

SCHECHTER ALUMNI *Spotlights*



ALIZA SCHEIER ('99)

“Schechter instilled in me a comprehensive Jewish identity, laced with tradition, religious practice, and ethics, that guides me to this day.”



Aliza (third from left) makes bracelets with her Moms for Tikkun Olam initiative

In the aftermath of the terrorist attacks in Israel, **Aliza (Rudolph) Scheier (SSDS '99)** organized a grassroots fundraising effort with her peers called Moms for Tikkun Olam. The women made blue and white beaded bracelets that contained expressions of Israel solidarity: Tikkun Olam, Shalom, Ahava, and Fearless.

Word spread quickly on social media and across the Denver Jewish community, leading the initiative to raise \$70,000 through a combination of bracelet sales and partnerships with JewishColorado and an anonymous donor who matched the funds raised. Every dollar raised went directly to provide relief for Israeli families impacted by the war.

Aliza said she was inspired by the outpouring of support. “I heard from so many Jews from different chapters in my life, including my time at Schechter, all voicing encouragement and pride in our team. Perhaps my proudest moment came when my children participated in bracelet making, fostering their pride in Zionism through this hands-on experience.”

Reflecting back on her Schechter education, Aliza noted, “The academic rigor and wide inclusion of thought always stood out to me. Indoctrination isn't the mission, rather a wide-ranging exposure of ideas with an open forum in which to share, learn, and debate, all with Jewish virtues and ethics inspiring the curriculum.”

“ I find great connectedness to the wide network of Schechter alumni in the US and abroad. When I meet a fellow graduate, even if we have never crossed paths, I have come to value our shared experience which creates kinship based in Jewish tradition and culture that we learned at Schechter. ”



5th Grade Siyuim in 1996. **Front:** Jordana Labow; **Middle (L to R):** Rachel Stern, Shana Slutsky, Aliza Scheier, Rebecca Russo, and Hillary Marshak

Aliza attended Camp Ramah in Wisconsin, Deerfield High School, and The Ohio State University, where she earned Bachelor of Science in Human Development and Family Sciences (2008) and was involved in Hillel, Chabad, and Israel advocacy. Also a certified Child Life Specialist, Aliza lives in Denver with her husband, Ben, a hematology/oncology doctor at Kaiser Permanente of Colorado, and their four children.



Aliza's children, Ezra, Jonah, Sarina, and Leon



Aliza and her husband, Ben



The Rudolph family (L to R): Jake, Aliza, Miriam, Mike, Adam, and Matthew

Aliza has three brothers. **Jake Rudolph (SSDS '07)** is a 4th year medical student at University of Illinois at Chicago. **Adam Shemaria-Rudolph (SSDS '07)** is married to Joe (who was recently named one of JUF's 36under36) and works as a wealth advisor at Strategic Wealth Partners in Deerfield. **Matthew Rudolph (SSDS '02)** is a lawyer at Meitar Law Firm and lives in Ramat Gan with his wife, Sivan, and 3 children, Geffen, Naveh, and Talya.