



TOGETHER WITH ISRAEL

PROVIDING SUPPORT, HOPE AND RESILIENCE

Since The Jewish Agency for Israel was founded in 1929, we established the state of Israel and many of its key institutions. We have brought 3.5 million Olim (immigrants) home to Israel, we strengthen Israeli society, and we continue to connect Jews around the world to each other and to Israel.

In the wake of October 7, 2023, when thousands of Hamas terrorists infiltrated Israel and unleashed unimaginable hell on Israeli communities, our attention immediately turned to addressing the new reality of Israel at war.

Before the shock of the attacks fully set in, our teams in Israel were already in motion. We responded by providing urgent aid to the thousands of terror victims, establishing support systems for war-hit businesses, assisting the most vulnerable Israelis, launching community restoration projects near the Gaza border, and ensuring the safety and security of Israeli populations in our care and of Jewish communities worldwide.

IMMEDIATE, DIRECT RELIEF

As soon as the war broke out, we immediately mobilized emergency response protocols, offering crisis intervention and vital assistance to families of victims and survivors. Financial aid was swiftly distributed to individuals, families and businesses impacted by the attacks, alleviating some of the immediate fiscal burden.

SUPPORTING VICTIMS OF TERROR

The Jewish Agency's Fund for Victims of Terror (FVOT) promptly supports families and individuals affected by terrorism and violence, offering emergency grants within 48 hours of an attack, followed by long-term rehabilitative care. In collaboration with government resources, this assistance aids victims in rebuilding their lives and managing ongoing challenges such as PTSD care and job retraining.

The October 7 attacks were unprecedented in scale and nature, and we have expanded our response accordingly. We estimate that we will serve 10,000 families – 10 times the number we served before the war. And recognizing the extraordinary challenges and cruelty of these attacks, we have established a special humanitarian fund for the most vulnerable victims – orphans, hostages, families on welfare, those who lost their homes, and isolated senior citizens. We currently estimate that we will provide 3,500 humanitarian grants that will offer a lifeline in this darkest hour.

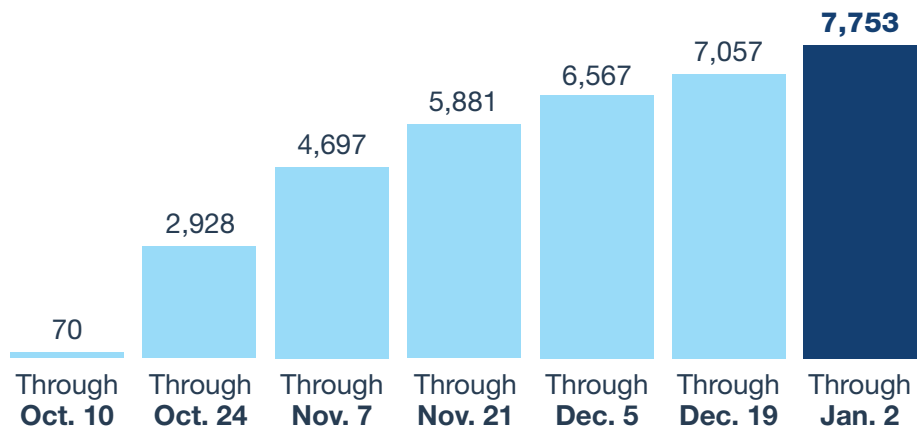
For traumatized children, the FVOT offers respite camps during school vacations, bringing joy and escape. We also provide unique, long-term interventions for high-school-aged victims who are on the cusp of military service. Exposed to horrors beyond their years, these students have also borne the brunt of Covid disruptions. We are working to address the unique obstacles they face and guide them toward recovery and adulthood.

Beyond financial aid, the FVOT accompanies victims throughout the rehabilitation process, helping them navigate bureaucracy and access government aid. This ongoing support is as crucial as the immediate aid we provide.

We created a special 20 million NIS emergency aid fund for Israeli border communities to assist with their rehabilitation and humanitarian needs. Already distributed to eight southern and 15 northern regional councils, it disperses immediate financial support during this difficult time.

The Jewish Agency stands with every victim, offering not just monetary assistance but a path toward healing and hope. In the face of unimaginable tragedy, we choose humanity, resilience, and the unshakeable belief that together, we will rise again.

TOTAL GRANTS DISTRIBUTED BY THE FUND FOR VICTIMS OF TERROR



Spotlight: Tamar Kam

Tamar Kam and Ofer, her boyfriend of three years, arrived at the Nova Music Festival early in the morning on October 7. They soon headed back to their car when they heard the volley of rockets and shells being fired from Gaza. After unsuccessfully trying to flee, they found their way into a bomb shelter, which Hamas terrorists attacked with grenades and automatic weapons. They managed to escape to a house in nearby Kibbutz Alumim, but were again attacked. Ofer was shot in the chest and died immediately. After an encounter with the terrorists, Tamar was shot in the stomach but managed to make a tourniquet, and survived bleeding on the floor for several hours until she could be evacuated to the hospital.

