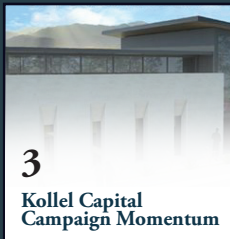




# DENVER KOLLEL CONNECTION



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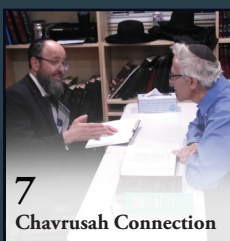
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The Denver Community Kollet is an institute for advanced Torah study whose scholars are dedicated to serving the educational and spiritual needs of all Jews throughout the greater Denver area.

## DONOR APPRECIATION EVENT ON SEPTEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup>

The Kollet will hold its annual Donor Appreciation Event at the Beth Jacob High School of Denver Educational Building, 5100 W. 14<sup>th</sup> Ave., on Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:45 pm.

The Donor Appreciation Event is the opportunity for those dedicated to the Kollet to gather and show their support, as well as an opportunity for the Kollet to express its appreciation to its supporters.

The Beth Jacob Educational Building is located directly across the street from the site of the future home of the Kollet. Groundbreaking on the site is scheduled for November 2017.

"This location provides a perfect backdrop for an evening focused on the great progress the Kollet has made during the past year in building the future of Torah in Denver," says Kollet Dean Rabbi Aron Yehuda Schwab. "We are grateful to the many people who are working and partnering with

the Kollet to make this building a reality even as they help ensure that the Kollet continues bringing Torah learning, Torah teaching and Torah living unabated to Denver Jewry."

As with all Kollet events, a unique culinary experience, *Perfect from Plate to Palate*, designed and created by the Kollet Women, will delight attendees.

*Reservations and donations for the Donor Appreciation Event can be made on the Kollet's website, [www.denverkollet.org](http://www.denverkollet.org).*



## 20 YEARS OF TORAH IN DENVER

Twenty is a special number, a milestone in the life of a person – as well as in the history of an institution. Our Sages teach us that twenty years of age is the time for one to fully engage in life's pursuits. "Every person has a G-d-given mission in life," explains Kollet Dean Rabbi Shachne Sommers. "Twenty is the age when one reaches maturity and is ready to focus on achieving those goals. At the Kollet, we are also looking forward to taking our work here in Denver to new levels of greatness."

"Looking back, it's hard to believe how far we have come, with Hashem's help, since the Kollet opened its doors," says Kollet Dean Rabbi Aron Yehuda Schwab. "But there's a lot going on now as we look to the future! We are making great strides in our Kollet building campaign and in obtaining affordable housing for our Kollet families. The Kollet continues to work on ensuring that the great

and talented people who are part of this organization are maximizing their potential. We are increasingly focused on expanding the number of Kollet scholars and on working with individuals and organizations in growing the Denver Jewish community."



The Kollet is marking its 20<sup>th</sup> year of bringing Torah learning, Torah living and Torah teaching to Denver with a new, updated logo. "This logo reflects the Torah that is being learned and lived here in the Rocky Mountain region," says Kollet Director Rabbi Moshe Heyman. "Denver is

a special city, with the mountains constantly reminding and inspiring us that we can reach for ever-greater heights in our lives. The Kollet, as well, looks forward to continued growth together with the wonderful Jewish community we are so proud to be a part of."

# COMMUNAL COMPLETION OF TRACTATE KIDDUSHIN AT LEARN-A-THON



The Denver Community Kollel held its 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Learn-A-Thon on Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Nearly 125 Jews from across Denver and Boulder participated in the Learn-A-Thon. Men and boys were given a folio of Tractate Kiddushin, joining together to complete the entire tractate in one hour. Women studied a prepared curriculum in small groups led by Kollel women.

Following the learning session, a *siyum* (completion ceremony) on Tractate Kiddushin was held. Participants celebrated with music and dancing, and refreshments were served in honor of the *siyum*.



## BOYS' LEARNING AT THE KOLLEL



The Kollel once again offered its two highly-successful learning programs for boys in West Denver. The Kollel's Fathers & Sons program, which began with the shift of the clock to Daylight Savings Time and runs until Rosh Hashana, takes place on Shabbos afternoon. It features learning followed by refreshments and raffles for exciting prizes. On the second day of Shavuot, a special ice cream bar featuring numerous flavors of ice cream, toppings and cones was offered after the learning session.

