

# NEWSLETTER FALL 2010

# LEGACIES



## THE BOSTONER REBBE OF BOSTON, RABBI NAFTALI YEHUDA HOROWITZ SHLITA

In accordance with the wishes and directive of the previous Rebbe zt"l, the leadership of the Boston kehilla and organizations has been transferred to the Rebbe's son, Rabbi Naftali Yehuda shlita.

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*Pictured below:*

*The Rebbe shlita attends a siyum in the ROFEH apartment of the Steinberg Family. This siyum was attended by members of Rabbi Steinberg's shiur at Young Israel of Queens who traveled to Boston for this occasion.*



## HELP AND HEALING

One of the Rebbe's most prominent achievements was ROFEH International (Reaching Out Furnishing Emergency Healthcare), an organization dedicated to providing medical referrals and support services to the sick and their families.

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**BOSTONER REBBE**  
GRAND RABBI LEVI Y. HOROWITZ ZT"l

**LEGACY**  
DINNER

The theme of this year's dinner is "Uplifting Hearts, Saving Lives." While the dinner is, in reality, a tribute to the life of the Rebbe zt"l, it is not possible to describe or summarize the impact that the Rebbe made over the past 60 years.

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“The **BOSTONER**  
**REBBE ZT"l** and  
**HIS LEGACY** (P. 2)”



“The **BOSTONER**  
**REBBE ZT”L** &  
**HIS LEGACY**”

**Rabbi Levi Yitzchak Horowitz,  
of blessed memory, may very  
well be best known for his  
warm smile and acceptance  
of all people.**

While words cannot do justice to the previous Bostoner Rebbe's character or the impact he had on all those with whom he interacted, it is clear that the legacy he has left behind continues to inspire generations across the globe. The establishment of a Chassidic Center for Bostoner Chassidim in Boston, Massachusetts and Har Nof, Israel represents only the beginning of the Rebbe's work to create a strong community where all are accepted and loved unconditionally.





*The Rebbe z"tl and his brother Reb Moshe, Bostoner Rebbe of New York.*

The Bostoner Rebbe was a visionary whose innovative thoughts, deeds and accomplishments were way before their time. He and his Rebbetzin, Raichel Unger a"h, dedicated their entire lives to helping others spiritually, physically and emotionally. Their home and their hearts were open to all those in need. Whether one needed a place to stay, a nutritious meal, a comforting shoulder, a listening ear, guidance, advice, acceptance or love, all could be found in the home of the Bostoner Rebbe, day or night. The Rebbe and the Rebbetzin taught their children by example the importance of helping those in need, at any time. Each of their five children, Rav Pinchas, the Bostoner Rebbe of New York/Beitar, Rav Mayer, the Bostoner Rebbe of Jerusalem, Rav Naftali, the Bostoner Rebbe of Boston, Rebbetzin Shayna Frankel in New York, and Rebbetzin Toby Geldzahler in Jerusalem emulate their parents in this manner.

As the first "American born Rebbe," Rabbi Levi Yitzchak fully understood the essence of Bostonians and had the innate ability to identify with all those who came to him.

Warm and charismatic,

the Rebbe was a magnet, drawing followers from all walks of life. He could gauge an individual's wavelength and connect to them on that level. He could freely talk about politics to one person, intricate open heart surgery to another, and explain a complicated gemara to a third – all with an affectionate smile and a beloved Boston accent.

The Rebbe was a Rebbe for all individuals. As one of his followers stated, "The Rebbe took me in and treated me like a daughter. He made his family my family."

The Rebbe exuded love, concern and warmth for everyone. All of the organizations the Rebbe created were established based on this love. He wanted to help bring Jews closer to Torah, closer to their Creator – whether it was through Shabbatonim, classes

or davening. Even if it was just through a connection to him, the Rebbe felt this connection to Yiddishkeit could one day be developed.

Rabbi Levi Yitzchak was a visionary in many areas and laid the ground work for so many other organizations. The New England Chassidic Center served as a pioneer organization in the kiruv movement, while ROFEH International was a pioneer in bikur cholim in its own right. The Rebbe worked to strengthen the core infrastructure of a growing community by establishing a shul (Congregation Bais

**"The Rebbe took me in and treated me like a daughter. He made his family my family."**

Pinchas), building a mikvah (the Daughters of Israel) and founding a yeshiva (the Torah Academy of Boston). The Rebbe z"tl created organizations and movements that not only live on today but have served as models for others around the world.



*The Rebbe z"tl and Israeli Prime Minister Bibi Netanyahu*

The Rebbe z"tl left behind this legacy of the past, but he also skillfully created a road map for the future; a road map which his sons are carefully following. This map is enabling his legacy to continue far into the future. Entrusting the Boston legacy to the leadership of his son, Rav Naftali shlita the Rebbe knew that the warmth, love and acceptance exhibited in his 70 years of leadership will be emulated by his son and his Rebbetzin Shayndle, who will lead the Bostoner community into new areas of growth and vitality for the future.



