



Rabbi Yaakov Hopfer
President

Kislev 5786 ~ December 2025

To the Beloved Baltimore Community,

Baltimore is blessed with many chashuva mosdos and devoted mechanchim who work tirelessly each day to provide an outstanding chinuch for our community's precious children. Their efforts are immeasurably strengthened by the dedication of our parents/caregivers, who serve as true partners in chinuch, advocating for the unique needs of their children with love, insight and persistence.

As our kehilah kedosha continues to grow and flourish, we have made meaningful strides in supporting the needs of all children. Yet all of us—parents, educators, and rabbonim—recognize that our sacred responsibility is far from complete. Every child is a world unto themselves, deserving to be understood, supported, and given the tools to thrive. With Hashem's help, we remain steadfast in our effort to ensure that each child in our community receives what they need to succeed.

To further this vital effort, we are asking anyone caring for a child (birth through age 21) who is struggling in school or has a special learning need to complete a very brief form. We successfully collected this information twenty years ago and it resulted in significant government support to establish the Partnership for Educational Needs (PEN) project which supports special education instruction in the yeshiva day schools. The information gathered will help identify gaps, highlight opportunities and advocate for the needs of our community's children.

If you need assistance completing the form or would like to have a confidential conversation, please contact 410-456-9984 (Amian Kelemer, PEN Coordinator). All information will be handled sensitively and shared only in the aggregate.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter by January 20, 2026. Kol tuv- and may you and your families have a lichtige Chanuka,

Rabbi Yaakov Hopfer

on behalf of the Va'ad HaRabbonim