Summer Night Seder for Bachurim begins when school ends. Boys from the community are invited to learn nightly at

the Kollel's night seder. Refreshments are provided, and a weekly monetary stipend is awarded to boys who attend consistently.

At summer's end, a special barbeque dinner was held for participants at the home of Mr. Joe Friedman. "It is great to see so many boys learning *bechavrusah* and with their fathers at the Kollel," says Mr. Friedman. "I am proud to support this program."



End-of-summer barbeque at the home of Mr. Joe Friedman



## SHABBOS NACHAMU KUMZITZ



The Kollel held its annual Motzoei Shabbos Nachamu Kumzitz on August 5<sup>th</sup> at the Kollel West Denver Torah Center. More than 50 community members and guests visiting Denver enjoyed a sumptuous Melava Malka, live music, inspiring singing and words of Torah.



# MOMENTUM BUILDS FOR KOLLEL CAPITAL CAMPAIGN



**COMMITTEE  
ESTABLISHED**  
**CAMPAIGN  
LAUNCHED**

**PROPERTY  
PURCHASE**

**PROJECT  
DESIGN**

**DEMOLITION**  
PROJECTED  
SEP. 2017

**PLAN  
SUBMISSION  
TO CITY**  
PROJECTED  
OCT. 2017

**CONSTRUCTION**  
PROJECTED  
NOV. 2017

**OCCUPANCY**  
PROJECTED  
SEP. 2018

**RAISED: \$1,650,500**

**GOAL: \$3,000,000**

The Kollel's capital campaign, announced one year ago at the 2016 Donor Appreciation Event, continues its march forward. The building committee – Scott Alpert, Rabbi Zev Beren, Marc Cooper, Avi Mehler, Sandy Schiff, and Bob Weiss – together with Kollel alumnus Rabbi Daniel Krausz of Design Develop Architecture and a talented design team, continue to discuss, contribute comments and tweak blueprints as the final plans emerge.

Avi Mehler is excited with the progress. "I think I speak for all the building committee members when I say that it is thrilling to see our vision, after many months of work and effort, swim into focus."

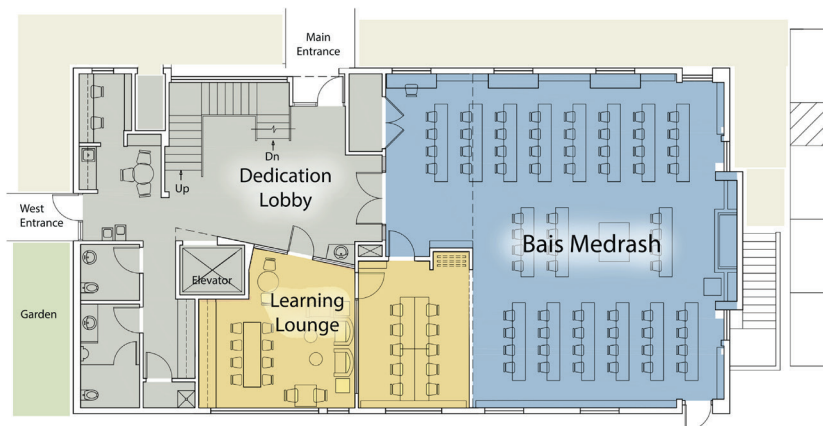
The demolition of the structure currently on the building site is scheduled for September 2017, and groundbreaking is slated for November 2017. The new Kollel Torah Center is projected to be completed in September 2018.

Securing funds for the future three-story, state-of-the-art home of the Kollel is moving ahead, as well. To date, the Kollel has cash and commitments of \$1,650,500, approximately 55% of its goal.

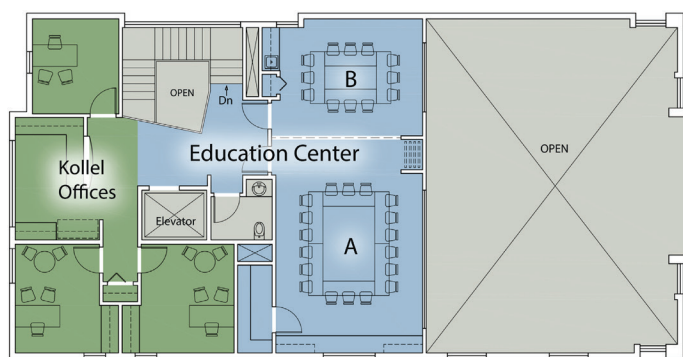
The Kollel is pleased to announce an exciting development in the building campaign. A large youth center is planned for the Kollel Torah Center. It will feature a space for a wide variety of Jewish-focused programming for children and teens. Several months ago, the Kollel applied for certification to provide Child Care Credits to donors. The Kollel was recently informed that it is indeed qualified to do so.

