

Misaskim Matters

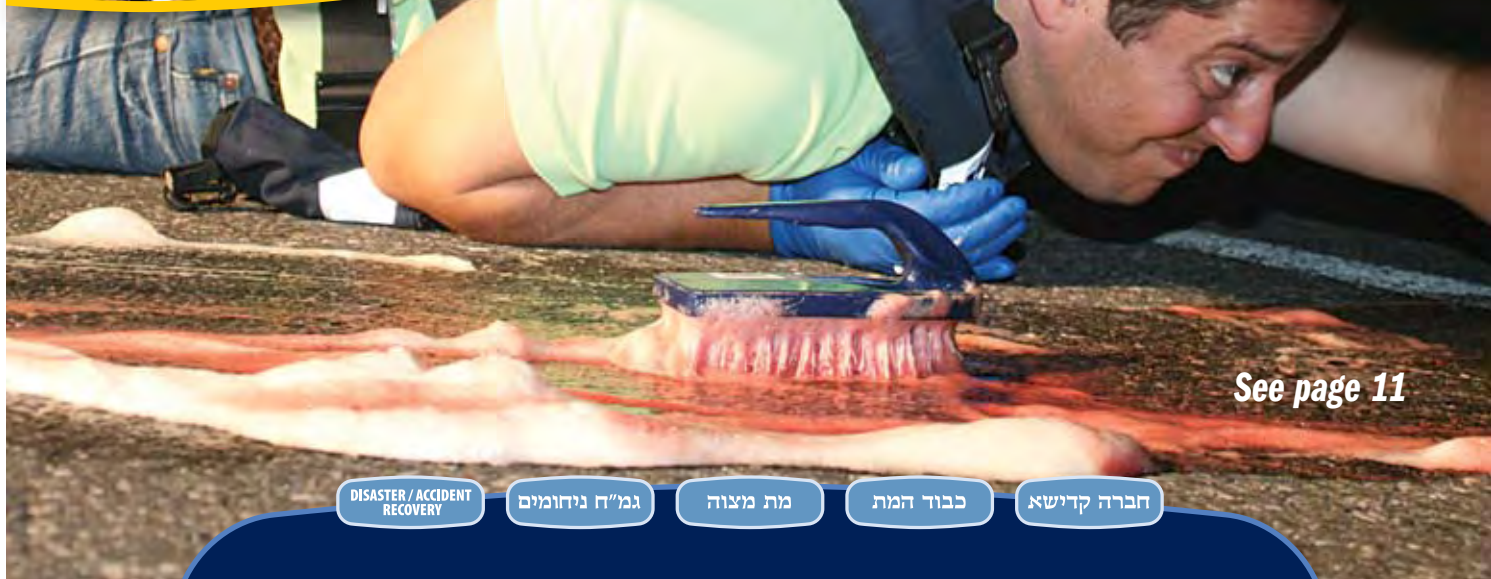
VOLUME #1

מתעסקים
עם הוויכוחים ועם...
MISASKIM®

ISSUE #3

Our Crisis Support System

On The Scene and Behind The Scenes



See page 11

DISASTER / ACCIDENT
RECOVERY

גמ"ח ניהוליים

מת מצוה

כבוד המת

חברה קדישא

Misaskim Matters

Dear Misaskim Friends,

With Tishrei now behind us, we invite you to review this month's "Misaskim Matters." Our initiatives and activities have increased in volume and variety in response to the needs of our community. We hope that this newsletter, and our upcoming monthly editions, will keep you informed about Misaskim matters.

This issue of "Misaskim Matters" outlines our activities, ranging from basic technicalities such as providing transportation and supplies, to coordinating an *Asifas Tehillim*, organizing a *Chol Hamoed* outing for our *yesomim*, and unfortunately, supplying needed crisis intervention as well as advocating for *kavod hames* following a recent deadly fire in Midwood.

Our assistance to the community is unique and frequently goes above and beyond what is usually expected of Misaskim. This Yom Tov, for example, many *cholim* who were stranded at home and who were unable to walk to *shul*, celebrated *hakofos* with Misaskim's *Sifrei Torah*, which were delivered to their homes before Yom Tov.

