

## Baking for Backpacks

Lily Karp, age 13, knows about refugees. Her mom, Mira, was a refugee from the former Soviet Union and was resettled by HIAS and Jewish Family Services in the 80's. As a result, Lily always had a connection to refugees and has donated to refugee causes as part of her family's Chanukah custom of donating to a charity on the 5<sup>th</sup> night.

When Lily heard Debbie Michels, JFS SV staff member speak at Temple Emanu-El about refugees, she knew immediately that her B'nai Mitzvah project would involve helping JFS SV refugee clients.

Lily enjoys baking. She and her sister took pastry decorating classes during the pandemic and promoted their baked items to keep busy and raise money for causes they felt inspired to help.

Lily decided to put her baking skills to work to raise funds for JFS SV's annual Equipped to Learn Back-to-School drive. She promoted her bake sale on social media and to friends and family who eagerly answered her call to help by purchasing her baked goods and by making online donations.

The result? **\$1425** in donations supporting the drive, with more donations still coming in!

Lily is now ready to volunteer to help fill the backpacks with all the supplies and find other ways to support refugees resettling in Santa Clara County. JFS SV is so grateful to Lily and her family for supporting our refugee resettlement efforts and thrilled to have her on our team!

For more information on leading a B'nai Mitzvah or school project on behalf of JFS SV, please contact Robin Feinman at [robinf@jfssv.org](mailto:robinf@jfssv.org) or call (408) 357-7467.