"This is a game-changer for our fundraising efforts," says Bob Weiss. "We are looking forward, with Hashem's help, to continued success as we continue to have conversations with potential donors who are interested in partnering with the Kollel to build the future of Torah in Denver."

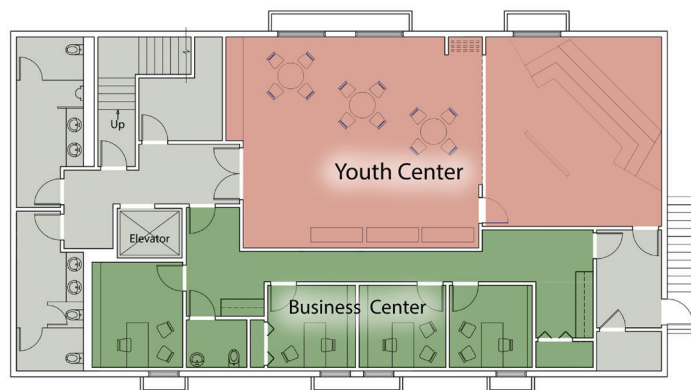
"The Kollel is an invaluable resource to Denver," says Dr. Mickey Gordon, who has been studying with the Kollel for nearly 18 years (*see article on page 7*). "G-d willing, we look forward to the construction of the new Kollel building and its future successes."



MAIN LEVEL PLAN



UPPER LEVEL PLAN



CONCOURSE LEVEL PLAN



## Rabbi Shlomo & Michal Abraham

7TH GRADE REBBI,  
YESHIVA BAIS HILLEL, PASSAIC, NJ

Years in the Kollel  
1998-2004

“The Kollel gave us a feeling of accomplishment, that we truly made a difference in a community and in people's lives.



## Rabbi & Mrs. Avraham Abrams

REBBI AND SECULAR STUDIES  
TEACHER, HILLEL ACADEMY  
OF DENVER

Years in the Kollel  
2002-2010

“The Kollel helped us awaken and develop interpersonal relationships and skills that we may have never uncovered while learning in a conventional in-town kollel.



## Rabbi Yehuda & Tirtza Amsel

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY  
RELATIONS, YESHIVA DARCHI  
TORAH, DETROIT, MI

Years in the Kollel  
1998-2012

“The Kollel afforded me the opportunity and experience to develop myself in many areas, for which I'm forever grateful. Being part of the Kollel for 14 1/2 years came with the responsibility of representing the Kollel, which had a great impact on our family.

## 20 YEARS OF DEVELOPING TORAH LEADERSHIP

For 20 years, the Kollel has taken young scholars and helped them develop their talents and abilities. Of the 23 Kollel alumni, half have remained in Denver, while the others have settled in cities across the United States. Kollel alumni have gone on to become educators, professionals, community leaders and businessmen. Wherever they live and whatever profession they are engaged in, Kollel alumni are using their dedication, skills and experiences to make a difference in their communities.



THERAPIST, KAISER  
PERMANENTE  
DENVER, CO

Years in the Kollel  
2007-2009

“The Kollel continues to bring Torah and inspiration for our family as well as to the community through the dedication of the scholars and their families.



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL/MASHGIACH AT  
THE LAKEWOOD CHEDER SCHOOL,  
PROGRAM COORDINATOR AT THE  
TORAH UMESORAH TEACHERS  
CENTER, LAKEWOOD, NJ

Years in the Kollel  
1998-2002

“The Kollel gave us the opportunity to share and influence others by showing the beauty of Torah and Judaism. We cherish the lasting friendships that we made during those years until this day. We have tremendous *hakoras hatov* (gratitude) to the Kollel for starting us off in my career.



HIGH SCHOOL  
EDUCATIONAL SPECIALIST  
CHICAGO, IL

Years in the Kollel  
2004-2010

“My time in the Kollel gave me the ability and confidence to interact with and teach others in a way that is far greater than I could have previously imagined.



