



# משכן אהרן

לע"נ הבחור אהרן סופר ז"ל





## HACHNOSAS ORCHIM

*Hachnosas Orchim* has been a defining attribute of *Klal Yisroel* going back to *Avrohom Avinu*.

*Hakadosh Boruch Hu* chose *Avrohom Avinu* and his descendants as the *Am Hanivchar* with the words –

כי ידעתיו למען אשר יצוה את בניו ואת ביתו – because he will instill in his children to carry on and emulate his ways. Indeed, *Klal Yisroel* comes to be known as a nation of *Rachmonim* and *Gomlei Chassodim* – the traits of *Avrohom Avinu* are embedded in the essence of *Klal Yisroel*.

ויטע אשל בבאר שבע, אמר ריש לקיש  
מלמד שעשה פונדק ונטע בו כל מיני מגדים  
סוטה !





על שלשה דברים העולם עומד, על התורה  
ועל העבודה ועל גמילות חסדים.

# A COMMUNAL INSTITUTION

על הרבים בודאי יש  
חיוב בזה, שיהיה להם  
מקום מיוחד ללינת  
האורחים... וכבר נהגו  
בכל ישראל לעשות  
חברה הכנסת  
אורחים המתחזקים  
במצוה זו, ואשרי  
חלקם...

אהבת חסד, ח"ג סוף פרק ב'

*The Hachnosas Orchim* House has been a communal fixture in *Klal Yisroel* all throughout the ages. *Kehillos* from across the spectrum, from the most affluent to the most impoverished, proudly maintained a *Hekdesh*, as it was known, to host visitors to their communities, providing them with room and accommodations, often on a higher standard than their own family.

Perhaps one of the downsides of our generation, where families are able to host guests in their own homes, has been the loss of this vital community institution, the *Hachnosas Orchim* House.

*The middah of Hachnosas Orchim corresponds to the middas hachessed of Hakadosh Borchu Hu, who feeds and sustains every living being.*

ספר כד הקמח, ערך אורחים





# LAKEWOOD

## New Jersey

The cradle of America's Torah revolution, Lakewood, New Jersey, has matured into a veritable עיר ואם בישראל, renowned not only for its greatness in Torah but also for its unparalleled *chesed*.

Lakewood today is home to well over 15,000 families, כן ירבו, many of them hailing from cities across America and around the globe. The number of guests visiting Lakewood on an average week for *simchos* and other occasions is estimated at several hundred.

Unfortunately, in some high-density areas of town, accommodation space is at a premium and very often inadequate. When guests have little or no family in Lakewood or in the immediate vicinity, visiting becomes a real challenge.

The acute and overwhelming need for a *Hachnosas Orchim* facility in Lakewood, to host families visiting for *simchos* and other occasions, has been expressed by Lakewood's *rabbonim* and communal *askanim*.

*One must be vigilant not to overlook the mitzvah of Hachnosas Orchim. In its zechus, Hashem will save him and his children from afflictions.*

*Chofetz Chaim  
Ahavas Chesed 3:1*



יש מצוה שמתן שכרה בנים, כמו שרה שאירחה את האורחים ושונמית על שקבלה את אלישע.

(מדרש תנחומא פ' תצא)

וכבר ידעת שמצות הכנסת אורחים פרי שכרה בנים, והראי' שרה אמינו.

(רבינו בחיי, דברים כ"ב - ד')

כל השתלשלות זיווג רבקה ליצחק נעשה אך ורק על ידי הכנסת אורחים שקיימה רבקה לאליעזר עבד אברהם.

(חפץ חיים - אהבת חסד)

חז"ל תקנו שאורח מברך את בעה"ב בברכה... ויצליח מאד בכל נכסיו, ויהיו נכסיו מוצלחים... אמן. מתי יהי ביתך פתוח לקראת הרווחה ולקבלת ברכת שמים, כאשר יהיו ענייני בני ביתך.

(מדרש שמואל)

לפי שראהו מצטער שלא היו אורחים באים, הביא המלאכים עליו בדמות אנשים, אחד לבשר את שרה ואחד להפוך את סדום ואחד לרפאות את אברהם.

(רש"י בראשית יח:א)

האפול

זיווגים

פרנסה





# PERPETUATING A Legacy of Chesed

During the summer of 2014, in the final days of Bein Hazmanim, Klal Yisroel was shaken by tragic news. Aharon Sofer from Lakewood went missing while on a short walk with a friend in Ya'ar Yerushalayim. Hundreds joined in the search effort. Tens of thousands more, around the world, *davened* for his yeshuah. But it was not meant to be.

דודי ירד לגנו ללקוט שושנים...

