



Bank Hapoalim Good Deeds Day By Audrey Grazi

March 5th, 2013, dubbed Good Deeds Day, was the official day to do good deeds in Israel and here at Sephardic Bikur Holim.

This annual celebration brings hundreds of thousands of volunteers together to help others, putting into practice the simple idea that every single person can do something good, be it large or small, to improve the lives of others and positively change the

world. Developed by Shari Arison, businesswoman, philanthropist, and main shareholder of Bank Hapoalim, Good Deeds Day shows that when you find a way to help others, you also gain for yourself.

The Volunteers Arrive
Thanks to the close

relationship between Bank Hapoalim and SBH, we were able to share in a day full of fun and hesed with 50 employees from the bank. The bus carrying the volunteers arrived at SBH on a bright and beautiful sunny day. All donned their Good Deeds Day t-shirts and were ready

for action. The room at 379 Kings Highway was set up with a delicious lunch. The Bank Hapoalim volunteers relaxed as they listened to Charles Anteby speak about Sephardic Bikur Holim and all the wonderful ways it helps the community. A short inspiring video brought his words to life on the screen as individuals involved with SBH spoke of their experiences. All of the employees were



mesmerized by the
hesed done daily at SBH.

All Hands on Deck

After planning and arranging to make their experience meaningful, worthwhile and exciting, it was decided that the volunteers would choose from four opportunities, each giving them a bird's-eye view into the "good deeds" done consistently at SBH. The first was Passover packaging. With a huge order just delivered for the food packages, this group opened and taped the boxes for the deliveries, and arranged the cans, jars and bottles in an assembly line to help

make packing the boxes more efficient. The second group went to the SBH thrift store on McDonald Avenue. With loads of clothing being dropped off daily, the volunteers sorted and hung up all the donations. The third group went to the Ahi Ezer senior home on East 7th Street. There, the volunteers spent quality time with the elders of the community. They served them Syrian pastries, brought in by Violet Chachoury, and interacted with the seniors by listening to their stories and sharing their past. This was fun for the seniors and a window into the history of the community for the

volunteers. A fourth group went to the food pantry and to Dress-a-Child. They helped prepare warm meals for pickup later that day and organized the clothing for SBH clients in the showroom. Each group had hands-on experiences with the basic, everyday tasks of supporting and helping the SBH families and the community at large.

Thank You, Bank Hapoalim!

Hours later when the day came to a close and everyone met back at SBH, each and every one of the participants felt inspired and fulfilled

from the afternoon. Many thanks to Adi Eisenberg, Assistant Vice President and Manager of Marketing and E-Banking from Bank Hapoalim for giving SBH the opportunity to be a part of this special day with your amazing team. Also a special thanks to Tami and Ezra Anteby, Victoria Dahan, and Rachel Bibi for their contributions in making this a wonderful experience for all involved.

Now when you hear "Good Deeds Day," smile, and think how one simple kind deed can help make a positive change, not only for the person you helped, but mostly for you! ■