Not only does Misaskim ensure that the custom of *hakofos* is preserved, but this year our lighting towers graced a *tashlich* ceremony as well. On the day before Yom Kippur, thousands stream toward Caesar's Bay to say *Tashlich*. The 62nd Precinct contacted Misaskim and asked whether our lighting towers could be used for the occasion. It was Misaskim's privilege to play a role in "spreading the light" and helping to preserve the safety of the members of our community.

Misaskim is now gearing up to expand our abilities to serve Klal Yisroel. More details will be published on our website shortly—stay tuned.

Sincerely,
The Misaskim Board



MISASKIM'S
LIGHT TOWERS
GRACED THE
TASHLICH CEREMONY
AT CAESAR'S BAY.



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DEVASTATION BY FIRE: MISASKIM STEPS UP

As families in Brooklyn were enjoying their evening *Shemini Atzeres Seudah*, the pungent odor of burning wood prompted many to rush outdoors to investigate the source of the worrisome smell. Those living nearby witnessed the devastation caused by a deadly three-alarm fire that consumed the Krasny/Rosenbaum home in Midwood. The fire resulted in the *petirah* of 8 year-old Avigdor *a"h*, and left in its wake 5 injured siblings, some of whom are still in critical condition.

Misaskim Assists & Supports

Misaskim was contacted about 10:30 p.m. on that fateful evening and promptly pooled all its resources to assist and support R' Yaakov and Chana Krasny in the aftermath of this tragedy.

“First and foremost, our task was to ensure that little Avigdor was accorded the

appropriate *kavod haniftar*,” declared a Misaskim volunteer who spent *Shemini Atzeres* night at Coney Island Hospital. He was able to facilitate the speedy release of little Avigdor's body from the hospital and iron out all relevant legal issues.

On Call, On Yom Tov

Dealing with the technicalities and issues resulting from a tragedy of this magnitude is never simple and the fact that it happened on *Yom Tov Rishon* only made it more complex *halachically*. Misaskim has made arrangements to have a gentile on call specifically for situations such as these. This individual, guided by Misaskim, was available to make all necessary arrangements to ensure that the utmost was done to have the child's body released from the Medical Examiner's office the following day.



How does one go about breaking the *besurah* to loved ones? Even more so, how does one do this when the loved ones are mere youngsters, themselves in the process of being treated in the children's ward for their own trauma and injuries? Misaskim's Crisis Intervention Team, in cooperation with Project Chai of Chai Lifeline, was activated as soon as Shabbos was over. Director Rabbi Yaakov Klar undertook the heart-rending task of speaking to the siblings, and on Sunday he spent time with Avigdor's school principal, *rebbeim*, and schoolmates. Rabbi Klar played a key role in offering critical emotional support to all those impacted by this devastating tragedy.


Still so much more, however, was needed to help the grieving family, overwhelmed with caring for the needs of those who had been critically

Breaking the Besurah

Cooperation of Law Enforcement Agencies

injured. Throughout *Yom Tov*, Misaskim volunteers coordinated appropriate medical assistance, food, and other necessities, followed by the *levayah* arrangements that were attended to as soon as Shabbos was over.

Misaskim is deeply grateful to the various New York City agencies for their concern and for going beyond the call of duty in aiding the family in need. As always, the NYC Medical Examiners, NYPD, and the FDNY, among others, stood side by side with Misaskim in handling the situation in a most respectful manner.

Once again, during our community's darkest moments, Misaskim has proved to be a source of light, warmth, encouragement, and direction — and it continues to assist and support — one crisis at a time. 

Misaskim – Before and After the Shiva Chairs



Misaskim Prepares to Unveil New Initiatives



RABBI YECHESKEL ROTH SHLITA PLACES A MEZUZAH ON THE NEW GARAGE.

Misaskim's new garage on 16th Ave and 54th Street is now up and running. The facility houses much of Misaskim's emergency equipment, including generators used in times of power outages. Misaskim's recovery gear, used to assist volunteers in the aftermath of a fatal accident, as well as light towers and transfer vehicles, are also stored in the garage, which is Misaskim's most recent project.