# Help *and* Healing

One of the Rebbe's most far reaching achievements was the establishment of ROFEH International (Reaching Out Furnishing Emergency Healthcare). ROFEH is an organization dedicated to providing medical referrals and support services to the sick and their families. In 1952 the Rebbe was informed of an individual who was currently in need of specialized cardiac care. Since the Rebbe lived in a medical epicenter, he was in a prime position to find an appropriate physician. The Rebbe

was able to connect this patient with an expert cardiologist and cared for him in his own home. Following this experience the Rebbe saw a niche for helping connect patients to medical professionals. Shortly thereafter, the Rebbe formally established ROFEH International as an organization dedicated to both medical referrals and social support. The Rebbe and Rebbetzin took the chessed performed in their own home, magnified it and made Boston hospitals accessible to the world.

Using his wisdom and intellectual capabilities, the Rebbe worked tirelessly to understand each patient who approached ROFEH. Speaking to medical experts around the world, he would gather medical knowledge and connect patients to suitable doctors. For those traveling to Boston for their care, ROFEH began making arrangements with the hospitals and doctors, assisting with record transfers and providing translators if necessary. ROFEH began providing food and housing for the patients and their families, first in the Rebbe's personal home and then in the ROFEH House at 1730 Beacon Street. The service expanded further to encompass providing transportation from the ROFEH Building to the area hospitals, visitation and other ancillary bikur cholim services.

The Rebbe and ROFEH International soon became known as the address for all medical issues and the prototype for American bikur cholim. Every detail of the operation was imbued with love and dignity for all those in need. People from

around the world know they can call ROFEH even to simply inquire about obtaining a second opinion or a referral to a medical specialist. The ROFEH Building is strategically located down the street from Congregation Bais Pinchas and the ROFEH office, allowing patients or their families convenient access to minyanim and inclusion in the Bostoner community.



The main ROFEH lodging house consists of seven separate and fully furnished apartments. Liberty, the "house mother," ensures not only that the apartments are clean and well maintained, but she also cares for the families, ensuring that they have everything they need, physically or emotionally, seven days a week.

Mrs. Friedman, a resident of Israel, resided in the ROFEH Building for seven months while her infant daughter was treated in Children's Hospital for an incredibly rare ailment. She notes that, "without ROFEH, our entire situation would have been unmanageable. ROFEH made an unbearable situation bearable."



As a devoted ROFEH volunteer noted, “When people come to Boston for medical treatment, they are lost. Patients and their families come from all over the world and are often far from home. Just knowing that someone cares immediately makes them feel better.” ROFEH’s team of volunteers goes above and beyond providing the basic necessities of home. They provide services that range from babysitting for the siblings that are often brought along to transporting patients and families to and from the hospital or elsewhere. Some volunteers even take patients and families shopping or sightseeing between treatments to pass the time and occupy their minds. For those whose children are hospitalized, volunteers will stay by the child’s bedside – even overnight – allowing the parent a brief respite or quality time with their spouse or other children. Dr. Fred Mandell, a well-respected pediatrician in Boston and a close friend to ROFEH, sums it up by saying that “ROFEH really responds to the needs of everyone, especially the needs of children.”

Some patients are unfortunately in Boston for prolonged periods of time or need to come back for checkups and treatments over multiple occasions. The ROFEH volunteers often form such a close bond that they truly become friends and family, keeping in contact after treatments are completed. In

addition, residents of the ROFEH Building become like a family, babysitting each other’s children, visiting each other’s families in the hospital and giving each other much needed support in trying times. In essence, ROFEH is not merely a chessed organization; it is a vehicle which bonds people together. It is true togetherness, allowing people who were once strangers to become family.

Just as illness knows no boundaries and does not differentiate or discriminate, ROFEH also sets no boundaries

and does not differentiate or discriminate who receives its services and becomes family. ROFEH’s assistance extends to everyone, regardless of age, race, culture or religion. As the current Rebbe, Rav Naftali shlita states, “ROFEH deals with refuas hanefesh, (the healing of the soul), taking away the burden of worrying about the family. We

try to make them feel at home so they can focus on the patient. Unfortunately, the calls for assistance continue to increase; there are so many patients to help. We must expand and continue carrying the torch of my father.” The Rebbe zt”l felt that chessed was contagious. As a testament to his life and a tribute to his legacy, ROFEH must continue to grow and spread its chessed, touching the entire world.

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**“Without ROFEH, our entire situation would have been unmanageable. ROFEH made an unbearable situation, bearable.”**

***Pictured below:***

- 1. IDF soldier Binyamin Kari, Rebbe shlita, and Binyamin Kari’s son Ariel.***
- 2. Newly renovated ROFEH apartments.***
- 3. Rabbi Nachum Leib Sacks with Dr. Fred Mandell, Children’s Hospital of Boston.***



# THE BOSTONER DYNASTY, THE KENNEDY DYNASTY



The Rebbe zt"l and Senator John F. Kennedy.

