

Annual Report 2023

**FEEDING ISRAEL'S
HUNGRY CHILDREN
& FAMILIES**



YAD EZRA V'SHULAMIT
FEEDING ISRAEL'S HUNGRY CHILDREN AND FAMILIES



Letter From Our Founder

Rav Aryeh Lurie
Founder, Yad Ezra V'Shulamit

Yad Ezra V'Shulamit has been fighting the battle of poverty since 1988 and this year was no exception. We pushed ourselves to the limit in order to get over 800,000 food baskets to Israel's poor families in 93 cities. With the onset of the war in Gaza, we utilized our 14 trucks and 4 warehouses to deliver desperately needed food to war torn cities, soldiers, and evacuees.

Requests for help to put food on the table skyrocketed after Oct 7th and we increased our distribution to hundreds of new families. We also distributed \$2 million worth of vouchers to widows, evacuees, and people who lost their livelihoods due to the war.

Your support has been the key to providing hope and assistance to those suffering from the effects of the war and poverty in Israel. And let's not forget our ongoing projects that help thousands of children and families all year long - our efforts have not ceased.

In the following pages you can see in detail how we provide 12,000 weekly and 55,000 holiday food baskets, food vouchers for widows, baby formula for poor mothers, subsidized weddings, daily hot lunches for children, giving new coats, backpacks and warm clothing to families across Israel.

With 400 new families to assist weekly and thousands of requests from evacuees needing our help, your ongoing support is essential. Together, we can offer hope and strength to those facing difficulties. Thank you for helping those in need in Israel.


אריאל שמואל לאורי
יו"ר



SEE WHO YOU HELPED IN 2023



55,000

Families



8,200

Single Parents



1,566

Widows



355

Needy Couples
Wed



665+ CHILDREN FED A DAILY HOT LUNCH

At our 3 children's centers in Jerusalem & Tzfat, we provide hot meals, tutoring, computer access and emotional therapies to vulnerable children in Israel. With trained staff, we create a loving environment to break the cycle of poverty.



815,767 FOOD BASKETS & VOUCHERS DISTRIBUTED

Yad Ezra V'Shulamit distributes 12,000 food baskets and vouchers weekly across 93 cities in Israel, including special distributions for Rosh Hashanah and Passover. In a country where over one-third of children live in poverty, families often face tough choices between food and medicine. We ensure everyone has enough to eat.



1,566 WIDOWS RECEIVED SUPPORT

We feed thousands of widows and their orphans in Israel through weekly and holidays food baskets, and 320 widows received monthly food vouchers. Additionally, we provide extra assistance such as Purim meals, after-school care, summer camps, and clothing distributions. Our goal is to alleviate their pain and let them know they are not alone.



16,700+ CANS OF BABY FORMULA GIVEN TO POOR MOTHERS

In Israel, hunger hits babies the hardest. Lack of proper nutrition jeopardizes their health and well-being. By distributing baby formula to poor mothers, we ensure the next generation of babies is well nourished.





100+ TRUCKS OF FOOD SENT TO PEOPLE IN WAR-TORN CITIES & SOLDIERS ON THE FRONT LINES

We have been sending food-filled trucks to those in war-torn cities and to soldiers on the front lines, each truck feeding 200 people for a week. Together, we have made a difference for the soldiers who protect our nation and for families like Yaakov's, who faced financial hardship when his income was cut in half because of the war. We made sure he and his family had food every week. Each truck serves as a lifeline for those affected by the war.



10,000+ EVACUEES HELPED

Our support has reached evacuees across 47 hotels in Israel, providing store vouchers, structured activities and emotional support during challenging times. Those from the Gaza Envelope and Northern Israel continue to face numerous challenges, including loss of income and children out of school.



16,570 SCHOOL & WINTER GEAR DISTRIBUTED TO CHILDREN

We have equipped thousands of impoverished children with new backpacks and school supplies, empowering them for success to break the cycle of poverty. We strive to give every child the tools they need to learn and thrive. Our annual distribution of winter coats, heaters, blankets, boots, and sweaters ensures that children and families in Israel stay warm and happy during the winter.