The Ribbono Shel Olam plucked away the finest and most beautiful rose in His garden to take its rightful place in the World of Truth. The following week, on Erev Shabbos Parshas Shoftim, thousands came to be מלווה Aharon to his מנוחה נכונה. One month later, on Tzom Gedaliah, once again hundreds gathered in Lakewood to be נתחזק and to do something on behalf of this special *neshama*.

Just as Klal Yisroel  
united in the  
darkest hour of  
this saga, so too  
should we work  
together to create  
the הנצחה which is  
חסד עם המתים ועם  
החיים...

Harav Yitzchok Sorotzkin  
at the Shloshim of Aharon Sofer ז"ל







Habochur

Aharon Sofer

ז"ל

In his lifetime, Aharon represented the epitome of *shleimus*, working simultaneously to achieve *gadlus* in *Torah*, *Avodah* and *Gemillus Chassodim*. The great heights he achieved in his learning and his *Avodas Hashem* were manifested in his *middos*, particularly his *chesed* – a giving heart that would do anything to help another *yid*.

It was with this in mind, that the Sofer family, along with a group of Aharon's friends and admirers, initiated the *Hachnosas Orchim* project as the ideal perpetuation of his legacy.

“Through this continuous and everlasting *chesed* project, Aharon's memory will live on serving as a continuous *zechus* for his *neshama* and a tremendous *nechama* for us.”

Rabbi and Mrs. Moshe Tzvi Sofer







## THE MISHKAN AHARON *Hachnosas Orchim Center*

ולמי שאין נותנים לו  
בעל הבית ונותנים  
בית מלון מן הקהל,  
כמנהג בהרבה  
מקומות, יכינו הבית  
שיהא טוב בית מושב  
לימות החרף, ויכינו  
שם כרים וכסתות...  
פלא יועץ, ערך אורחים

The planned Mishkan Ahron  
Hachnosas Orchim Center  
is a state-of-the-art, 10,500 square foot  
residence, strategically located at heart of  
several high-density neighborhoods. The  
center is located within walking distance  
to many simcha halls and hundreds of  
families, an area that has steady demand  
for hosting accommodations.

FIRST FLOOR





## THE MISHKAN AHARON *Home Away from Home*

ישכיבם במיטב  
מטותיו, כפי הראוי  
להם, כי גדולה  
מנוחת עיף בהיותו  
שוכב בטוב,  
ולפעמים יותר עושה  
לו טובה המשכיבו מן  
המאכילו והמשקהו.  
של"ה פסחים, נר מצוה

SECOND FLOOR

The Hachnosas Orchim House will feature 14 suites of various sizes, on three floors, with a capacity to comfortably host up to 60 guests at a time. The rooms will be reserved exclusively for families visiting Lakewood for short stays. To ensure the decorum of the facility and the safety of guests, all visitors will submit to screening and references.

A central kitchen area, common play areas and small refrigerator units in each apartment, and other accommodations will make staying at the Hachnosas Orchim Center a truly delightful experience.





## GIVE A GIFT THAT WILL *Keep on Giving*

גדולה  
הכנסת  
אורחים  
יותר  
מהשכמת  
בית  
המדרש  
וקבלת  
פני  
השכינה.  
שבת קכז.

The Mishkan Ahron Hachnosas Orchim Center of Lakewood is modeled after a highly successful Hachnosas Orchim facility in Flatbush already in operation for ten years.

With a hired maintenance staff and a long-term annual maintenance budget, the professional management and upkeep of the center has been secured for the long haul. Close to half of the projected \$100,000 annual maintenance budget will be covered by a nominal cleaning and maintenance fee assessed for each stay.

The remainder of the budget can be easily raised through a small annual campaign as well as Parnes dedications for days, weeks or months.

*Join in this project today. Earn a perpetual share in the untold number of Mitzvos that will be generated through the project for many years to come!*

B A S E M E N T



עכשיו שאין בית  
המקדש קיים  
שולחנו של אדם  
מכפר עליו -  
בהכנסת אורחים.  
חגיגה כז.  
וברש"י שם



## THE NEIGHBORHOOD *Hachnosas Orchim* *Network Project*

Expanding the scope of the Mishkan Aharon Hachnosas Orchim Center, the Neighborhood Hachnosas Orchim Network Project will be a free service geared to matching up guests with available hosts in Lakewood's diverse neighborhoods. The goal is to compile a database of participating Hachnosas Orchim hosts in different neighborhoods. Staffed by a dedicated receptionist, the Mishkan Aharon office will serve as virtual clearinghouse for ba'alei simcha and others seeking accommodations in specific neighborhoods either for Shabbos or overnight stays.

*This project is open for dedications.*



#### **RABBINIC COMMITTEE**

Horav Mattisyahu Solomon  
Horav Malkiel Kotler  
Horav Yosef Zimbal  
Horav Chaim Meir Roth  
Horav Avrohom Helberg

#### **TRUSTEE COMMITTEE**

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