MAZEL TOV! CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations on your upcoming bar/bat mitzvah! Now that you’ve reached this milestone in your life, we want to help make your day a launching pad for adulthood and support you living out the Tikkun Olam.

WE is a movement which that brings people together and gives them the tools to change the world. Today, we are millions of passionate youth, women and men working together to shift the world from “me” to “we.”

Together, let us help you as a one-stop-resource for your bar/bat mitzvah gift giving.

PICK A COUNTRY: ECUADOR

Ecuador straddles the equator on South America’s west coast. Its diverse landscape encompasses the Amazon jungle, Andean highlands and the wildlife-rich Galápagos Islands.

The province of Chimborazo in central Ecuador as well as the Amazon region are home to large numbers of indigenous communities who suffer from some of the highest rates of poverty in the country. These communities have limited access to education, clean water, economic opportunities, health care services and the resources needed to maintain a nutritious food supply. Children often have to walk for hours to reach the nearest school and many parents keep their children at home to help with household chores.
More than a quarter of Ecuador’s population suffers from chronic malnutrition, and more than half of Ecuador’s indigenous population lives in poverty. The minga is a way of life in Ecuadorian communities, a tradition in which members of an entire community come together to work on a project for the benefit of all. The minga is the inspiration for the WE philosophy—the belief that when we act together, we can change the world. WE has been building schools in Chimborazo since 1999. In 2008, we realized these communities needed more than schools to thrive and we introduced the WE Villages Pillars of Impact model. Most recently, we expanded programming into the Amazon region. We believe that children in indigenous communities should be able to access high-quality schooling close to home. By providing Ecuador’s rural communities with education, clean water, health programming and alternative forms of income, these communities are empowered to transform their lives. We provide resources, opportunities and connections for community members to lead their own development and lift themselves out of poverty. We honor the value of ancestral knowledge and cultural identity, including the use of indigenous language, participation in traditions and respecting community processes in all of our programming.

Education is compulsory and free for children ages six to 14. While enrollment rates in cities are relatively high, children in rural communities face barriers, including proximity to schools, and a lack of resources and well-trained teachers. Many also face issues like hunger, illness or duties at home that prevent them from attending class. As many as 25 percent of children drop out by the fifth grade, according to the U.S. Department of Labor. This is where WE Charity helps by building and rehabilitating schools in rural areas, furnishing classrooms and providing educational programming offering student leadership courses.

**PICK A PROJECT: $36 – PRIMARY EDUCATION FOR A CHILD**
Help a child become a lifelong learner with a quality primary school education. In school, students develop the skills to solve problems, plan for the future and find sustainable solutions to the obstacles facing their community.

**PICK A PROJECT: $1,800 – PRIMARY EDUCATION FOR 50 CHILDREN**
Help 50 children become lifelong learners with a quality primary school education. In school, students develop the skills to solve problems, plan for the future and find sustainable solutions to the obstacles facing their community. Education breaks the cycle of poverty and sets new cycles of growth and prosperity in motion.

**PICK A PROJECT: $18,000 – SUPPORT FOR SCHOOL-BUILDING IN A COMMUNITY**
Light the way for new generations of learners by building a school. Your new classroom will equip hundreds of children with the skills, knowledge and confidence to pursue careers that would otherwise be inaccessible to them. In school, learners become leaders and develop the skills to find sustainable solutions to break the cycle of poverty and set new cycles of growth and prosperity in motion.
**PICK A PILLAR: WATER**

Access to clean water and sanitation facilities in Ecuador is determined in large part by income, and whether a community is considered urban or rural. Water service is frequently disrupted in rural communities, and water often isn’t drinkable. We help by facilitating the provision of hand-washing stations, latrines and clean water systems, and water and sanitation education.

**PICK A PROJECT: $3,600 – SUPPORT FOR CLEAN WATER FOR LIFE AT A SCHOOL**

Make the dream of clean drinking water come true for 200 students at a school. Imagine a thriving campus with flourishing gardens, agriculture programs, healthy students and fewer waterborne diseases—it all starts with a system for providing clean, safe drinking water for every student who needs it.

