

A message of gratitude from Project Give Back....

The world became smaller this week as we came together as part of the global community. While it has been devastating to watch and even try to comprehend the loss and destruction in Haiti, children here all pulled together to help others in need.

Project Give Back aligned itself with an initiative by Soft Moc and Soles4Souls to deliver slightly used or new shoes directly to Haiti. How can baby steps be taken without shoes?

All nine schools (Allenby, John Ross Robertson, Hillcrest, Crestwood, Leo Baeck North and South, USDS Bathurst and Bayview and Netivot Ha Torah) came on board in a huge way and shoes were dropped off by the thousands. This initiative has been such a tangible example of the power of giving and the feelings associated with helping others.

School halls were overflowing with bags and boxes of shoes brought in by the children.

The students proudly sorted and loaded van loads filled with precious shoes that they once wore. They were so thrilled that these same shoes would help someone so far away.

Some of the shoes were filled with little surprises like candy, loving pictures, and hopeful thoughts.

Nikki Cohen, at Leo Baeck canvassed her area and brought in 600 pairs of shoes personally.

Bayview Glen Day Camp's head staff came to the rescue to help pick up and deliver shoes.

In total over 5,000 pairs of shoes were delivered to Soft Moc in just three days! To further create impact from these students' efforts, Mastermind Toys has generously donated a dollar for each pair of shoes collected. This money will go directly to initiatives in Haiti. Jon Levy, Co-President of Mastermind toys said, " We were blown away when we heard what these kids were doing, so we wanted to bring our resources to bear to support their efforts."

We at Project Give Back would like to share our warmest thanks to **ALL** of you for allowing this initiative to just explode with kindness and generosity.