
The Rashi 2010 Purim Tamchui Project is here! Get Inspired as a Family!

So, too, collectors are appointed who fetch bread and foodstuffs from every courtyard as well as fruit products or money, from anyone who donates for the needs of the moment. They distribute the collections among the poor... this is what is called the tamchui.

– Maimonides, Yad, Gifts to the Poor, 9.2

The Tamchui Project is an annual tzedakah tradition at The Rashi School. It takes place at Purim – the traditional opportunity for gift giving in the Jewish calendar.

Since 1997, the Rashi community has contributed almost \$91,000 to 65 wonderful organizations serving children and families in need locally, nationally, and internationally.

This year we will be learning about and supporting four Tamchui recipients, and organizing a special project to support the people of Haiti.

All School Learning – Olim, Tzofim, and Na'arim (K-8):

The Grow Clinic at Boston Medical Center

<http://www.bmc.org/pediatrics-growclinic.htm>

The Grow Clinic provides comprehensive medical, nutritional, developmental and social services to children from the Boston area with Failure to Thrive. These children carry several short and long term risks including illness and delayed learning. Serving roughly 200 children and their families annually, the clinic has successfully graduated over 1700 kids since 1984 and reduced the risk of hospitalization for their population from 55% in 1984 to 5% today. The unique and intensive social services are not covered by health insurance. Addressing social needs of the families, all of whom live below poverty level, helps them access nutritious foods, clothing, transportation, proper housing and other fundamentals in order for their children to thrive, grow, learn, and stay healthy.

Piers Park Sailing

<http://www.piersparksailing.org/>

Piers Park Sailing Adaptive Program teaches children and adults with all types of physical and cognitive disabilities to sail alongside able-bodied peers. As the Adaptive Coordinator explains, "all you need is tolerance, respect and adaptability" to serve all people. As a person with a physical disability herself, she describes the freedom and mental therapy of being out on the water, as they "leave [their] wheelchairs on the dock" and sail together as a team. The one rule: "All hands on deck!"

Tzofim and Na'arim (3-8)

Additional organization selected to support the Grade 4 Africa curriculum

Shiluvim: From Ethiopia to Haifa

http://www.cjp.org/local_includes/downloads/35784.pdf

Shiluvim, a CJP sponsored program for the more than 5500 Jews who have emigrated from Ethiopia to Haifa, creates a unique opportunity to support the Ethiopian Israeli community. Empowering the community, sharing technical expertise, and building innovative programs improves the lives of people across generations and contributes to the full integration of Ethiopian Israelis into the worldwide Jewish community. *Shiluvim* offers services in 5 critical areas: education, healthcare, employment, family and community empowerment, and multicultural sensitivity.

Middle School Students Only (Na'arim Gr. 6-8)

Organization selected by Grade 7 students

Save a Child's Heart (SACH)

www.saveachildsheart.org

"Every child deserves the best medical treatment available, regardless of... nationality, religion, color, gender or financial situation." Save a Child's Heart (SACH), established by Israeli surgeon Dr. Ami Cohen, improves the quality of pediatric care for children who live in developing countries in several ways, including:

- ♥ Providing life-saving cardiac surgery for children brought to Israel (more than 2200 since 1995!) from "four corners of the Earth" – 36 countries where adequate medical care is unavailable.
- ♥ Providing state-of-the-art training for medical personnel from these countries.

TAMCHUI AT HOME

- **Talk about the Tamchui organizations** with your child(ren) and get inspired! Go to the organizations' websites and read more about the powerful work that each is doing to impact the lives of children. Perhaps choose one organization each night to talk about as a family.
- **Please send in your donations** to our Rashi *Purim Tamchui!* The suggested donation is \$10 per child. (The donation form is included with this information packet.) Consider making an additional donation in honor of your children's teachers, and invite your child to make a donation to Tamchui. Donations of any size are welcome!

TAMCHUI AT SCHOOL

Join us for two powerful Tamchui assemblies!

1. Meet the *Tamchui* representatives on **Friday, February 26th**

Grades K-2	10:10 – 10:40 am
Grades 3-5	9:00 – 9:45 am
Grades 6-8	11:25 am – 12:15 pm
2. All-school culminating *Tamchui* Celebration on **Wednesday, March 10th at 2:00 pm** as we highlight our learning and the impact of the organizations on children all over the world and celebrate the power of our communal giving.

Assist with a Tamchui learning experience in your child(ren)'s classroom.

Contact us if you would like to volunteer for other *Tamchui*-related activities.

TAMCHUI LEARNING AND DONATION ACTIVITIES

Rashi students will learn about the organizations during *Tamchui* Education Week, February 22-26. Each student will receive five *Tamchui* chips to allocate among the recipient organizations during Donation Week, March 1-8.

(Note: While we hope that every family will contribute to the *Tamchui*, ***each student will receive five chips, equal in value***, no matter whether or how much their family contributes.)

The Rashi School community has learned about and supported close to 65 child-centered organizations during the past 13 years. When thinking about a possible *mitzvah* opportunity for a birthday or anniversary celebration, a family *tzedakah* jar donation, or a *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah*, consider reconnecting with and supporting these organizations.

We thank you and your family, in advance, for your participation in our fourteenth year of the Rashi Purim *Tamchui Project*! If you have comments or questions or would like to get involved, PLEASE call or email us (srotsky@rashi.org or mfreiman@rashi.org.)

B'kavod,
The Rashi Purim *Tamchui* Team

*Lynda Bussgang, Keith Civin, Alisa Ente, Heidi Estrada,
Marjorie Freiman, Jacki Hart, Janice Hirshon, Yael Hurwitz-Lange,
Andie Insoft, Marissa Keleher, Ellen Kiron, Caren Korin,
Yelena Lebedinsky, Tammi Levy-Cantor, Eleanor Lewis,
Lesley Michalowsky, Leslie Pucker, Lori Krasner,
Stephanie Rotsky, Amanda Sims, Janet Taylor, Elizabeth Wilson*

Tamchui Donation Form

Our family has been inspired to make the following donations to Tamchui.

Donations are customarily made in honor of Rashi students. Suggested donation is \$10./ child.

Student Name

Grade/Teacher

If you wish to make a donation in honor of another child who does not attend Rashi, please indicate:

Honoring Teachers

Honor a Rashi teacher or staff member with a donation to *Tamchui*. Each teacher will receive a certificate acknowledging your family's donation.

Teacher/Staff Member Name

Parent(s) Name _____

Enclosed is a check for \$_____ made payable to "**Rashi School—Tamchui.**"

*Please return your donations with this form to school by **Friday, February 26th**. Label your check and envelope "**Rashi Tamchui.**" Thank you for your involvement in Tamchui this year!*