**STAY
TUNED**


*Misaskim is expected to unveil a series of **NEW** initiatives in the coming months in an effort to support our community during times of distress.*

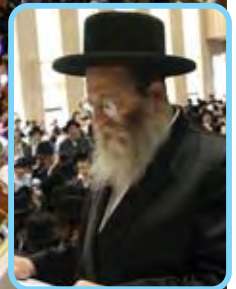
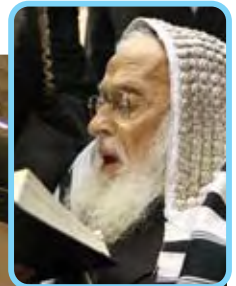
Misakim Tehillim Asifah 2010 Becomes a Global Event

The month of Tishrei certainly brings about a unique set of challenges at Misaskim. However, with it comes Misaskim's annual *Yom Tefillah* — an invigorating day that infuses strength and hope in all those in urgent need of a *refuah*. Misaskim's *Tehillim Asifah* is held each year in Tishrei with the sole purpose of praying for a *yeshuah* for all of *Klal Yisroel*.

The main location of this year's *Tehillim Asifah* was at the Bobov Shul and was attended by thousands of children who were bused in from surrounding communities. In addition to those who gathered at the Bobov Shul, tens of thousands joined via satellite hookup across the nation and across the globe. This year marked the first time that the *asifah* was also broadcast real-time via the web with thousands of hits reported. The sweet and innocent

young voices of children in Canada, South America, Europe, Israel, Australia, and South Africa, blended with the voices from the United States to cry out in unity: "*Shlach Refuah Shleimah L'Cholei Amechah!*"

Misaskim volunteers attested that the purity and intensity that resonated at that moment certainly compensated for the harrowing weeks of preparation that preceded this event. "It's our spiritual crisis-prevention tool," is how one Misaskim member so aptly put it. 



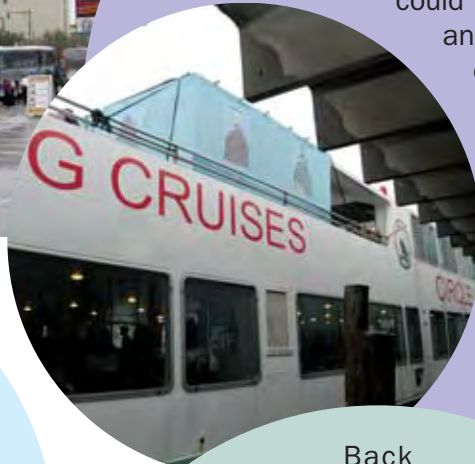
Misaskim's Chol Hamoed Excursion

It was an action-packed day featuring a steady stream of entertainment, fun, and festivities and most importantly, a day of respite for more than 600 *yesomim* — together with Misaskim volunteers. Once again, Misaskim's *Chol Hamoed* excursion this Sukkos B"H proceeded without a hitch. Our trip included a Circle Line boatripe on the Hudson, a ventriloquist show, a performance by an illusionist, and finally, a spectacular *Simchas Bais Hashoevah!*

More than 10 coach buses were hired to bring families together from Boro Park, Crown Heights, Flatbush, Lakewood, Monroe, Monsey, New Square, Queens, and Williamsburg.



Our volunteers had it planned - down to the last detail. A *sukkah* was set up on the deck of the boat so that all could enjoy the drinks and *nosh* that were distributed by Misaskim... And, BS"D, for the most part, the rain did not interfere.



The children watched the tricks performed by the ventriloquist and the illusionist with amazement.