*The Bostoner Rebbe zt"l was connected with many United States' Presidents. He and his father have letters of recognition from almost every US President since Calvin Coolidge. There are letters from President FDR, Truman, JFK, Nixon, Ford, Reagan, Bush Sr., Clinton and Bush Jr. However, the connection to the Kennedy dynasty was the deepest. The Rebbe knew both John F. Kennedy and Ted Kennedy quite well and both would visit the Rebbe, especially during a political campaign.*

After Ted Kennedy's first election, a young Jewish rabbi from New York was involved in a terrible accident. He was injured in a crash and had to be operated on as soon as possible or he would remain unable to walk for the rest of his life. The problem, however, was that he was in Maine, without any nearby hospital. While the paramedics advised him to be treated in Boston, they didn't know how to get him to Boston in time to save his life.

The Bostoner Rebbe, informed of the predicament, called Ted Kennedy to ask him to send his private plane. Kennedy was not eager to send his plane to help a person he never met. Sensing his hesitation, the Rebbe promised, "if you send your plane, you'll have a long term in the Senate." Kennedy agreed and sent the plane, saving the man's life. The Rebbe's promise was fulfilled. Kennedy won that election and every other election over the next 50 years.

The Rebbe's friendship with the Kennedy family was a benefit to the local Jewish community, to Israel and to international relations. Whenever Rabbi Moshe Sherer zt"l or the Agudah needed something from Ted Kennedy, they would call the Rebbe to intervene on their behalf and secure Mr. Kennedy's support.



The Rebbe shlita (right) at Children's Hospital in discussion with the grandfather of Yaakov Steinberg, Rabbi Peretz Steinberg, Rav, Young Israel of Queens.

## THE STEINBERG FAMILY

*Yaakov Steinberg, a fifteen year old bochur, recently suffered kidney failure and was in need of a transplant. Mrs. Steinberg, a suitable match, wanted to donate her kidney to her son. The family confronted many obstacles in hospitals both in far proximity as well as close to their home in Bensonhurst, NY. Ultimately, with the psak and blessings of many gedolim, they came to Children's Hospital of Boston and there began the process of preparing for the transplant. At their initial appointment, their doctors and social worker suggested that they contact ROFEH.*

The ROFEH apartment they were assigned allowed them to feel settled while they navigated Yaakov's medical needs and the

intense medical workup of the donor. Use of the apartment also enabled them to continue life-saving dialysis in Children's Hospital three times weekly (previously done in an adult center in NY) for a full month prior to surgery.

Mrs. Steinberg's operation was performed in The Brigham and Women's Hospital. Her precious donated kidney was then transported over the short bridge which joins the adult hospital to Children's. Following discharge, she was able to recuperate in the comfort of the apartment, while her son was still inpatient. Though far from home, the fully equipped kosher kitchen afforded them the luxury of home-cooked meals. The ability to attend shul

and Shabbos afternoon shiurim satiated a spiritual hunger and allowed the family to get to know several friendly members of the shul. Rabbi Steinberg related that "it was wonderful to feel that we were part of a community." "This lack of isolation," Mrs. Steinberg adds, "and outpouring of support from the staff at ROFEH and from the larger Boston community clearly contributed to our quick and easy recovery."

The Steinberg family summarized their experience with ROFEH by expressing their tremendous appreciation for the physical and emotional support given to them by ROFEH. They truly feel that ROFEH is the epitome of chessed. It is an organization committed solely to helping Yidden in time of need.



# INJURED IDF SOLDIERS RECEIVE MEDICAL HELP

Over the years, ROFEH has hosted numerous soldiers of the Israeli Defense Force injured while defending Eretz Yisrael. Although the medical expertise in Israel is first rate, often there are specialists in Boston who can offer unique services. It isn't uncommon for the Israeli consulate, Israeli hospitals or the IDF to call ROFEH directly, requesting assistance for a soldier.

Roe Ziv, an Israeli soldier, was badly burned during the Second Lebanon War, leaving his face in need of reconstructive surgery. He was referred to a plastic surgeon in Boston who is regarded as one of the world's top plastic surgeons for facial burns. Although Roe was only in Mt. Auburn hospital for 4 days, he was required to stay in Boston for over 3 weeks and also to come back for additional surgeries. The ROFEH Building became his home and the ROFEH community became his family.

He and his family were welcomed and were provided with an apartment in the ROFEH building. As Roe described it, "When you are going through these difficult times, recovering from surgeries, there is so much to worry about. ROFEH took away these worries, providing whatever we needed, allowing us to focus on my health and recovery. ROFEH made us feel like we were not alone in Boston, but with friends and family."

