

G'MACH CARING COMMITTEE REPORT

The G'MaCH committee has a goal of helping members of Ohavi Zedek who have needs. To do this, we need to link people who could use some help with other congregants who can provide it.

During November and December, G'MaCH had two opportunities to be of assistance. The first was when OZ congregant Linda Pardo asked us if there was any chance that a small number of senior congregants would appreciate a home baked Thanksgiving dessert. We were able to connect Linda to three congregants, one of whom she had long known, who would love to receive a delicious dessert. This was a wonderful gift that was given by someone who wanted to do something that would give her some of the joy that making desserts for her family did in normal years!

The second opportunity occurred when the OZ Kitchen Committee, which made Chanukah dinners for Full Circle Preschool and Hebrew School families, had five extra dinners. With the help of the Kitchen Committee and Cantor Steve, we quickly came up with five grateful recipients. We were able to do the deliveries in Burlington, South Burlington, and Essex Junction. To find someone to deliver a meal to Richmond, we took advantage of Brett Smith adding us to the OZ Families Facebook group to make younger OZ families aware of G'MaCH efforts. Knowing that many of the Preschool and Hebrew School families would be at the synagogue picking up their meals, we asked the members of the OZ Families Facebook group if someone living in or near Richmond could deliver a meal there. Within 15 minutes, everything was set up! In addition to solving that need, this experience illustrates how social media can aid in matching volunteers to recipients!

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