7TH GRADE REBBI, YESHIVA  
DERECH HATORAH, RAV OF  
TAYLOR ST. SYNAGOGUE  
CLEVELAND, OH

Years in the Kollel  
2010-2013

“Being part of the growth of the Southeast community was a privilege. Working together with the Kollel team as we studied together and planned programs was unique and enjoyable. Our success now is clearly a result of our experience as part of the Kollel.



11TH GRADE REBBI, YESHIVA  
MEOR HATORAH, CHICAGO, IL

Years in the Kollel  
1998-2001

“The years I spent in Denver were extremely valuable, developing people skills which I use constantly in my career. Rabbi Sommers and Rabbi Schwab, along with the other members of the Kollel, have our eternal gratitude.



REBBE, YESHIVA BAIS  
YEHUDA, DETROIT, MI

Years in the Kollel  
2002-2007

“It was a very special time when our children were young, I was learning full-time, and we were involved with the Denver community. Denver will always have a special place in our hearts.



## Rabbi Dovid & Batsheva Schwartzberg

LOAN CONSULTANT, MERIDIAN  
CAPITAL GROUP, PASSAIC, NJ

Years in the Kollel  
2012-2014

“The learning in the Kollel was on a high level and I appreciated the fact that it brought me up in my level of learning. I had opportunities to run programs, teach, and become acquainted with the *kiruv* (outreach) world. This, in turn, helped me transition into the business world. Living in Denver with the Kollel allowed us to cement our family's foundation and create a value system for our future.



OWNER, HIGHLAND  
PROPERTIES  
DENVER, CO

Years in the Kollel  
1999-2002

“The Kollel is the reason we moved to Denver. The Kollel is a true *makom Torah* (place of Torah) that my family benefits from daily. Our children have benefited from being part of something bigger when participating and helping with Kollel events. My wife appreciates the opportunity to touch the lives of others through classes and friendships.

## Rabbi Ari & Yehudis Shifra Aragon



MANAGER, AAA LION  
REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT  
DENVER, CO

Years in the Kollel  
2014-2015

“The Kollel enabled me and my family to enter the workplace in a healthy fashion. It continues to provide us with the strong feeling that the *Bais Medrash* remains our home no matter where life takes us.

## Rabbi Yechiel & Esti Erlanger



TEACHER AND DORM  
PARENT AT BETH JACOB  
HIGH SCHOOL OF DENVER

Years in the Kollel  
1998-2001

“The Kollel gave us the sense of responsibility to make a difference and a *kiddush Hashem* in every setting that we are in. We carried the crown of Torah even during *bein hazamanim* (between semesters). Our actions and families became models of Torah life for many to follow.

## Rabbi Aryeh & Aviva Erlanger



STUDIES AND TEACHES AT  
HIGHLAND PARK COMMUNITY  
KOLLEL, HIGHLAND PARK, NJ

Years in the Kollel  
2003-2006

“I came as a young, almost-newlywed yungerman, and studying in the Kollel really helped me chart my course in Torah learning.

## Rabbi Aryeh & Chaya Jakubowicz



4TH-5TH GRADE REBBE AND SECULAR  
STUDIES TEACHER, SCRANTON  
HEBREW DAY SCHOOL, SCRANTON, PA

Years in the Kollel  
2003-2010

“The Kollel helped change and shape who we are as Torah learners, as Torah teachers, on a community level, on an interpersonal level and in so many other ways. We would not have attained many of our accomplishments, nor would we be continuing to *shteig* (grow) in the way that we are without the tremendous *hashpa'a* (influence) of the Denver Community Kollel.

## Rabbi Elchonon & Miriam Joseph



ADMINISTRATOR, SCROLL K  
KASHRUS OF DENVER

Years in the Kollel  
1999-2004

“The Kollel is a *makom Torah* (place of Torah) that creates an environment, both for me and for my family, where one can remain a *ben Torah* regardless of one's station in life.

## Rabbi Levi & Yocheved Lebovits



DIRECTOR, VAAD PROJECT OF  
YESHIVA TORAS CHAIM  
DENVER, CO

Years in the Kollel  
2009-2011

“Being part of the Kollel was truly rewarding. It taught us to be proactive in helping others grow in Torah and mitzvos while at the same time remaining focused on our own personal growth.

