

*Dear Lawrence, I hope all is well with you and the family and that you are sheping much Nachas from them =)*

*``In 1995 we moved into the Kingsbury neighbourhood; I at the time didn't know anyone. In an effort to make some Jewish Friends I asked my father where the closest shul was and he pointed me in the right direction. By divine providence it happened to be sukkot, a wonderful time in the thriving community. I was there all alone, towards the end of the service. Julian Mann whispered into Michael's ear, go and find out if he wants a place to eat. This is the typical warmth and love for hachnaschas orchim in the community. Michael invited me to his house where the famous Kingbury Shul Sukkah crawl began and within minutes we had developed a friendship which is still going strong 16 years later!*

*Over the coming days I was inundated with invites for meals from everyone in the community and attended a simchas beis haShevua at the Shaw's house.*

*This had been just what I was looking for, a warm community, a place to grow, learn and meet young people my age. Simchas Torah was the pinnacle with such ruach, singing and dancing. My favourite was `v`nassan lanu toras emes`, which was substituted for `v`nassan lanu Rabbi Hool`*

*After a while I shlepped along my Father Henry, who now attends the miyanim on a regular basis. He too was invited by many families and welcomed into the community, and a few years later my uncle Alan moved into Cherry Tree court and likewise was struck by the warmth of Kingsbury Shul and its members.*

*After a while I was learning, growing, keeping shabbos and a kosher home.*

*Many of the Bochrin from the Shul were involved with Aish as Madrachim, volunteers and teachers and inspired me to go to Aish UK and learn. After a while I too was volunteering and recruiting for their Israel Trip and subsequently decided to go myself. Well, let's just say I decided to stay in Eretz Yisrael and learn.*

*15 years later B`H I am married with 3 children, Moshe, Temima and Eliyahu and the Rav of my own community. I too welcome everyone to my community that reaches out to unaffiliated Jews in Toronto's downtown, with that same warmth and we encourage everyone here to do the same!*

*Just think it all started with one act of kindness*

*Mitch Goldstein*

*Rabbi, Aish, Toronto*

*Canada*

*Rabbi Mitch Goldstein*

*Aish in the Annex*

*647 449 8298*