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## ROFEH HELPS EVERYONE

In the 1960's, the Satmar Rebbe suffered a major stroke. Knowing the best doctors for this field were located in Boston, the Satmar Rebbetzin called the Rebbe and instructed him to spare no expense in flying the area's greatest specialist to New York to treat her husband. The Rebbe immediately phoned a top doctor at Massachusetts General Hospital, who had treated President Dwight Eisenhower for a similar ailment several years back.

The Rebbe called the doctor, but held out little hope that he would agree to travel outside of Boston for a patient. The doctor politely told the Rebbe that, under normal circumstances, he would be happy to see the Satmar Rebbe in his Boston office. However, since he was about to leave for vacation, the Rebbe would have to find someone else. Diplomatically but firmly, the Rebbe explained that

the patient under discussion was the "biggest man in the world," and that, particularly in this situation, it would be necessary for the doctor to slightly postpone the beginning of his vacation. Surprising himself, the doctor agreed on condition that the Rebbe accompany him to New York. The subsequent treatment was so successful that the Satmar Rebbe was able to live well into his nineties.



*Pictured above:*

1. Rabi Nachum Leib Sacks; IDF soldier Binyamin Kari; Mr. Leonard White, Legacy Dinner Honoree.
2. Father of a ROFEH patient in discussion with Michael W. Morrissey, candidate for District Attorney of Norfolk County, and Stanley Rabinowitz, a Boston activist.
3. The last shiur given in Boston by the Rebbe zt"l.
4. L-R: Matityahu Manin, Dr. David Liberman and Mark Manin,
5. Rebbe zt"l (left) and Ephraim Krug. Behind the Rebbe zt"l is a ROFEH patient.

# BOSTONER REBBE

GRAND RABBI LEVI Y. HOROWITZ ZT"l

# LEGACY

UPLIFTING HEARTS, SAVING LIVES

## DINNER

*The theme of this year's dinner is "Uplifting Hearts, Saving Lives." While the dinner is, in reality, a tribute to the life of Rabbi Levi Y. Horowitz zt"l, it is not possible to describe or summarize the impression that the Rebbe made over the past 60 years. The Rebbe impacted hundreds and thousands of people throughout his decades of work. This year's honorees, therefore, represent the Rebbe's legacy and life work. Each honoree embodies the values that were the essence of the Rebbe – taking an active involvement in helping others in any way that they need. These honorees are not only a testament to the Rebbe's life, they continue his legacy, helping the Rebbe shlita further develop the Bostoner organizations.*



### DR. JEROME GROOPMAN, DINA AND RAPHAEL RECANATI PROFESSOR, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL

#### ROFEH LEGACY AWARD

DR. JEROME GROOPMAN was introduced to the Rebbe zt"l by the Miller family. The Rebbe, zt"l greeted him with great warmth and Dr.

Groopman soon found himself davening at the shul on many Shabbos mornings. The davening was spirited and sparked a deep sense of connection. ROFEH reached out to Dr. Groopman for advice on people in need, and he felt blessed to be able to participate in this mitzvah. Over the years, there were many patients that the Rebbe zt"l discussed with Dr. Groopman. He recognized how the Rebbe embodied ahavas chinam, the remarkable capacity to reach out with deep and authentic care to all our people. It is this attribute that comes to mind when he remembers the Rebbe and understands the extraordinary dimensions of his leadership.



### MR. BARRY GOLDMAN

#### GRAND RABBI LEVI Y. HOROWITZ LEGACY AWARD

BARRY GOLDMAN is a successful businessman who has been a long time active member of Congregation Bais Pinchas and was president of the congregation from 1983-84. Barry has

been a loyal supporter of ROFEH International, following in the footsteps of his parents and siblings, wonderful pillars of the Boston community. Barry is being honored with the "Grand Rabbi Levi Y. Horowitz Legacy Award." This award defines Barry Goldman and the Goldman family. They are committed to advancing the core principles of Rebbe zt"l, Rabbi Levi Yitzchak, and the now Bostoner Rebbe of Boston, Rav Naftali Horowitz, with the importance and significance of keeping the Rebbe's projects continuously progressing forward into the 21st century.



### DR. DAVID REICH

#### ROFEH LEGACY AWARD

DR. DAVID REICH arrived in Boston in the mid 80's to attend the medical program at Boston University. He spent almost every Shabbos at 1710 Beacon Street and his relationship with the Rebbe was very close. Dr. Reich was a Ben Bayis in the Bostoner Rebbe zt"l's home, and

the warmth of the Shabbos Tish would anchor his week. Dr. Reich also ate at many of the families in the shul. The level of hachnosos orchim was amazing and he has never seen anything like it before or since. He lained in shul and was privileged to learn bassar vcholov b'chahvrusa with the Rebbe's son. Following his training, Dr. Reich joined a large cardiology group on Long Island. He is still with the same cardiology group and is director of the cardiology catheterization lab at Good Samaritan hospital. Dr. Reich and his wife Devora live with their family in the five towns.



