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

Ayala Golding President

28th of Tishrei 5782

Nathan Goldman Vice President

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October 4, 2021

Steven Goldstein 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). This past year we continued our work even in the face of the pandemic. Thank God, our mission of promoting and sustaining a vibrant Jewish life within our community has been able to continue unhindered.

As you may know, we promote and sustain Jewish life in Louisville through the supervision and making available of kosher food options, and the supervision and maintenance of the Louisville Mikvah, the only Mikvah in the entire State of Kentucky.

As with any organization there are always challenges that arise. Over the past eighteen months we had restricted certain usage of the Mikvah, but as of late July the restrictions have been lifted, although we remain vigilant in keeping the Mikvah and the bathhouse clean and disinfected. In addition, we continue to supervise kosher facilities to provide kosher food and meals as needed. Rabbi Simcha Snaid continues as our Kashruth Administrator, and is doing a wonderful job.

Throughout the pandemic R. Snaid has supervised the kosher kitchens for the JCC and U of L Health - Jewish Hospital. At U of L Health R. Snaid, on behalf of the Vaad, provides supervision and consultation relating to kosher items prepared for patients requesting kosher meals, and for foods sold in the cafeteria that are available to staff and visitors. In addition, the Vaad continues to supervise all foods prepared in the JCC kitchen for the Senior Program. The JCC's outdoor cafe, Café J, re-opened this summer under Vaad supervision.

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. This year the Vaad added the Krispy Kreme on Bardstown Road to our list of kosher certified eateries, and we hope to add other types of food venues in the near future. Certainly, if you are aware of a business you think may be interested in becoming Vaad Kosher certified please let us know.

SUPERVISING & PROMOTING KASHRUTH OBSERVANCE Funded In Part By the Jewish Federation of Louisville With all that the Vaad does we continue to need financial support. This year in addition to our seeking funds to cover our day to day expenses for running the Mikvah and the Vaad, we are considering a new initiative that would have individual donors agree to sponsor the costs of kosher supervision at food venues. One of the reasons we do not have facilities banging down our doors to request kosher supervision, is that the costs for paying someone to provide kosher supervision (we are only asking vendors to pay \$25/hour which just covers the Vaad's actual costs in providing a kosher supervisor) can still sometimes make the expense of kosher supervision cost prohibitive for smaller vendors. At that hourly rate, a restaurant that requires fulltime supervision (and therefore an individual's fulltime employment) could reach in excess of \$50,000. Even a facility that only needs minimal supervision costs the Vaad a minimum of \$650 a year, and often the costs are much more than that. For some small vendors with thin profit margins this added cost is sometimes a significant factor in declining kashrut 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.

Sincerely,

Ayala Golding, President Louisville Vaad HaKashrut