



December 18, 2018

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Susie Kessler and I am the program director for Makom: The Center for Meditation and Spirituality here at the Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan in New York City. In that capacity, I oversee our programming in the area of Jewish spirituality that includes relevant classes, whole and half-day learning experiences and more that focus on the Jewish practices that touch the soul.

I am writing to recommend the wonderful Chaya Rivka Zwolinski as a teacher/presenter at your JCC. Chaya Rivka has been presenting for the last several years at our annual "Day of Kabbalah", co-hosted by the Carlebach Shul. She designed and co-taught a beautiful half-day of learning and spiritual exploration for women based on the "Azamra" teaching of Rebbe Nachman of Breslov. Recently, she taught a much well-received and beloved two evening class called "Rebbe Nachman and You: Contemplative Writing from the Soul", and we hope to continue to offer this class.

Chaya Rivka brings her deep knowledge and practice of the teachings of Rebbe Nachman to her work along with her background in psycho-spiritual healing and self-knowledge. An author as well, she is the co-author of *Therapy Revolution: Find Help, Get Better and Move On* and *The Parent-Child Dance*, and other books for adults and children. She writes for the Breslov Research Institute website (Breslov.org), BreslovWoman.org, PsychCentral.com, and more. She's also the director of BRI Women, which offers a variety of learning experiences, including publications, workshops, and travel.

In my work at the Marlene Meyerson JCC over these last 17 years I have worked with so many teachers and presenters, so I feel it's important to add that it has been a total pleasure for me to get to know and to work with Chaya Rivka. In addition to being a top-notch professional –responsive, thorough, thoughtful and generous - she is a very special human being and an absolute joy to work with.

Please do let me know if you have any questions. You can reach me at 646.505.5726 or via email, skessler@jccmanhattan.org

With best wishes,

Susie

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