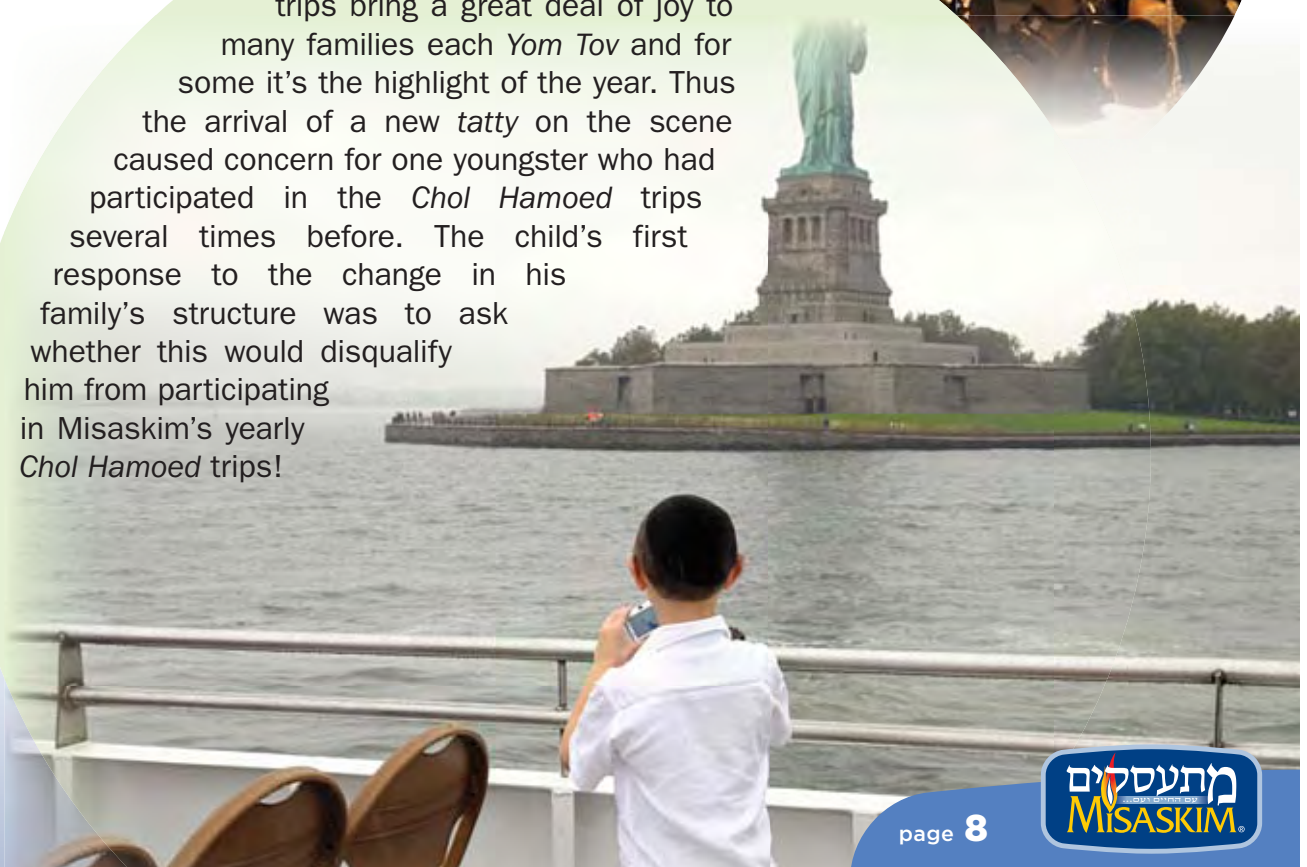
Back in Brooklyn, a *Seudas Yom Tov* was served in an enormous *sukkah* measuring nearly 6,000 square feet. The *sukkah* was specifically built for this occasion by Misaskim volunteers.



The festivities climaxed with the dancing that lasted for 4 hours at the Tiferes Rivka Ballroom in Boro Park. Several *rabbonim*, including Rabbi Yechezkal Roth, the Spinka Rebbe, and Rabbi Tuvia Lieff danced with the children thus bringing a *Simchas Yom Tov* to all. The Ari Teitelbaum Orchestra, conducted by Yisroel Lamm, offered lively music and there were also numerous *s t u n t* performances.



O u r semi-annual *Chol Hamoed* trips bring a great deal of joy to many families each *Yom Tov* and for some it's the highlight of the year. Thus the arrival of a new *tatty* on the scene caused concern for one youngster who had participated in the *Chol Hamoed* trips several times before. The child's first response to the change in his family's structure was to ask whether this would disqualify him from participating in Misaskim's yearly *Chol Hamoed* trips!



