Peulat Shabbat

Bat Miztvah Project! (Tzedekah)

Intro:

This Parsha introduces the concept and laws of Tzedekah. “If there is a poor man among your brothers in any of the towns of the land that the Lord your G-d is giving you, do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted towards your poor brother. Rather, be open-handed and freely lend him sufficient for his need in that which he lacks.” With so many people in need, it can often be hard to decide where to donate your tzedekah. This is why Emily needs our help to decide on which organisation she wants to donate to for her bat mitvah project! In your groups, you will be presented with 3 different organisations and you will need to discuss and decide where you want to make your donation.

Instructions:

* Each chanich gets $ that they hold on to until the end of the peulah
* Have the chanichim read the papers about the 3 charities and then lay them down in the middle of the ma’agal
* Read the disquessions and let them disquess
* Before they go, have them put down their money on the paper which describes the organisation they want to donate to
* Peace out girl scout!

Disquessions:

* **After reading about each cause, which do you find the most important and why?**
	+ This is really the bulk of the convo, have them respond to each other and vote periodically until they have a unanimous or near unanimous decision
* What makes this cause different from the rest?
* Which of these causes is the most important to you?
* What are some important pieces of information to look for when deciding on an organisation to donate to?
* Which are we going to donate to?

Charities:

1. Lone soldier (jess)
2. ASPCA (yael)
3. Yachad (alex)

**Yachad**

**Mission Statement:** Yachad, The National Jewish Council for Disabilities is a thriving global organization dedicated to addressing the needs of all Jewish individuals with disabilities and ensuring their inclusion in every aspect of Jewish life. Our inclusive design aims to ensure persons with diverse abilities their rightful place within the Jewish community, while helping to educate and advocate for a greater understanding, acceptance, outreach, and a pro-disability attitude.

**About Yachad:** Our diverse services include, but are not limited to: social programming for all age groups; counseling services for individuals and families; weekend retreats; extensive parent support services; sibling services; vocational training and job placement; professional advocates and case managers; summer camps for members of all ages; special needs yeshivas; shabbat programs; Day Habilitation programs; Israel Birthright trips for persons with mobility and/or special learning needs; social skills development; lobbying for pro-disability legislation on the local, state, and federal levels; high school and university leadership program.

https://www.yachad.org/about-yachad

**ASPCA (American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals)**

Mission statement: to provide effective means for the prevention of cruelty to animals throughout the United States.

What they do: ASPCA encourages the spaying and neutering of animals to minimize animal homelessness. They also work in animal shelters to help manage the animals so that the shleters are more likely to find homes for all the animals that come in. They push for more humane living conditions for farm animals, push to end the taboo practice of slaughtering horses for human consumption, identify and shut down inhumane commercial dog breeders, animal hoarders (people who house too many pets to care for and end up neglecting animals), and lastly they work to combat dogfighting.

Who they help: ASPCA aims to help animals, specifically those that are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, and those being abused

How they actually spend their money:

combat animal homelessness and cruelty mainly through the 3 pillars of animal rescue, placement, and protection. The ASPCA’s efforts to protect animals span from federal laws to local courts to community engagement. They are helping to prevent harmful situations for animals and to take action when they occur.

**Lone Soldier**

**Israel Forever Foundation

Mission statement:** the lone solider project aims to share their voice with the world, support those in active duty, and utilize their leadership skills to continue making a difference for Israel after their army service has ended. **What they do:** the lone soldiers are approximately 2,800 determined young men and women from all over the world who choose to leave the comfort of their homes and families to become proud IDF soldiers. The lone solider project helps these soldiers feel at home as best they can. **What they do:** support includes lone soldier housing, mentoring, a 24-hour call center, financial grants, flights to visit families abroad, Shabbat meals, holiday gift packages, social gatherings, and so much more