## Rabbi Yossi & Rivky Kaplan



CONSTRUCTION & REAL  
ESTATE DEVELOPMENT  
DENVER, CO

Years in the Kollel  
2013-2016

“The opportunity to live in a growth-oriented city such as Denver through being a part of the Kollel, as well as the interactions experienced, the lessons learned and the relationships formed during the years I spent in the Kollel, are priceless.

## Rabbi Daniel & Adina Krausz



PRINCIPAL ARCHITECT, DESIGN  
DEVELOP ARCHITECTURE;  
ARCHITECT, COMMUNITY  
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT,  
CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER

Years in the Kollel  
2000-2002

“The Kollel has transformed my native community. When I grew up here, there were no young people. The Kollel transformed the Denver community and created a vibrant young growing community.

## Rabbi Gavriel & Avigail Rudnick



UNDERGRAD STUDENT  
IN ACCOUNTING  
DENVER, CO

Years in the Kollel  
2011-2012

“The Kollel has been central in creating an atmosphere of *chashivus haTorah* in our *kehilla*. The dedication to this ideal is invaluable. My wife Avigail attended Bais Yaakov of Denver and was greatly affected by the Kollel families at that time, spending a lot of time in their homes, either babysitting or as a guest at their Shabbos tables. Being exposed to families so dedicated to Torah had a great impact on her that lasts until today.

## Rabbi Zev Chaim & Penina Pruzansky



8TH GRADE REBBE, YESHIVA  
KETANA OF MANHATTAN

Years in the Kollel  
2003-2006

“My three years in the Kollel were amazing not only for my personal growth, but it made my family into community people, giving us a sense of responsibility to give back to the *klal* (community).

## Rabbi Shlomo & Sarah Rosenberg



OWNER, DISCOUNT  
PRINTING/FLAGS &  
BANNERS  
LOS ANGELES, CA

Years in the Kollel  
1998-2003

“Our years in the Kollel were a tremendous *chizuk* for us, in terms of my learning, our community involvement and the friendships made. My tenure at the Kollel brought out skills I would have likely never discovered.

## Rabbi Akiva & Chani Stern



OFFICE AND KITCHEN MANAGER  
AT EDOS, DUAL-ENROLLED  
UNGRADUATE/MASTERS STUDENT  
IN HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATION  
AT CSU-GLOBAL  
DENVER, CO

Years in the Kollel  
2012-2016

“The Kollel has consistently provided me with the most amazing opportunities for growth. I am truly fortunate to have been able to become a member of this Kollel. We are so incredibly proud to be a part of the outstanding Kollel family!

# MORE THAN A FREE LUNCH

AN INTERVIEW WITH OUTGOING  
GOLD DIRECTOR JOYCE LITZMAN



*Joyce Litzman has served as the director of the Kollel's M.B. Glassman Foundation GOLD Senior Division for the past 2 ½ years. This summer, Mrs. Litzman announced that she is giving up the position as she and her husband, Avraham, are relocating to Baltimore. The Denver Kollel Connection conducted an interview with Mrs. Litzman about her tenure with GOLD.*



At a GOLD matzah-baking event



Joyce Litzman with her mother, Shirley Goldwasser

**DKC:** Describe your experience with the weekly GOLD Lunch & Learn.

**JL:** When I started with the Kollel, GOLD consisted of a weekly free Lunch & Learn at the East Side Kosher Deli. At that time, the Lunch & Learn was attracting four to six people on a weekly basis. The Lunch & Learn now attracts between 40 to 45 people, and has topped 50 on a number of occasions. The Lunch & Learn has evolved into much more than a free lunch. The attendees come to learn about the weekly parsha from [Kollel Senior Educator] Rabbi Fleisher. They are not shy about asking questions and will challenge Rabbi Fleisher. I am very proud of the fact that I have played a part in connecting these seniors to a Jewish mentor.



Rabbi Fleisher teaching at GOLD Lunch & Learn

**DKC:** What other programs began through GOLD, and what do they offer?

**JL:** I reached out to assisted living and retirement villages and asked if they thought there was a desire for Jewish

programming at their facilities. GOLD now goes into four different senior retirement facilities throughout the year to offer Jewish programming focused upon the Jewish calendar. The seniors are very grateful to us for bringing such quality programs to where they live. I feel that programs such as these have truly impacted the lives of the Jewish seniors living in these facilities.

Numerous other events and programs have been offered by GOLD, including a weekly thought on the parsha, a Purim party and a pre-Shabbos "Shabbos" meal at Rabbi Fleisher's home, the *Live & Learn* speakers series, weekly small-group *chavurah* learning, and Chanukah candle-lighting programs.

