



Hillel: The Jewish Student Center
at the University of Minnesota

Dear Parents,

Having your child leave the nest is no emotionally easy task, but it can be even more heart-wrenching when you receive a phone call full of sniffles, coughs, and stuffed-up stutters. Homesickness can be handled with new friends, city attractions, and occasional care packages, but when your son or daughter gets the seasonal bout of the common cold or flu, it often takes everything in your parental power to stop you from packing up the car for an unexpected visit, armed with Kleenex, soup, and a collection of your child's favorite movies.

It is normal to worry. They say they are drinking lots of fluids and eating oranges for breakfast, but are they really? They promise to put on layers before the cold front comes across the Mississippi, but you have to wonder – if they were wearing their wool socks as advised – how did they catch a cold in the first place? Kids will be kids, but the good news is **Soup for U** is here to help.

Soup for U, a new service being offered to all students by Hillel: the Jewish Student Center, is just what your child needs! There is no cost associated with this. All you have to do is e-mail SoupforU@ujews.com to request a free bowl of chicken or vegetarian matzah ball soup. Upon receiving your e-mail, we will send you a delivery request form to fill out and send back. Once the request form is completed, **Soup for U** will be on its way to deliver a delicious, healthy pick-me-up to your sick child.

Every effort will be made to deliver the soup within twenty-four to forty-eight hours of the request. In addition to soup, students will receive a get well card, a booklet of jokes (because laughter is the best medicine), tea and honey to soothe their throats, vitamin water to replenish electrolytes, and tips on how to fight the common cold and flu from Boynton Health Center on campus. We will also give your son or daughter a call a few days later to see how they are feeling and ask if they need any further assistance on their path to wellness.

Hillel created **Soup for U** because we're not just a Jewish center; we're a Jewish *community* center. We take pride in our positive interaction with all university students, faculty, and staff. Our students remind us every year that it can be a challenge to adjust to a new life on campus and a struggle to get through the stress of finals, roommate drama, or the dreary winter months. **Soup for U** is a direct result of these concerns. Sometimes, a bowl of steaming, hot soup and a friendly face can make all the difference!

Hillel welcomes you to use this service whenever your child is ill. It's completely free and exceptionally delicious! We have enclosed a sample of a delivery request form for your reference.

Shalom from Hillel!