

## TABC Juniors and Seniors Participate in Midnight Run

On Thursday Evening March 19th, 12 Juniors and Seniors piled into two vans and headed to midtown Manhattan to deliver food, toiletries, clothing, and some smiles to the homeless population of New York City. The trip was coordinated by Yosef Glatter ('15) and was supervised by Rabbi Steven Finkelstein and Rabbi Beni Krohn.

Students began the evening right after school, packing hearty meals, sorting clothing, and preparing hot drinks for those they would serve. Led by Billy, a board member of The Midnight Run who himself once lived on the streets, we made four separate stops at designated locations. At each stop, we were greeted by people eagerly awaiting our arrival. With temperatures dropping throughout the evening, they were excited to be able to have new jackets, sweatshirts and some extra hats and gloves.

But equally impactful, was the opportunity these men and women had to spend a few minutes with our students. They shared their experiences, many explaining to our young men how they ended up on the streets despite their many degrees. Through these conversations the students came to see these fellow residents of the New York Metro as just that – fellow human beings. Students came to realize that the homeless of New York – totaling over 60,000 people according to our guide – are for the most part very similar to them. They were astounded by the positive attitude of many of the people they met, and the thanks the boys received went a long way as well. There was almost no one they served who didn't give a big thank you and a smile as they walked away.

We finally returned to TABC at 12:30am, exhausted yet energized. Everyone experienced once again the beautiful and powerful effect of giving, not only on the one who receives but maybe even more so on the one who gives.