**DKC:** As you leave this position, what are your thoughts about GOLD?

**JL:** Most of the seniors who come to the programs have been a part of my life for the past 2 ½ years. They inquire about my family and they miss me when I am not at the Lunch & Learn. These people have become my friends. I will truly miss them.

But more than anything else, I am proud and delighted that I have had the opportunity to make a real difference in the lives of so many seniors and to give them the opportunity to learn about their Judaism and help make their lives more meaningful. I would like to thank the M.B. Glassman Foundation and the Kollel for that opportunity, and I wish them continued success in their special work.



Seniors at Live & Learn Speaker Series event at Mizel Museum

## PREPARING FOR TISHA B'AV WITH GOOD MOURNING



The Kollel offered a two-part pre-Tisha B'Av series for women, *Good Mourning: Understanding & Utilizing the Period of the Three Weeks & Tisha B'Av* on Sundays July 23 and 30. The classes were offered at two locations, in West Denver and in Southeast Denver.

The first installment of the series featured a two-part presentation featuring *A Golden Ticket: Women, the Golden Calf & Rosh Chodesh* with Kollel Scholar Rabbi Chaim Yeshia Freeman and *A Tale of Two Temples: Their Differences & the Sins That Led to Their Destruction* with Kollel Scholar Rabbi Avraham Dovid Karnowsky.

"The women appreciated and enjoyed the fresh enthusiasm that the newest Kollel members demonstrated in their lectures," says Sivia Fine, who hosted the class in West Denver.



Rabbi Freeman listens to a question

"The classes given by Rabbi Karnowsky and Rabbi Freeman were informative and enlightening regarding the steps we need to take to care for one another in order to bring back the *Bais Hamikdash* (Temple)," says Allison Weiss.

Part two of the series, titled *Nobody's Home: The Purpose of Exile*, was given by Senior Educator Rabbi Mordechai Fleisher.

"Rabbi Fleisher enhanced our understanding of *galus* (exile), the Three Weeks and Tisha B'Av," says Aviva Polter, who hosted the class in West Denver. "Through his deep knowledge and understanding of Torah, we were provided with an in-depth explanation of what the goal of *galus* is, and what Klal Yisroel should be attempting to accomplish while in *galus*."



Rabbi Karnowsky making a point at the home of Sivia Fine

"Each of the Kollel members presented in a distinct style," says Elisheva Hoffman. "There was something for everyone."

# CHAVRUSAH CONNECTION

A column focusing on a chavrusah-study partnerships at the Denver Community Kollel



## Dr. Michael (Mickey) Gordon

Dr. Michael (Mickey) Gordon, MD, is a renowned hand surgeon and an associate professor of plastic and reconstructive surgery at the University of Colorado's School of Medicine. For nearly eighteen years, he has been studying weekly with the Kollel.

"I had spent several years seeking someone to study with," relates



Rabbi Amsel and Dr. Gordon in 2011



Dr. Gordon studying with Rabbi Yossi Kaplan in 2014

Dr. Gordon, "but the usual people at my synagogue at that time were not available to participate in one-on-one studying.

"I saw an event to introduce the Kollel to Denver, and I attended the learning session. Afterwards, I approached the speaker, Kollel Dean Rabbi Shachne Sommers, and he invited me to join the Kollel for weekly study sessions. I was thrilled to begin the journey, as that was just what I had been looking for. I began coming to the West Side on Thursdays and have continued since then."

Dr. Gordon studies with Kollel Dean Rabbi Aron Yehuda Schwab, and the two have completed a number of works on Jewish thought by the great Rabbi Moshe Chaim Luzzatto, better known as the Ramchal.

"We have studied *Derech Hashem*, *Mesilas Yeshtarim*, and *Maamar Hachochma*, and we are currently studying *Da'as Tevunos*," says Rabbi Schwab. "Learning with Mickey has given me the

opportunity to study these deep works very thoroughly. Mickey is a sharp thinker. He won't speak until he thinks through his comment or question very well."

Dr. Gordon studied with past Outreach Director Rabbi Yehuda Amsel for more than a decade, as well.

"Most of our learning focused on astronomical areas of halacha – understanding the Jewish calendar, the lunar cycle, the solar year vs. the lunar year," says Rabbi Amsel. "Dr. Mickey's vast knowledge in astrology and in many other areas made it possible to learn and understand the subject matter."