Tamar suffered from shrapnel wounds to her back and a bullet wound to her stomach that went all the way through her back, causing severe nerve damage. She is currently in the hospital recovering and is unable to stand or walk and requires long-term rehabilitation.

“Because I was injured, I can’t work and it’s very hard for me,” said Tamar, who was a manager at a clothing store prior to October 7. Tamar supported herself and her mother.

While recovering at the hospital, a representative of the FVOT visited her. The FVOT, often the first responder for families and individuals impacted by terror, distributes immediate grants within 24-48 hours of a direct attack, offering support for short-term needs and helping with long-term rehabilitation and post-trauma care.

Tamar is extremely thankful for the assistance from the FVOT, which is helping her cover the basic financial needs of herself and her mother at this time.



**“THE SUPPORT FROM
THE JEWISH AGENCY IS
IMMENSELY HELPFUL
AND REALLY IMPORTANT
FOR ME.”**

- Tamar Kam,
survivor of the Nova Festival massacre

ENSURING ISRAEL'S SMALL BUSINESSES SURVIVE AND THRIVE

Many small businesses in the communities near the Gaza border have either closed or been forced to completely cease their operations due to the ongoing war and security situation. In partnership with Shva, Klirmark Capital, and Israel Venture Network, The Jewish Agency launched **Support Business IL**, a special initiative to help small businesses in southern Israel by providing immediate grants to businesses in the impacted communities to help rehabilitate the local and national economy.

In addition, The Jewish Agency's **SparkIL** program is continuing to distribute loans and support to small businesses throughout Israel that have been affected by the war. In cooperation with Ogen, SparkIL offers up to 100,000 NIS to applicable businesses in interest-free loans which will help them weather this crisis, so that Israel's economy will emerge stronger.

Spotlight: Israeli Wood Art

One of the businesses receiving financial support from Support Business IL is Israeli Wood Art, a workshop in Sderot owned by brothers Shlomo and Shmuel Maimon. Launched about three and a half years ago during the pandemic, Israeli Wood Art initially focused on artistic woodworking using Israeli wood. Soon, it expanded to include public and private sector projects, like custom-made home furniture.

The Maimon brothers, originally from Jerusalem, have called Sderot home for several years. Driven by Zionism and strong ideals, they're proud of their choice to live in a community in the Gaza envelope.

"WE'RE INCREDIBLY GRATEFUL TO THE JEWISH AGENCY AND ITS PARTNERS WHO MADE THE GRANT FROM SUPPORT BUSINESS IL POSSIBLE. THEY ENSURED THE GRANT CAME QUICKLY, GIVING US VITAL CASH FLOW SUPPORT. THEY HELPED US GET BACK ON OUR FEET."

- Shlomo and Shmuel Maimon,
Israeli Wood Art owners



PROVIDING FOR VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

The impact of the war has reached every part of Israeli society, and The Jewish Agency is facilitating expanded support for Israeli senior citizens, many of whom are Holocaust survivors, our new olim, vulnerable Israeli youth in the geographic and social periphery and more.

CARING FOR ISRAEL'S VULNERABLE SENIORS

More than 5,000 Israeli senior citizens and Holocaust survivors live in The Jewish Agency's Amigour subsidized homes throughout Israel's south and central regions (2,617 in the south and 2,337 in the center). As the war continues, these seniors face special challenges.

Extended staff hours are required to ensure the well-being of residents who cannot leave for basic necessities like groceries. Food packages are being delivered to those in need, and the demand for these supplies remains constant.

Beyond food and staffing, Amigour is prioritizing the safety and mental well-being of its residents, making professional mental health support available as well as hiring armed guards to watch over the facilities around the clock. Loneliness and depression are major concerns for residents confined to their apartments due to safety fears, and our expanded staff has allowed us to address these issues.



Spotlight: Irena Zlatkovsky

Irena Zlatkovsky has lived at The Jewish Agency's Yuval Amigour home in Ofakim for five years. On the morning of October 7, she woke up to the sound of the air-raid siren. She received a WhatsApp message from her daughter warning her not to leave the house. "That's how I learned that terrorists were on the streets of Ofakim."

Her neighbor and fellow Amigour resident Igor Kortzer was killed that day when he was on a trip and was shot by terrorists. "Igor was a smart man. Quiet, and kind. It's very hard."

What gives her strength, she says, is the constant support she has received at the Amigour residence throughout the war.