### MR. ARNOLD ANDLER

#### THE BOSTONER REBBE LEGACY DECADE TRIBUTE-RECOGNIZING THE 70'S

ARNOLD ANDLER, affectionately known as "Arnie" to his family and friends, has been an endearing member of the New England Chassidic Center and ROFEH, following in the footsteps of

his parents, aunts, uncles and many others in the Andler family. Arnie has been an active member of the Newton Jewish Community and a staunch supporter of many Greater Boston organizations and synagogues. Arnie and his wife Barbara are blessed with three children and many beautiful grandchildren. Arnie has graciously agreed to be recognized as a representative of the decade of the 70's and the impact that the Bostoner Rebbe zt"l had during that time.





**DR. SHELDON WHITE**  
**THE BOSTONER REBBE LEGACY DECADE**  
**TRIBUTE-RECOGNIZING THE 80'S**

DR. SHELDON WHITE is being honored with the decade of the 80's "ROFEH Legacy Award" in recognition of his support and continued allegiance to the greater Boston community. Dr.

Sheldon White, his wife Elaine and their three children moved from Winthrop to Brookline in 1963, at which time they joined Congregation Bais Pinchas and continue to be loyal members of the Rebbe's shul. A scientist and teacher by trade, Dr. White now works as a consultant. He taught at Brown University in Rhode Island for 27 years and ran the TI Labs in Attleboro, MA for 11 years. Dr. White is on the boards of the Lubavitch Yeshiva, Congregation Bais Pinchas in Brookline and Kadimah-Toras Moshe in Brighton.



**MR. ELLIOTT MAEL**  
**THE BOSTONER REBBE LEGACY DECADE**  
**TRIBUTE-RECOGNIZING THE 90'S**

ELLIOTT MAEL, a fourth generation Bostonian, was born and raised in our community. He has continued to contribute to Congregation Bais Pinchas and ROFEH and maintains a close connection to the

Boston Jewish Community, graciously supporting the efforts of the Bostoner Rebbe zt"l. Elliot and his wife, Allison, are blessed with four children and currently reside in Newton, MA where they are known for their community involvement. Elliot has graciously agreed to be recognized as a representative of the decade of the 90's and the impact that the Bostoner Rebbe zt"l had during that time.



**MR. LEONARD WHITE**  
**THE BOSTONER REBBE LEGACY DECADE**  
**TRIBUTE- RECOGNIZING THE FIRST**  
**DECADE OF THE 21ST CENTURY**

LEONARD WHITE is being honored with the decade of the 2000 "ROFEH Legacy Award" in recognition of his close involvement and continued loyalty to the

Rebbe and the greater Boston community. Mr. Leonard White, a successful businessman, has lived in Boston all of his life. Lenny grew up in Dorchester and West Roxbury before moving to Brookline. About eight years ago, he joined Congregation Bais Pinchas and has been an active participant in the day-to-day programs and lectures. Lenny considers himself very fortunate to have been able to learn with the Bostoner Rebbe zt"l. Lenny continues to be very active in ROFEH International and many shul projects. Lenny is involved with many community organizations, Hebrew Senior Life, Kollel of Greater Boston and Torah Academy, to name a few.



*Legacy Tribute Committee honoring the life of the Bostoner Rebbe zt"l*

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*The Bostoner Rebbe of Boston,*

# RABBI NAFTALI YEHUDA HOROWITZ SHLITA

**I**n accordance with the wishes and directive of the previous Rebbe zt”l, the leadership of Congregation Bais Pinchas, New England Chassidic Center, and ROFEH International have been transferred to the Rebbe’s son, Rav Naftali Yehuda shlita. While the Rebbe shlita humbly considers himself as a mere emissary of his father, continuing his father’s mission and work, those who are close to the Rebbe shlita state that his warmth, sensitivity and caring are reminiscent of his father – traits necessary for a Rebbe.

Rabbi Dovid Gottlieb, a devoted chassid of the previous Bostoner Rebbe, observes that “when you hear the Rebbe shlita speaking, it is as if his father zt”l is speaking. The Rebbe clearly has his father’s middos (character traits). His concern for others, his desire to help others, his overall dedication to the Jewish People is like his father-he emulates the ways of his father.” It is these traits that give the Rebbe the strength to fill the needs of a community that was orphaned by their Rebbe, their father.

Right after the shiva period for his father was over, the Rebbe picked up the phone to call certain individuals to see how they were dealing with the loss, to give them hope and let them know they were not alone. He shared their pain and spoke to them as a sibling would speak to his brother. He stated, “You’ll strengthen me, and I’ll strengthen you. Together we will find the strength to continue.”

The Rebbe continues to carry on both the traditions and leadership of his father. “The Rebbe zt”l seriously took his mission to sanctify the Torah and give people the strength necessary to continue serving Hashem. We must carry this torch further and continue to help people.”

