

ב"ה  
**LOUISVILLE VAAD HAKASHRUTH**  
**ועד הכשרות - לואיסוויל**  
PO Box 5362 Louisville, KY 40255-0362



Steven Goldstein  
*President*

October 14, 2024

Larry Kaplan  
*Vice President*

12<sup>th</sup> of Tishrei 5785

Sharon Czerkiewicz  
*Secretary*

Dear Friends of the Vaad,

Myrle Davis  
*Treasurer*

Shana Tova! I hope that all of you had a healthy and happy High Holiday season, and that your future is filled with good health and blessings. Thank you for your continued support of the Louisville Vaad HaKashruth (the Vaad). With your support we at the Vaad have continued to succeed in our mission of promoting and sustaining a vibrant Jewish life within the Louisville community through the supervision and making available kosher food options, and the supervision and maintenance of the Louisville Mikvah, the only Mikvah in the entire State of Kentucky.

Our new Kashruth Administrator is Rabbi Yaakov Lederman, who is replacing Rabbi Snaid, and will be taking over the responsibilities of supervising the kosher kitchen at the Trager Family Jewish Community Center, where the Vaad provides daily supervision of all foods prepared in the kosher dairy kitchen, including daily meals for the Early Childhood Learning Center, and the Senior meals. The Vaad also supervised the JCC's outdoor café this past summer. In addition, Rabbi Lederman will continue to provide supervision and kosher consultation for Krispy Kreme on Bardstown Road when they reopen after their recent fire.

We are still in discussion with the JCC to have meals available for kosher observant patients in local hospitals and nursing homes. Last year, the Vaad approved a Gemillut Chesed fund to reimburse any of our local Synagogues up to \$1500 per year for preparing and providing kosher meals to people who are home sick, hospitalized, or in other long term care facilities.

We are happy to report that the McMahan Plaza Kroger has changed distributors for kosher food and while the availability and reliability of kosher meat is not completely reliable, it has dramatically improved. We continue to partner with Kansas City Kosher Co-op to bring kosher groceries to town. The Co-op delivered Kosher meat and groceries this past Passover. As an additional act of Chesed the Vaad took part in providing Maos Chitim, or money for Passover needs, by funding the Kosher for Passover order for Jewish Family and Career Services of Louisville's food pantry (JFCS), providing JFCS with \$2,000 worth of purchasing power for Kosher for Passover meats and groceries from Kansas City. JFCS distributed the Kosher for Passover foods to eligible members of the Louisville Jewish Community. Over forty families were able to take part in having a kosher Seder because of this partnership.

**SUPERVISING & PROMOTING KASHRUTH OBSERVANCE**

**Funded In Part By the Jewish Federation of Louisville**

We also facilitated a delivery from Kansas City Kosher Co-op in advance of the Jewish New Year for those wanting kosher meats for Rosh Hashanah. For those of you who are interested in participating in ordering from the Co-Op in advance of Passover 2025, orders are due by March 5, 2025 with delivery around March 31, 2025. If you are confused about how to order from the Co-op, or how to split orders so that you don't get stuck with entire cases of foods or groceries when you only wanted a couple of items, please contact Myrle Davis and she would be happy to help you to make it easy for you to order what you want and need.

In addition, we are continuing our efforts to locate local eateries, including bakeries, cafes or any other direct to consumer food venues that would be interested in kosher certification as a means of increasing sales. Certainly, if you are aware of a business you think may be interested in becoming Vaad Kosher certified please let us know.

We are aware that while the mikvah is halachically acceptable, the finishes are old and worn and could use extensive refurbishment and beautification to make it more attractive for its users. Last year, we were advised by the Mikvah's landlord, the JCC, the owners of the property where the current Mikvah is located, that we will not need to relocate the Mikvah in the near future, that our Mikvah can stay in its current location at least for the next several years. We have recently begun discussions with Mikvah USA, a national organization committed to providing practical assistance to Jewish communities across the country to provide modern and inviting mikvaos of the highest halachic standards. It is too early to know what may come out of these discussions, but we will keep you informed of any developments.

With all that the Vaad does, and plans on doing in the future, we continue to need financial support to help maintain the Mikvah and continue to offer kosher supervision. We hope that you will continue donating to assist the Vaad in maintaining the community Mikvah and in providing Kosher food within the Louisville Jewish Community. Please also let us know if the sponsoring of kosher supervision is something you might be interested in, and feel free to offer suggestions as to what you think that should look like.

You can submit your tax-deductible contribution in the enclosed pre-addressed envelope to the Louisville Vaad HaKashruth, P.O. Box 5362, Louisville, KY 40255-0362. In addition, this year we are again offering an online donation option. For more information about the Vaad of Louisville and/or to make an online donation, please go to our website at: <https://www.louisvillevaad.org>.

We would like to thank everyone for their continued support all year long. Your financial help now will certainly benefit our continued effort to maintain our mission of promoting and supervising a vibrant Jewish life in our community.

May you be written and sealed in the Book of Merit, Good Life, and Success!



Steven Goldstein, President  
Louisville Vaad HaKashruth