"AMIGOUR STARTED HELPING US, VISITING EACH OF US RESIDENTS TO CHECK IN ON US, AND THEN WE BEGAN RECEIVING FOOD DONATIONS," IRINA SAID. "AMIGOUR FOR ME MEANS SECURITY. EMOTIONAL SECURITY, FINANCIAL SECURITY, PSYCHOLOGICAL SECURITY."

SUPPORTING OLIM

There are currently 4,000 new olim living in twelve Jewish Agency absorption centers in the region under rocket threat. The overwhelming majority are new olim from Ethiopia, Ukraine and Russia. All of them are feeling the psychological impact of running for shelter from rockets aimed at the absorption centers.

The Jewish Agency is stepping in to offer our olim safety and respite, evacuating the olim in the line of fire to safer locations. During the relocation period, we are providing housing, psychological counseling, as well as education for children, activities for adults, and supplemental income for lost work as a result of the displacement.

We are committed to support our olim through this difficult period, ensuring their well-being and a smooth re-integration into their routines when possible.

REHABILITATING COMMUNITIES

As the war continues, people from Israeli communities near Gaza face a tough reality. But we are already working on the next stage, to bring Jewish communities together from around the world to facilitate rehabilitation. Together we will ensure no one is left behind, and build a stronger future for Israel and world Jewry.

NO COMMUNITY LEFT BEHIND: COMMUNITIES2GETHER

Israeli communities near Gaza face a long road to recovery. Communities2Gether pairs each impacted Israeli community with a Jewish community abroad, offering sustained support for 3-5 years. Through funding, resources, and personal connections, these partnerships will rebuild infrastructure, mend social bonds, and foster lasting connections. No community will be left behind.

CAMPERS2GETHER

Campers2Gether offers a transformative experience, bringing Israeli teens impacted by the war to Jewish summer camps around the globe. Israeli campers will find healing and joy alongside supportive

peers, discover hidden strengths, and gain a fresh perspective on their Israeli and Jewish identities. Jewish campers from outside Israel will make meaningful connections with Israeli teens, expand their understanding of Israel beyond the headlines, and build lasting friendships.

VOLUNTEERISM

The Jewish Agency has mobilized a passionate force of volunteers from within Israel and beyond. From abroad, we have leveraged our established programs like Masa Israel Journey, and Partnership2Gether Fellows as well as service programs for adults aged 50+ and solidarity missions to bring dedicated individuals to Israel. Within Israel, our ShinShinim (year of service) volunteers, pre-army academy participants, and students lending a hand to Israeli senior citizens at our Amigour facilities form a vital support network. More than 1,100 Masa volunteers, 500 daily (3,000 so far and counting) at our Nitzana educational village, and 650 pre-army academy participants have already stepped up to help during this challenging time.





INCREASING SAFETY AND SECURITY FOR ISRAELIS AND JEWS AROUND THE GLOBE

SHELTERING

Following May 2021's Operation Guardian of the Walls, The Jewish Agency identified vulnerabilities in a number of our facilities in Israel's southern and northern regions. Many of our absorption centers that house olim have inadequate shelters - cramped, poorly located, or outdated. The new immigrants often spend nights packed into these shelters to ensure they are in safety while sleeping. We need urgent upgrades to these shelters to ensure better physical protection for both residents and staff during rocket attacks.

Similarly, numerous Amigour buildings housing our most vulnerable senior citizens, including many Holocaust survivors, lack proper communal shelters. These shared spaces must be immediately renovated to protect the elderly who are incapable of dashing to a shelter with short notice. The attacks of October 7 underscore the urgency. We must act now to rectify this critical situation, and ensure the residents of our facilities have access to safety.

EMERGENCY SECURITY GRANTS

The recent surge in antisemitism and threats to Jewish communities around the globe is unprecedented. From marked homes in Europe to large-scale protests, Jews are experiencing fear and insecurity in public and private spaces.

The Jewish Agency is stepping up to help by providing urgent financial security grants to strengthen security measures for Jewish institutions and activities worldwide outside the United States. Building on our experience facilitating the Security Assistance Fund since its founding in 2012, we are addressing the additional security needs of Jewish communities in this time of heightened threats.



Across Israel, the Jewish Agency's network of facilities including Amigour homes, absorption centers, and youth villages provides vital sanctuaries for vulnerable populations.

Following Hamas' recent attacks, the Agency evacuated facilities in the line of fire, ensuring residents' safety. Now, amidst the ongoing conflict, we are addressing the physical, emotional, financial, and educational needs of these populations. From secure housing and healthcare to job training and emotional support, The Jewish Agency stands by these displaced families and individuals.

OUR PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

Throughout these endeavors, we cannot understate the importance of our partners and donors worldwide. Your contributions enable us to provide critical support to victims of terror, combat antisemitism, assist devastated communities, facilitate Aliyah, and strengthen connections among Jews globally.

To stay informed about The Jewish Agency's work, you can follow the latest developments on social media:

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