

# CHEVRA REPORT



*Chevra means friendship. Our goal is to help our people in their time of need.*

DECEMBER 2016

## HELPING IS EASY!

Please consider supporting Chevra with your donations.

*Please note our new giving address in Worthington, OH, effective immediately.*

**ONLINE** ▶ At our website: [www.chevrahumanitarian.org](http://www.chevrahumanitarian.org)  
Visa, MasterCard or Paypal  
If you have questions about online donating, please e-mail from the 'Contact us' page on our website.

**MAIL** ▶ Send checks to:  
Chevra USA  
P.O. Box 168  
Worthington, OH 43085-0168  
U.S.A.  
*Please, never send cash or currency!*

## CHEVRA USA

Chevra is the American entity for our international effort. Chevra's work is a way people can make a real difference in the lives of many people in need.

## RECENT ACTIVITIES ▶



Once again, on behalf of our work, thank you for your ongoing and faithful support. The people I meet in soup kitchens are grateful. There is a video link on our Facebook page, Chevra USA, showing people we help expressing their own thanks to you. It is translated into English.

I personally am grateful and encouraged by your support and help in our work. You really make it all possible, and I am grateful.

**Please consider an end of the year donation to Chevra USA. We really need your help, and**

**this is a ministry worthy of support, and it really makes a difference.**

God bless you all for a good year.

Rabbi Dr. Michael Schiffman  
Director of Chevra

## UKRAINE ▶

Although we have kept a low profile Chevra has been quite active over the past year. The war between Ukraine and Russia has forced many people from eastern Ukraine in particular, to become refugees and have sought shelter in central Ukraine. People were living in bombed out houses and basements. They lost and left everything. We set up soup kitchens in cities in central Ukraine to help feed Jewish people in need. We partnered with local Jewish organizations, who were happy for the cooperation. I have paid several visits to the soup kitchens in the past year. The people were needy. Mostly elderly. They were living in temporary quarters. The problem is, there was room for 25,000 people, and there are close to 100,000 refugees (unofficially).

I was very pleased to meet some of the people who come to the soup kitchens, as well as those who receive humanitarian food parcels from us. The great thing is, we are able to make a difference for them. For only \$33 a month, we can feed someone for five days a week. We are looking to add to the amount of people we are feeding, because we could do a lot, but our funds are limited. Someone giving \$600 per month is feeding almost twenty people.

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If someone can commit to \$33 per month, they are feeding someone regularly.

The reality is, Chevra is a very small ministry. We don't have large income, or financial cushions. We do what we can to help and be a blessing to people in need. It has always been our vision to make a difference. I can't stress too much that your donations make a difference, not only for us, but for the people we are helping. It helps greatly if we know people are giving regularly, because when we are feeding people, we have to commit to ongoing help. We are well aware that we could not do this work without your support, and we are grateful.

### ISRAEL ▶

Chevra has been involved in humanitarian help in Israel as well as Ukraine. We have helped supply local humanitarian outreaches in the Land. They don't have the Chevra name on them. They bear the names of the local ministries. We don't care about the credit. We just want to be part of what helps.

Also in Israel, we have been helping with Ukrainian Jews who have immigrated as a result of the war. The ongoing problem has been that they came to Israel on tourist visas, just to get away from the fighting. Applying for citizenship is difficult for many of them because they didn't have the required proof of Jewishness needed for citizenship, and the review process can take more than a year. In the meantime, they cannot

work because they didn't come on work visas. Some needed medical care as well as help for food. We have been involved in partnership with local workers to feed and supply the refugees there.

### RABBI SCHIFFMAN'S TRAVELS ▶

I have been on the road about 50% of the time; whether in Europe, Israel, or around the United States. In Europe, I have been primarily in Israel, Poland, and Ukraine, speaking and

strengthening congregations, and visiting our soup kitchens.

In the United States, I have been traveling to raise funds to support our work. I enjoy meeting people and sharing personally about our work. If your congregation or group would be interested in having me come and share the work of Chevra, please feel free to contact me at [drschiffman@gmail.com](mailto:drschiffman@gmail.com).

—Thank You!

