But we encourage publicizing your project to your family, friends, synagogue, or community-at-large. This is a great way to encourage others to do *tzedakah* projects, whether for M'Yad L'Yad or any other worthy cause. If you'd like, we will be happy to help you write an article for your synagogue bulletin about the project you have undertaken.

So it's okay to talk about this at my ceremony or celebration?

Absolutely! In fact, M'Yad L'Yad will give you a certificate acknowledging your efforts. If your synagogue allows it, the certificate can be presented to you by your Rabbi or synagogue president at your service. Otherwise we will send it to you.

Can I ask my Bar/Bat Mitzvah guests to donate items or money?

This is one of the many ways we can work together. Having your guests bring items or make donations to M'Yad L'Yad is a wonderful way to maximize the benefit to families in need.

Can I do a project if it's not my Bar/Bat Mitzvah year?

Yes. We are happy to work with any middle or high school students who are interested in doing a *tzedakah* project.

Can I work together with a friend?

Yes. You can work with friends, or a group such as your youth group or a school class.

Do I need the permission of the religious school director or rabbi?

You have received this brochure because your religious school director has agreed to publicize our *tzedakah* program with the students in your school. It is your individual decision to work with us. But we encourage you to speak with your teacher, principal, or rabbi, who may be able to help you decide exactly what type of project you would like to undertake.