The Rebbe shlita’s compassion and his ability to relate to each and every Jew, coupled with his depth and knowledge of Torah, make him the perfect emissary to continue the legacy that his father built. By using this solid foundation he will uplift it to even greater heights.



*The Rebbe shlita wishing Mazel Tov to a new father (far right) whose daughter was named at Bais Pinchas.*



# VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Pictured below: Rofeh Young Professionals BBQ- Left to Right: Jonathan Abbett, Menachem Roth, The Rebbe, shlita, Aaron Greenberg, Rabbi Sacks, Mordechai Kramer



*The Rebbe recently appointed Rabbi Nachum Leib Sacks to fill the role of Executive Director and make stimulating changes to the Bostoner organizations. Since assuming this position, Rabbi Sacks started developing new programs, revitalizing Congregation Bais Pinchas, New England Chassidic Center, and ROFEH International.*



*Rabbi Nachum Leib Sacks, Executive Director of Rofeh International*

Following the Rebbe's emphasis on dedicating set times to study Torah, Rabbi Sacks has initiated a wide array of classes designed to appeal to the diversity of the community. He coordinates daily classes in the area of Jewish Law, Parsha (weekly Torah portion), and a Talmud class for beginners. Additionally, classes in Navi (the Prophets) given by Rabbi Sacks, Tehillim (Psalms) given by Rabbi Yosef Dovid Hollander, and two Daf Yomi (Daily one page of Talmud study) classes given by Rabbi Aaron Yosef Lantzitsky are offered weekly. On Thursday nights, Rabbi Sacks delivers a class based on the writings of the Nesivos Shalom, complete with hot cholent prepared by his wife. Rabbi Sacks also instituted an Amud Yomi (Daily half-page of Talmud) class to give people with limited time the opportunity to learn a smaller amount of Talmud. Largely attended, each shiur is taped and posted on the shul's website for all to review.

Rabbi Zvi Solomon, a member of the Boston Kollel, recently gave a widely attended series of Taharas HaMishpacha (Family Purity) classes and initiated a Sunday morning breakfast program for men, teaching various areas of Jewish Law. Experienced in outreach as well as education, Rabbi Solomon gives classes for beginners and also organizes Shabbatons for those new to Yiddishkeit. A pilot program is planned to introduce Judaism and Chassidus to students at Harvard University and keep them connected. This program will hopefully be expanded to other Boston universities in the near future.

With regard to ROFEH International, Rabbi Sacks is launching a community wide volunteer drive to involve the entire Boston community, not just the Rebbe's immediate community, in ROFEH's important work. ROFEH is also in the process of undertaking three major initiatives:



A Food Pantry in the ROFEH Building, which would be stocked with drinks, snacks, prepared soups and frozen meals which patients and their families can access at their leisure.



A Library, with books, audio tapes, DVD's and DVD players available to help patients and their families relax and pass the time when necessary. These reading materials and videos could be enjoyed in the ROFEH building, or taken to the hospitals or treatment centers. The last major initiative is the creation of a Bikur Cholim Room in Children's Hospital.



ROFEH hopes this room will have a refrigerator which ROFEH could stock with meals and other food items that patients and families might need. The Rebbe zt"l worked tirelessly to get a refrigerator into the hospitals. ROFEH hopes to be able to bring the Rebbe's dream to fruition and open this much needed room. Rabbi Sacks has been in discussion with the Jewish Chaplain of Children's Hospital, Susan Harris, who has graciously offered assistance in opening a Bikur Cholim room in Children's Hospital.

# Ensuring New England Jewish Survival

CHASSIDIC CENTER

Soon after moving to Boston, the Rebbe zt”l saw that in order to strengthen Jewish continuity and commitment, he needed to focus on the youth and specifically on Boston’s large numbers of college students. Since many of these students were away from home, the Rebbe felt they might be open to exploring their heritage, and wished to provide support for them. He therefore decided to found the New England Chassidic Center, whose mission was to bring these students closer to Judaism, and spread Yiddishkeit throughout Boston.

The Rebbe persevered in his plan, despite those who tried to dissuade him, claiming that chassidus and intellectuals won’t mix. As the first American Rebbe to venture into kiruv (outreach), he was a pioneer who met success every step of the way. With his unmistakable Boston accent, his keen intelligence and his immense warmth, the Rebbe helped thousands of Jewish students find their way back to Torah.

The Rebbe was able to reach students on both an intellectual and spiritual level. Undergraduate students,

PhD candidates, medical students, law students, professors, doctors and engineers were all drawn to the New England Chassidic Center. The Rebbe encouraged their worldly pursuits, even fighting with university administrators to ensure that tests and exams wouldn’t conflict with Shabbos or Yomim Tovim.

The New England Chassidic Center became a place for those who wanted to be Jewish and connect to Judaism. The students felt comfortable there;

to be done. “We need to continue to reach out to people. Each individual needs to grow to their own level. We need to continue creating new generations.”