It's Erev Yom Tov... at Misaskim

As Yom Tov closes in, Misaskim volunteers halt their own personal preparations to start their pick ups. Pickups? On an average, at any one time, Misaskim services more than 35 families who are in mourning. *Shivah* supplies — while only a small part of Misaskim's activities — need to be picked up, dropped off, and replaced as needed. As Yom Tov approaches, all *aveilim* end their mourning at the same time. It's up to Misaskim to arrange all pickups during those few hours before Yom Tov, to ensure that our fellow community members who have suffered a loss can welcome Yom Tov in an appropriate environment.

It is a fact that Erev Yom Tov is always followed by Motzei Yom Tov — and Motzei Yom Tov presents the daunting

challenge of supporting a large number of *aveilim* who all begin their mourning as soon as Yom Tov is over. Misaskim volunteers worked until long past midnight to coordinate all aspects of assisting those in our community who have lost loved ones during Yom Tov.

Motzei Yom Tov's activities involve coordinating all deliveries in the tri-state region — from the Misaskim headquarters in Brooklyn to locations as far away as Philadelphia. In addition, Misaskim's *Shivah Hotline* has to be updated in a timely manner, and information about the *aveilim* must be relayed to local news organizations so that it can be communicated to friends, colleagues, and members of the community.

27 TISHREI 5771 | TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2010

Micham Aveilim

Name of Afilah/Widow	Address Where Sitting	Area	Family Members	Relationship	Getting Up	Starts	Mitsah	Beasts
Mr. Yv	476 Spring Street	Crown Heights	Yv Sarah Fisher Yv David Fisher	Son Daughter	Friday 10/02/10	7:00	4:00	
Mr. Yv	543 Adelphi Place	Crown Heights	Yv Yvonne Smith Mrs. Robert Smith Mrs. Beverly Schindler Mrs. Rose Goldberg	Son Daughter Daughter Daughter	Thursday 10/01/10			
Mr. Yv	1000 Woodland Ave	Brooklyn	Yv Yvonne Smith Yv Yvonne Smith Yv Yvonne Smith	Son Daughter Daughter	Thursday 10/01/10			
Mr. Yv	1000 Woodland Ave	Brooklyn	Yv Yvonne Smith Yv Yvonne Smith Yv Yvonne Smith	Son Daughter Daughter	Thursday 10/01/10			
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Updated in

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Mr. Yv	1000 Woodland Ave	Brooklyn	Yv Yvonne Smith Yv Yvonne Smith Yv Yvonne Smith	Son Daughter Daughter	Thursday 10/01/10			
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Mr. Yv	1000 Woodland Ave	Brooklyn	Yv Yvonne Smith Yv Yvonne Smith Yv Yvonne Smith	Son Daughter Daughter	Thursday 10/01/10			
Mr. Yv	1000 Woodland Ave	Brooklyn	Yv Yvonne Smith Yv Yvonne Smith Yv Yvonne Smith	Son Daughter Daughter	Thursday 10/01/10			

Updated information

בלע המות לנצח ותמה ה' דמעה מעל כל פנים

This public service is provided by Misaskim. Misaskim assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of the information provided.

For more information call Misaskim 24-hour Shivah Hotline at 718-834-4548 or www.misaskim.com

MISASKIM'S SHIVA LIST IN THE HAMODIA RAN 2 PAGES LONG THE DAY AFTER YOM TOV.



MISASKIM VOLUNTEERS, ALONG WITH NUMEROUS VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS, PARTICIPATE IN THE SEARCH FOR A MISSING PERSON IN RIVERHEAD, LONG ISLAND.



MISASKIM IN ACTION

MISASKIM'S LAKEWOOD AND MONSEY VOLUNTEERS ASSIST AFTER A BOATING ACCIDENT IN NEW JERSEY.



MISASKIM VOLUNTEERS ON THE SCENE OF A FATAL BUS ACCIDENT.



MISASKIM IN ACTION



MISASKIM'S LIGHT TOWERS ILLUMINATE THE PRE-SUKKOS SHOPPING ON 13TH AVENUE IN BORO PARK.