

Jewish Herald Voice

The Chabad at Texas A&M celebrates Pink Shabbat



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The Chabad Jewish Student Group at Texas A&M dedicated the final Shabbat of October, Pink Shabbat, to breast-cancer awareness. October was National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Weekly Friday night dinners at the Chabad Jewish Center are free for students. More than 60 students joined in celebrating Shabbat with a four-course gourmet dinner.

With the tables and various menu items, including the challah, decorated in pink at this Pink Shabbat, the importance of this subject was introduced. During the Shabbat dinner, students shared stories of friends and loved ones who have been affected by breast cancer. "Breast cancer has touched everyone in some way, and it is important to spread awareness and honor those who have suffered from it," said Sam Caplan, a member of the Chabad student board and a freshman at Texas A&M, originally from Houston.

Texas A&M Students making pink challah at Chabad's Kosher Cooking Club: Brian Hutchison, Alex Lewenthal, Jody Martin, Mara Minsberg, Mike Kogan, Michael Samuels, Greg Cohen, Zach Faithful and Graham Schlanger.

Jody Martin, Chabad student board VP and a communications major at Texas A&M, originally from Dallas, spearheaded the event. "I don't know a person in this room that hasn't been affected in some way by breast cancer," Martin explained. Martin introduced students to an organization called Sharsheret, a national nonprofit organization of cancer survivors dedicated to addressing the challenges facing young Jewish women living with breast cancer.

Sharsheret, meaning "chain" in Hebrew, was founded in 2001 by Rochelle Shoretz, a former law clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Sharsheret's Link Program provides a culturally sensitive peer-support network that targets the concerns of each individual in a program designed to accommodate the active lives of younger women.

For information about Sharsheret, visit www.sharsheret.org.

For information about the Chabad Jewish Center at Texas A&M University, contact the directors, Rabbi Yossi and Manya Lazaroff, at 979-220-5020 or www.JewishAggies.com.