

## Baxter Barenberg's Bar Mitzvah Project!

I am going to be doing my mitzvah project with an organization called DIG USA. DIG stands for Determination, Integrity, Growth. It's an organization that I've been involved with since I was 7 years old - that is almost half my life! It started with one coach/owner named Dan, who has created this organization to help the underserved communities in CT learn to play both chess and soccer, creating both sports and educational opportunities. After one of my first chess lessons my Mom told me I had just helped give a free lesson to a less fortunate kid in a town like Bridgeport. DIG works on the lesson for lesson model, providing free lessons for every paid lesson, creating opportunities for all. This made me feel great, and ever since I learned that, I realized how this small organization could really make a big impact in the lives of many.

Starbuck Foundation

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venmo

Since I started, DIG has grown adding many more students and coaches and offering a variety of sports and educational activities. DIG has even been awarded an education grant in Bridgeport. I have loved watching DIG expand, and I hope they can one day be a worldwide organization. Thankfully, now I get to help support this great organization and help pay it forward. For my mitzvah project, I'm going to be raising money and gear for the Bridgeport United Girls Team, which is run by DIG, and coached by Dan himself. It is a free program open to the girls of Bridgeport. They need new uniforms and all gear.

We will accept used or new soccer gear (clothes, cleats, shin guards, balls, bags, etc.) through my Bar Mitzvah date, 10/22/22. You can drop gear off or have it sent to my house (15 Brookwood Lane, Weston), or you can drop off at Temple B'nai Chaim (82 Portland Ave. Georgetown). I will be bringing all the collections to the Bridgeport United Team at one of their practices and distributing them there. The team also needs new uniforms, and we can help by donating money via Venmo to the "Starbuck Foundation" (see QR Code above). Please put Baxter Mitzvah Project on the payment so we are sure to have it put towards uniforms for this team! Additionally, you can send a check to Temple B'nai Chaim Social Action Fund and direct it to Baxter's Mitzvah Project. I feel very passionate about helping this program and plan to run a fundraiser at Morehouse Field in the Spring so stay tuned...

Thanks for all your support Baxter August 14, 2022