Following Rabbi Amsel's departure in 2012, Rabbi Yossi Kaplan studied with Dr. Gordon. Currently, he is learning with Rabbi Chaim Yeshia Freeman, who joined the Kollel this past fall. The two study halachic issues that arise in the medical field.

"Nothing gets by Dr. Gordon without deep thought," says Rabbi Freeman. "He is very bright and brings an incredible knowledge of medicine to our discussions, which truly enhances our learning."

"My understanding of my beliefs has grown exponentially since beginning to learn," says Dr. Gordon. "What I have learned has confirmed what I have always felt deep in my soul, and it has given me an outlet to express those things and incorporate them into my day-to-day life. I cannot imagine what I would be like if I had not encountered the Kollel and found a way to make learning a part of my life."

*The Kollel offers one-on-one chavrusah learning to any Jew interested in learning Torah, regardless of background, observance, or level of learning, and countless Jews across the greater Denver area have benefited from these learning sessions during the past nineteen years. To begin your own study session, contact the Kollel at [info@denverkollel.org](mailto:info@denverkollel.org) or call 303-820-2855.*



Dr. Gordon and his wife Susan at the Kollel's December 25<sup>th</sup> Extravaganza with their grandchild and Kollel Dean Rabbi Aron Yehuda and Esti Schwab



Dr. Gordon and his wife Susan hosted the Kollel's Donor Appreciation Event at their home in 2014. l. to r., Susan Gordon, Dr. Mickey Gordon, Kollel Deans Rabbi Aron Yehuda Schwab and Rabbi Shachne Sommers

# DENVER COMMUNITY KOLLEL GETS HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE WITH LAWS OF MIKVAH



Denver Community Kollel  
1395 Wolff St.  
Denver, CO 80204

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Denver CO  
Permit #904

The Denver Community Kollel spent the summer semester studying the complex subject of the laws of *mikvah*. Toward the end of the semester, Kollel members had the opportunity to get some hands-on experience.

For the past several years, Rabbi and Mrs. Shmuel Halpern and Rabbi Yaakov Zions of the Denver Community Kollel have organized a night seder program with the Bukharian community at the Ohr Avner Community Center in Aurora, Colorado on Sunday evenings. Rabbi Dovid Arayev, Rav of Ohr Avner, delivers a class in Russian, while the Kollel members study with



*L. to r., Rabbi Eli Mozes, Kollel Dean Rabbi Shachne Sommers, Rabbi Avraham Dovid Karnowsky, Rabbi Nachman Horowitz, Kollel Dean Rabbi Aron Yehuda Schwab, Ohr Avner President Mr. Ruben Bachayev, mikvah construction worker*



*Rabbi Horowitz fixing a rainwater conduit*



*Rabbi Horowitz at Q&A session at the Kollel. Clockwise from front: Rabbi Hillel Goldberg, Rabbi Shmuel Halpern, Rabbi Avraham Dovid Karnowsky, Rabbi Eli Mozes, Rabbi Yechiel Erlanger, Rabbi Shachne Sommers, Rabbi Yaakov Zions, Rabbi Aron Yehuda Schwab (partially obscured), Rabbi Nachman Horowitz*

the younger members of the Bukharian community in English.

The Ohr Avner community has seen much growth in recent years, and the recent construction of a beautiful, state-of-the-art *mikvah* is the latest step in that growth. The Kollel's in-depth study strengthened the bond with the members of Ohr Avner, as discussions took place regarding the ongoing construction of the *mikvah*.

In late July, Mikvah USA, a Brooklyn-based organization that assists *mikvah* projects across the country and has been involved in the Ohr Avner *mikvah* since its early stages, arranged for Rabbi Nachman Horowitz of Mikvah USA to fly to Denver/Aurora for the final inspection of the *mikvah* prior to the rain collection necessary to make the *mikvah* operational. Rabbi Zions arranged for the Kollel

scholars to join Rabbi Horowitz for the informative inspection. This was followed by a discussion and question and answer session in the Kollel with Rabbi Horowitz, as he discussed previously submitted questions as well as various aspects of the Ohr Avner *mikvah*.



*Checking the water-collection apparatus*



*Rabbi Eli Mozes inspecting the mikvah as Rabbi Sommers looks on*



Denver Community Kollel  
www.denverkollel.org · 303-820-2855