**“The Rebbe was able to reach students on both an intellectual and spiritual level.”**

— Dr. Sumner Slavin

they felt at home with the Rebbe. He was a link to their past, a link to their roots. Those who had no Jewish knowledge at all were touched by merely crossing his path. By exposing them to sincere Judaism, the Rebbe cultivated a pride in their heritage, ensuring that their lineage would remain Jewish.

The Rebbe shlita, like his father, is a firm believer that there’s much work



Entrance to Cong. Bais Pinchas and New England Chassidic Center in Brookline, M.A.



Dr. Sumner Slavin – president of New England Chassidic Center.



# THE SHUL WHERE ALL ARE WELCOME



*DafYomi Shiur at Congregation Bais Pinchas.*

*Standing: L-R: Mr. Marvin Weiner; Mr. Herschel Miller; Dr. Yaakov Hanoka; Mr. Stanley Reichgott; Mr. Mayor Langer; Mr. Chaim Rosenbloom; Mr. Shmuel Rosenberg. Seated: L-R: Rabbi Aaron Yosef Lantziyky, Maggid Shiur; Mr. Izzy Zuber; Mr. David Margolis.*

**C**ongregation Machseke Torah, the predecessor to Congregation Bais Pinchas, was founded by the first Bostoner Rebbe, Rav Pinchas Dovid, upon arriving in Boston. When Rabbi Levi Yitzchak, the Bostoner Rebbe zt”l, arrived in Boston, he renamed the shul Congregation Bais Pinchas, after his beloved father. Rabbi Levi Yitzchak saw the elderly congregants as a sign that he needed to focus on drawing young people closer to Judaism in order to ensure its survival.

Using his friendly smile and unparalleled ability to relate to students, the Rebbe transformed the shul into a warm, inviting place, drawing worshippers from all walks of life. A common Shabbaton would host over 100 individuals from different backgrounds with everyone feeling welcome, accepted and loved. As one of Congregation Bais Pinchas’ original members stated, “The shul made living in Boston tolerable; we were family.”

The current Rebbe shlita continues his father’s legacy to increase the vibrancy of the shul. Prior to his father’s death, the Rebbe was the official Rav of the

shul, using his expansive knowledge of Torah not only to teach and inspire, but also to act as halachic decisor for the community. Continuing in this role, he has spearheaded an initiative to expand the shul’s activities and involve an even broader base of community members.

Maintaining the shul’s basic premise of religious tolerance, the shul maintains a style that makes all feel wanted and welcome. As Dr. Shlomo Faintuch, the shul’s current President notes, “Everyone is made to feel welcome – from old to young, Boston natives or visitors – everyone feels comfortable.”

People are drawn to this accepting environment. Currently, Congregation Bais Pinchas has more daily and weekly minyanim than any other Boston shul.

There are three minyanim for shacharis, two minyanim for mincha, and two minyanim for ma’ariv. On Shabbos, there are two full shacharis minyanim. In addition, the shul continues to organize new classes and workshops for men and women. Between davening and learning, close to 100 people are involved with the shul on a daily basis. The shul has an active sisterhood, and participates in youth groups for both boys and girls. Since the Bostoner kehilla impacts and influences much of the religious life in Boston, Congregation Bais Pinchas is the hub of Jewish life and Torah in a city where Torah is flourishing and growing – a testament and tribute to the success of the Rebbe’s zt”l work.

BOSTONER'S HISTORY THROUGHOUT THE YEARS,

# A Time Line of the Bostoner Dynasty



*Above:*

*L-R: R' Wolgemuth, R' Stefansky, R' Rose, Rebbe zt"l, Senator John F. Kennedy, R' Lippe Solomon, R' Yisroel Schon, and Mr. Jack Rosenberg in the Rebbe's study at 61 Columbia Street in Dorchester.*



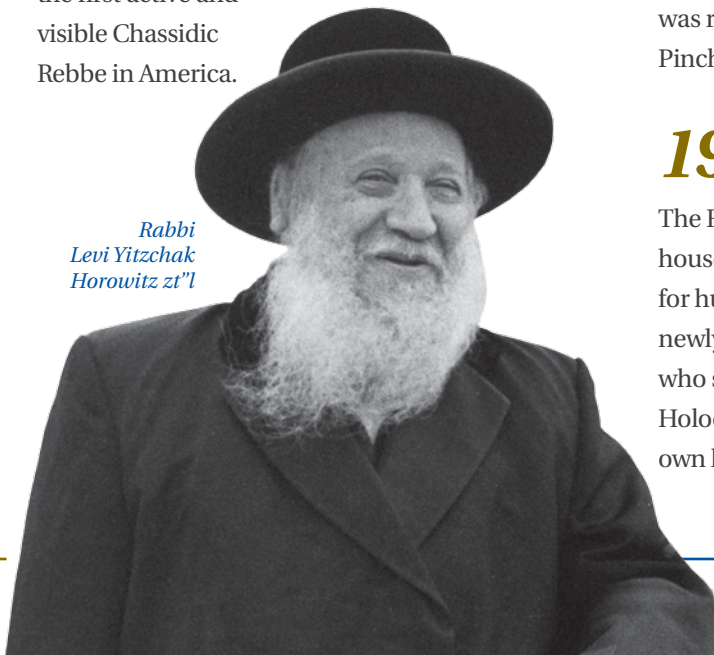
*Rabbi Pinchas Dovid Horowitz zt"l the first Bostoner Rebbe.*

## 1921

Rabbi Pinchas Dovid and Rebbetzin Sora Soshe were blessed with a son, Levi Yitzchak.