355 SUBSIDIZED WEDDINGS

Every new couple deserves a normal wedding, regardless of financial constraints. Yad Ezra V'Shulamit's three wedding halls offer these couples a subsidized wedding with all the trimmings provided, from hall rental to catering, helping them start their married life on the right foot.

All this is because of **your** loyal support

NEW PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

OF 2023



Emergency Food Distribution in Times of War

In 2023, we quickly mobilized our efforts to provide food to those affected by war. With your help, we sent over 100 trucks filled with essential food and supplies to people in war-torn cities and front line soldiers. We serve as a lifeline for thousands of evacuees, including those from the Gaza Envelope and Northern Israel, who have faced loss of income and whose children have experienced trauma.

Operating in over 47 hotels across Israel, we are assisting more than 10,000 evacuees by distributing store vouchers, organizing structured activities and providing emotional support for both children and adults. Since October 7th, we distributed \$2 million worth of food vouchers and added hundreds of families affected by the war to our weekly distribution of food baskets. Your ongoing support is the key that allows us to offer hope and support to those facing the harsh realities of this war.



Ethiopian After-School Project

Yad Ezra V'Shulamit proudly launched a new after-school program for Ethiopian children in Jerusalem, emphasizing our dedication to the well-being of underprivileged youth. With many Ethiopian youth facing challenges, our goal is to keep them engaged and off the streets. Daily, 117 children receive assistance with homework, take part in activities and enjoy healthy snacks. On Thursdays, 50 teens at risk participate in special evenings featuring dinners, games and discussions. Finally, we introduced a computer repair class with eight dedicated teachers, providing valuable skills alongside snacks. At Yad Ezra V'Shulamit, we genuinely care about the welfare of these Ethiopian children and aim to positively impact their lives.



Support for Lone Soldiers

Yad Ezra V'Shulamit launched a program for IDF lone soldiers who bravely serve Israel without family. While most troops enjoy time off with loved ones, approximately 7,000 lone soldiers spend holidays and off-duty moments alone. Recognizing their sacrifice and isolation, we provide monthly care packages to let them know someone cares. During Rosh Hashanah and Passover, we offer them food vouchers for local grocery stores, ensuring they have what they need for the holidays.



145,000 Hot Meals Sent

Families we care for often find themselves in challenging situations. Through illness, G-d forbid, or lending a helping hand, we are there to ensure everyone has a hot meal for themselves, and their household.



LOOKING AHEAD

We hope that 2024 will bring the safe return of hostages and soldiers, as well as peace to Israel and the world. We will continue to be on the front lines, helping those who need it the most, from Kiryat Shmona to Beer Sheva and everywhere in between, in times of war and peace.

Please continue to partner with us in bringing food and basic supplies to anyone struggling in Israel. While no one knows what the future will bring, G-d willing, we will be here to lend a hand to those in need. It is thanks to your loyal support and friendship that all of this is possible.

May the Almighty make 2024 a better year for the entire Jewish people.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart, for all your help. If you are ever in Israel, please come and meet me and see what we are doing in person.

L'Shana Haba'ah B'Yerushalayim - Next Year in Jerusalem



Rav Aryeh Lurie, Founder, Yad Ezra V'Shulamit





YAD EZRA V'SHULAMIT
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Fighting Poverty in Israel Together

Our Partners Include:



Chehebar Foundation | Abraham & Sonia Rochlin Foundation | Moskowitz Foundation | The Steinberg Family Charitable Trust | Alumim – Bnei Akiva Group | HaShachar | Carmit Confectionery | Maadanot Ltd | Shefa Birkat Hashem Ltd | Rokachman Ltd - Mann Wafers | Tempo Drinks Ltd | Taaman Foods Ltd | Gush Etzion Wineries | Ramat Hagolan Winery Ltd | Arza Winecellars Ltd | Sanlakol Ltd Alei Katif Ltd | Champignon Farm Ltd | Michal's Natural Soap Ltd | Uri Agricultural Product Marketing Ltd | Yaraon Agricultural Works Ltd | Hatov Vehamativ NPO | Alei Katif | Champignon Farm Ltd | Kal Plantations Level 3 | Moshav Yesha | Alfasi Fruits Chibat Zion | Southern Golan Fruits Ltd | Neot Golan Fruits | Agricultural Produce | Brettler | AM HaEmek Snacks Ltd | Israel Forever Foundation



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