



**MAYOR AND COUNCIL**  
CITY OF NEWARK

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February 25, 2021

Thère du Pont, President  
Longwood Foundation  
100 West 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 1109  
Wilmington, DE 19801

Re: Longwood Foundation Grant

Dear President du Pont,

As Mayor of Newark, I am happy to hear the process to rebuild the Chabad Center for Jewish Life at the University of Delaware (“UD”) has begun. I, along with the Newark community was devastated and heartbroken to learn the fire at the Center on August 25, 2020 was intentionally set. The fire was catastrophic, and the Chabad Center will have to be demolished and rebuilt. The City of Newark, a welcoming and diverse college town, prides itself on banding together in times of need. As such, the City of Newark, UD and the surrounding community was very hopeful upon learning the Chabad Center was taking the many necessary steps to ensure the Center returns to our town and continues to be a part of the community. The Chabad at the University of Delaware offers a “Home Away from Home” at college for many students and is invaluable and essential to the wellbeing of the UD community.

The process to rebuild is a complex and expensive endeavor. I am honored to offer this letter of support on behalf of the Chabad Center’s grant application to the Longwood Foundation, which has been helping Delaware communities for nearly a century. I wholeheartedly believe that the recovery of the Chabad Center in our community would be accelerated by a grant from the Longwood Foundation enabling them to continue their mission. Organizations such as the Chabad Center that are established on University campuses located in towns such as Newark embody everything the Longwood Foundation stands for: empowering individuals, responsibility and accountability, integrity, hard work, and futuristic thinking. I am confident the Longwood Foundation can visualize the passion and integrity of the Chabad Center and Rabbi Avremel Vogel and am hopeful that the Foundation can help their dreams of rebuilding their Center come to fruition.

Sincerely,

George J. (Jerry) Clifton  
Mayor  
City of Newark

GJC/tas