

Dear Rabbi Richie & Refuah,

I wanted to write this note to express my gratitude and feedback regarding the life coaching program I just completed January 2011-2012.

I must admit when coming to the program I did not fully know what to expect. After graduating Rabbinical Seminary I wanted to further my knowledge and skill for Pastoral Counseling purposes. In Seminary we did spend some time on grief and family type counseling but it was not an in depth enough and I felt lacking in that area. I did a lot of research and found no courses I could take from a Jewish pastoral care point of view. I ran across standard college psychology courses, Christian based programs and some non denominational programs but they were not for me.

It so happened I found your add on Facebook a few days before your 2011 course was to begin and I quickly got the impression I found what I was looking for. The truth was, I was ecstatic to find a Frum Jewish Torah based program. Wow!

I did not know what coaching was at the time but quickly realized it made a lot of sense for any Rabbi, Teacher, Mishpiah, or other professional that works closely with people. The depth and quality of the curriculum was surely one of the best I ever ran across during my research. The program embraces the Torah perspective of Ahavas Yisrael to the fullest, teaches you active listening, connecting with people and many skills for coaching including marketing and finding your own niche. This course not only teaches you to help others but also refines you as a person by becoming more sensitive towards the struggles and plights of others.

I cannot say enough wonderful things about the Rabbis, teachers and staff without writing a book, so suffice it to say they are all second to none educators. Most importantly the biggest Yasher Koach I can give Refuah is that I came away with a real knowledge and the skills of a Professional Life Coach vs. only theoretical or book knowledge. I have been able to apply my skills in the real world and have seen firsthand how the skills I acquired at Refuah actually make a difference in people's lives. That is surely a Kiddush Hashem.

Hatzlacha Rabba,

Rabbi Stuart R.