**PICK A PROJECT: $18,000 – SUPPORT FOR A CLEAN WATER SYSTEM IN A COMMUNITY**

Help make the dream of clean drinking water come true for a community of families. Imagine a thriving community with flourishing gardens, healthy students and fewer waterborne diseases—it all starts with a system for providing clean, safe drinking water for everyone who needs it.

**PICK A PILLAR: HEALTH**

Ecuador has made huge strides in its health care system, and people here have a life expectancy of approximately 75 years, according to the CIA World Factbook. That said, as many as 23% of children under five are said to be malnourished, and hospitals and clinics often lack supplies. We help in our partner communities by providing health education programs and playgrounds to promote exercise.

**PICK A PROJECT: $36 – HEALTH WORKSHOPS FOR ONE MOTHER**

Every new mother deserves a healthy start for herself and her child. With training from a health workshop, she can prevent illness, malnutrition and other complications from getting in the way of her baby’s growth and development.

**PICK A PROJECT: $1,800 – FAMILY HEALTH WORKSHOPS FOR 30 WOMEN**

For any family, good health lays the foundation for a thriving future. Give 30 mothers access to workshops teaching family health habits and illness prevention techniques. With the resources to stay healthy, families can set longterm goals like high school graduation or small business growth without worrying about frequent interruptions of disease and malnutrition.

**PICK A PROJECT: $18,000 – SUPPORT GOOD HEALTH FOR A COMMUNITY**

For any community, good health lays the foundation for prosperity. Give every family in a community access to health education on healthy habits and illness prevention techniques, health camps for things like de-worming and check-ups, and referrals to specialists. With the resources to stay healthy, families can set long-term goals like high school graduation or small business growth without worrying about frequent interruptions of disease and malnutrition.
PICK A PILLAR: FOOD 🌿

Access to healthy and sustainably-grown food is one of the most important ways to improve the health of people living in rural Ecuador, and to make sure children’s bellies are full enough to attend school. We help by building and creating school gardens, kitchens and dining halls, and programs that promote agriculture training.

PICK A PROJECT: $18 – ONE YEAR OF HEALTHY LUNCHES FOR ONE STUDENT
Give a child the fuel to learn by providing healthy lunches for a full year of schooling. When a student receives proper nutrition, they have the energy to focus and make the most of every day of study.

PICK A PROJECT: $3,600 – ONE YEAR OF HEALTHY LUNCHES FOR A SCHOOL
Give 200 students the fuel to learn by providing them with healthy lunches for a full year of studies. When students receive proper nutrition at school, parents facing financial challenges can send their children without worrying about providing meals and students can count on having the energy to focus and make the most of every day of learning.

PICK A PROJECT: $18,000 – GARDEN AND AGRICULTURE PROGRAMS FOR A COMMUNITY
When you equip a school with a vegetable garden and an agriculture club, you’re helping an entire community take long-term steps toward food security. With access to fresh, healthy food for lunch, students have the energy to thrive in the classroom. And with a green space to practice agricultural skills and learn advanced farming techniques, students are developing skills that will serve their communities for decades to come.
PICK A PILLAR: OPPORTUNITY

Empowering the people in rural Ecuador with the tools they need to earn an income is a key Pillar of Impact. We help by creating and running girls’ clubs, teaching financial literacy, self-confidence and other skills needed to become economically independent, offering leadership and skills training and delivering workshops on artisan training and development, and implementing income-generating animal husbandry programs.

PICK A PROJECT: $36 – RESOURCES FOR A WOMAN TO EARN AN INCOME
Help a woman claim a space for herself as a leader and an entrepreneur in a woman’s empowerment circle. With small business and vocational training to earn an income, and the support of other women from her community, a woman can plan for the future and open a world of possibilities for herself and her family.

PICK A PROJECT: $1,800 – ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMS FOR 30 WOMEN
Help a group of women support each other, grow as leaders and save money for their small businesses. When women have access to the same economic opportunities as men, they gain decision-making power in their families and uplift their communities with improved economic growth, food security and child health.

PICK A PROJECT: $18,000 – SUPPORT ALTERNATIVE INCOME PROGRAMS FOR A COMMUNITY
A community with alternative income and livelihood projects is a community where every family can plan for a future full of opportunity. When mothers and fathers earn a reliable income, they can count on having the money to send their children to school, pay for unexpected medical bills or make investments in the growth of family businesses. They take charge of their community’s economic future.