## 1915

Rabbi Pinchas Dovid Horowitz zt"l came to Boston's old West End, becoming the first active and visible Chassidic Rebbe in America.



*Rabbi Levi Yitzchak Horowitz zt"l*

## 1941

Rabbi Pinchas Dovid passed away and in accordance with his wishes, his oldest son, Rabbi Moshe, would succeed him in New York, while his youngest son, Rabbi Levi Yitzchak, would revitalize the community in Boston, albeit in a new, safe neighborhood, Dorchester.

## 1944

Finally agreeing to take the position, Rabbi Levi Yitzchak and his new wife, Rebbetzin Raichel, moved to Dorchester, Boston to carry out his father's wish to assume the mantle of the Bostoner Rebbe (in Boston) and revitalize the New England Chassidic Center. The shul, located at 61 Columbia Road, was renamed Congregation Bais Pinchas, after his beloved father.

## 1946

The Rebbe and the Rebbetzin housed and found residences for hundreds of families of newly-arrived displaced persons who survived the horrors of the Holocaust, housing many in their own home.

## 1952

Using his contacts with doctors and his position in a city that is a medical epicenter, the Rebbe and Rebbetzin began helping people with serious illnesses travel to Boston and obtain translators, transportation, kosher food and housing.

*Below: The first Chassidic Center: 87 Poplar Street.*



*Above: Rebbe zt"l (right) with the Viznitzer Rebbe.*





*Ground-breaking at expansion of 1710 Beacon Street, Brookline building in 1968.*

## 1984

Congregation Givat Pinchas is established in Kiryat Boston, Har Nof Jerusalem.

*Below: The Rebbe zt"l standing in front of Givat Pinchas in Har Nof.*

## 2002

The Gann ROFEH International Facility is dedicated. Rebbetzin Raichel, Rabbi Levi Yitzchak's life partner in his holy work, passes away.



## 2009

Rabbi Levi Yitzchak passes away and in accordance with his wishes, his son, Rav Naftali Horowitz, succeeds him in leading Bostoner Chassidus.



*The Rebbe zt"l at a function with former Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon*

## 1998

A Bostoner community is established in Beitar around the founding of the Goldman Rappaport Synagogue.

*Right: A tour of the newly renovated ROFEH building.*



## 1980

Rabbi Naftali returns to Boston from Lakewood with his Rebbetzin Shayndle and their family.

*Joseph and Rae Gann ROFEH Residence Building, Brookline, M.A..*

## 2010

Rabbi Naftali Yehuda Horowitz, the Bostoner Rebbe shlita, continues to expand the various Boston organizations and build on the life work of his father.

## 1978

ROFEH International, Reaching Out Furnishing Emergency Healthcare, was officially formed as an organization whose mission is to provide medical referrals, support services and hospitality for those who are in Boston for medical treatment.



*Harav Naftali Yehuda Horowitz shlita, The Bostoner Rebbe.*



The city of Boston invokes many images for many different people. It occupies a prominent place in history as one of the oldest cities in America and a center of colonial activity. With its many colleges and universities, Boston is known as a center of higher education. With its renowned medical schools and teaching hospitals, Boston is also known as a center for medical research, an epicenter for medical care. Many outside the city of Boston, however, do not realize that it is also the center of a vibrant, growing, thriving Jewish community.

In Boston, there are an ever growing number of shuls and numerous schools: Maimonides School, Shaloh House, New England Hebrew Academy, Torah Academy, Mesivta of Greater Boston and Bais Yaakov of Boston. Boston also has a first class community kollel which offers classes from advanced to beginners for men and women.

Members of the Boston kehilla benefit from a solid infrastructure of Jewish life coupled with opportunities to grow in Yiddishkeit, opportunities to perform chessed and make a tangible difference in people's lives. Home to the Bostoner dynasty of Rebbes, Bostoner Chassidus has greatly affected Jewish life in Boston and beyond.

*Pictured above:*

1. *The Rebbe shlita with Mr. Barry Shrage, President of Combined Jewish Philanthropies.*
2. *Dr. Yosef Dovid Hollander learning with his son.*
3. *Rev. Avrohom Dovid Twersky davening at the amud for Congregation Bais Pinchas.*

