



#### **FROM THE SHALOM SHUK**

Many people shop at the Shalom Shuk. They are the age of your grandparents and your grandchildren – and all ages in between. For some, it is a family outing to get new clothing for special occasions: weddings, funerals, bar or bat mitzvahs, graduations, reunions – for any special occasion that occurs in their lifetime. They know they can count on the Shuk to have the apparel they want/need. People also shop for their winter clothing: mittens, gloves, coats, boots, ski jackets and other ski wear, hats....

For those of you who give to the Shuk this means you are giving merchandise for your friends, neighbors and many people you have never met for the Shuk to sell or give away. Only clean merchandise in excellent condition goes onto the racks and shelves.

We do not want to have any of our customers thinking that we do not respect them or value them by stocking things that need washing or mending, or things that are broken or missing a cord or batteries. We show our respect by what we sell. When you and I pick out a present for a friend or relative we look for what they would value. When we pick an item to be displayed at the Shuk we look for what our customers would value, always remembering that their wants are not different from our own.

If we give clothing to the folks who get support from the Howard Center or Spectrum Youth – they want to look their best when they go out in the world. They want to wear clean clothing at home and at their school or place of work. Right now someone from ONE Community Center is working with Karen, our Shuk manager, to get students who need clothing for school – fine clothing that will help them be valued and respected by their fellow classmates.

Currently one more BIG need is sleeping bags! At this time of year it gets cold at night and people who are homeless are on the streets in all kinds of weather. They really need warmth to get through the nights in Vermont safely and comfortably.

Thank you for your donations to the Shuk. We are so grateful for all the fine clothing, blankets, kitchen supplies, etc.....really, for all the merchandise you give.

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