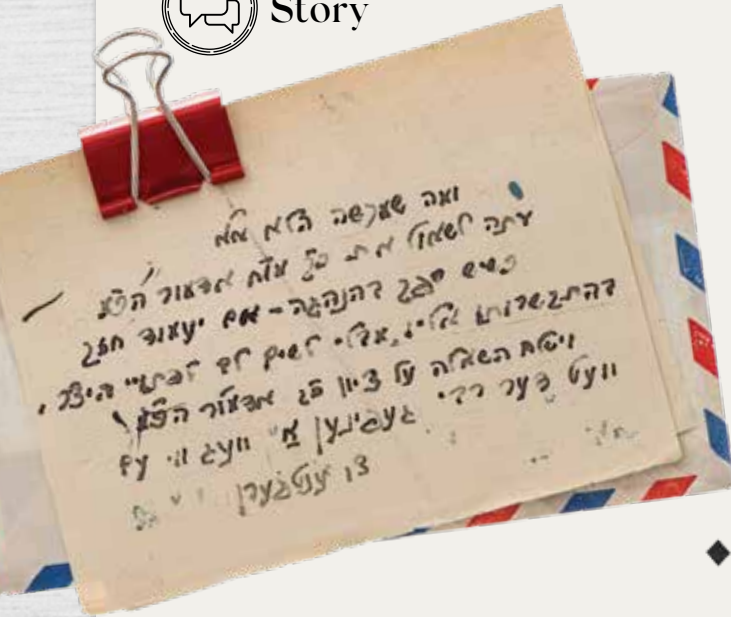




Story



לע"נ
 הרה"ת ר' שלום דובער בן הרה"ת ר' יעקב יוסף ע"ה
 ראסקין גלב"ע ח"י חשון ה'תשע"ד
 וזוגתו מרת רבקה בת הרה"ת ר' אברהם ישעי' ע"ה
 גלב"ע י"א סיון ה'תשע"ד
 תנ"צ'ה'
 נדבת משפחתם שיחיו

דער רבי וועט געפינען א וועג...

WRITTEN BY: RABBI LEVI GREENBERG

Sharing the Wealth

AS TOLD BY

AS TOLD BY RABBIS MENACHEM LIPSKIER AND MOSHE KAHN

(Melbourne, Australia)



Rabbi Menachem Lipskier: In the years following my marriage, I learned in Kolel and gave shiurim for *mekuravim* at Chabad of the Upper East Side in Manhattan. During the winter of 5771, my wife and I were ready to move on Shlichus to Melbourne to join Tzach (“Chabad

Youth”) under the directorship of Rabbi Moshe Kahn. At my final shiur at Chabad of the Upper East Side, I held a small “farewell” farbrengen.

The shliach, Rabbi Bentzion Krasniansky shared with me privately that one of his main donors was so impressed

that I was going to such a far location on shlichus that he decided to contribute a monthly donation to us. When I protested that my presence at the Chabad House was exclusively to give shiurim and not take away any contributions from his donors, Rabbi Krasniansky explained to me while some Shluchim may feel they lose out when donors give to other causes, he felt the more they give tzedaka, the better, and insisted I accept the generous monthly donations.

Indeed, for several months after our move, we received automatic donations from this donor, but then they stopped. Rabbi Krasniansky was surprised to hear this since when this donor makes a commitment it's "like money in the bank," nevertheless I decided not to pursue it.

Six years later, I was surprised to receive a call from the donor's accountant notifying me that each month the dedicated sum had been allocated to me, but for some reason, instead of being sent to me, it was sent to a certain bank account. The mistake had just been discovered, and the accumulated \$60,000 was being sent to my account immediately.

Rabbi Moshe Kahn: "Chabad Youth" in Melbourne runs activities throughout the year for children, teenagers, college students and young adults of many diverse backgrounds. As part of the programming for all these demographics, we run multiple overnight camps ranging from Gan Yisroel for boys and girls of the "Chabad" community which includes Anash families as well as others who attend the Chabad school system in Melbourne, camps for public school children, and retreats for college students and young adults.

Since its inception, Camp Gan Yisroel has used rented campsites, and while some worked out better than others, each year, there was enormous stress involved with securing the grounds and running the camp efficiently. At the beginning of 5777, we held a huge fundraising campaign to finally purchase our own campgrounds, which we succeeded to do with open miracles. However, the campaign drained our

fundraising capacity, since funds that we usually raised to cover our operational budget were now diverted to the purchase. We started sinking into debt.

The Australian summer is in Kislev (mid-December), and as our opening dates for camp neared, we needed to prepare the grounds with new enhancements, costing several hundred thousand dollars which I did not have. The stress was overwhelming.

One morning in Shevat 5777, I needed to make a down payment of \$60,000 to move forward with one of the pressing projects. In desperation, I wrote a letter to the Rebbe asking for a bracha and sent it to the Ohel.

Rabbi Lipskier: I was well aware of the financial difficulties Rabbi Kahn was facing with regard to the new campsite, but unaware of the details. When I heard the news that \$60,000 was coming my way, I immediately thought of Rabbi Krasniansky's words about helping other shluchim, and I decided to give the entire unexpected sum to "Chabad Youth."

When I walked into Rabbi Kahn's office with the exciting news, he had tears in his eyes, and emotionally said: "Menachem, you have no idea what just happened here. I just finished writing a letter to the Rebbe requesting a bracha for \$60,000 for the new campsite, and here you walk in with the news!"

Rabbi Kahn: The open miracle of the Rebbe's bracha for that specific down payment not only greatly encouraged us, but it also opened the doors to many more brachos. Shortly afterward, a local donor committed to covering the full cost of the camp's new amenities and Baruch Hashem the general financial situation of "Chabad Youth" improved tremendously. **1**

YOUR STORY

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