

## SHABBAT MESSAGE MARCH 10, 2023



Hi Everyone,

I hope you've had a great week. In my last Shabbat message, I spoke about the importance of coming together as a community, and I'm grateful to everyone who joined us for our Day-at-the-J a few weeks ago. There are times where our community comes together in person, and then there are times where we come together to do really important things.

It was just over one year ago that Russia invaded Ukraine, creating a refugee crisis the world has not seen in some time, and making life incredibly difficult for Ukrainian citizens. Since that time, the bravery and resolve of the Ukrainian people has been inspirational to watch. And the way that our community responded to the crisis was inspirational as well. We understood that we are all *K'lal Yisrael*, we are all one people. And so, we got to work here in Rhode Island to raise funds for the Ukrainian people. In total we raised nearly \$260,000 in just a few weeks.

And those funds were part of more than \$85 million raised across the United States by Jewish communities to support communities in Ukraine and the refugees that fled the country. Because of that support more than a half million people received humanitarian aid: 700,000 meals were distributed, 130,000 people received medical care, and that was just scratching the surface. When our Rhode Island Jewish community came together, we contributed to an effort that not only changed lives, it saved lives. And as we reflect on this conflict one year later, my gratitude for your support has only grown.

While continuing the theme of coming together, I want to invite all of you to our Cardozo Society event on Wednesday, March 22 at 5:30pm at the Dwares JCC. The Cardozo Society is made up of lawyers and judges from across Rhode Island, but we welcome everyone to join us for this event. We will honor the legacies of two major legal figures from our community who have passed away since the last time we were able to bring this group together. We'll hear tributes to Robert Berkelhammer and Ronald Markoff, and we'll hear from Dr. David Dalin on his book, *Jewish Justices of the Supreme Court*. For more information, you can click the link in the email.

As the season turns from winter to spring, I look forward to sharing more opportunities for us to come together, in the literal and metaphorical sense; all in service of growing our strong, vibrant community.

Until next time, I wish you a safe, peaceful, and joyous Shabbat.

Shabbat Shalom!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam".

Adam Greenman  
President & CEO