



NEWS FROM JERUSALEM HILLS

AUGUST 28, 2017

"הרי ירושלים" | מוסדות לטיפול פנימייתי | (לשעבר מוסד בני-ברית) (ע"ר)



גיא ויהל

ערב התרמה למען
ילדי 'הרי ירושלים'

בהופעה אקוסטית
מיוחדת



הערב בחסות מלון נווה אילן ויקב פלטר

On Monday Sept. 18th Jerusalem Hills will be holding its first fundraising event. All the proceeds from the event will go towards activities for the "Vacation Group", the children in our care who have no family at all or whose family situation is too destructive or threatening to allow them to go home on holidays and vacations. The event will include a performance by the school choir and an acoustic performance by the duo Guy and Yahel.

YOU CAN BE A PART OF THIS EVENT EVEN IF YOU CAN'T ATTEND

To purchase virtual tickets or make a donation for the event

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End of Year Ceremonies

Report cards

The children and the staff gathered in the dining hall for a festive report cards ceremony. During the ceremony everyone watched a video prepared by the girls' group for the summer, and the school choir sang two songs, with words written especially for the ceremony by a staff member. Apart from the distribution of report cards, the traditional ceremony of measuring the children's height took place. Twice a year, on Tu Bishvat and at year's end, the school principal measures the height of one child from each group so all can see how much the children have grown during the year.



Shaked Group Graduation

Each year the senior group of the Elementary Unit and the seniors of the Junior Unit complete their stay at the Children's Home. For each and every graduate this is the end of a long, meaningful and complex process. For the Shaked Group, the seniors of the Elementary Unit, this is the conclusion of 4 years together. They arrived at the age of 7-8, frightened and full of worries at the start of a new life chapter. Now they are graduating more mature and filled with self-esteem. As part of the parting process, the children, along with the maintenance team, prepared a gift for the remaining younger groups - a



beautiful seating area on the school grounds.

The children's parents and the staff that cared for them the past 4 years attended the moving graduation ceremony. As part of the ceremony, the group passed the KEY TO THE HOME to the Eitan group who officially became the senior group. The parent's surprised the children and the staff with a movie they had prepared where they thanked the staff for caring for their children. It was very touching to see the special bond that developed between the

parents and the staff.



Junior Unit Graduation

The seniors of the Arbel, Carmel and Ella groups also graduated from the Children's Home. For some this was the end of a 3-4 year period, the others are leaving after 7 years at the Home. Like the Shaked ceremony, these were very emotional ceremonies. Each child connected to the Home in their own way; to a teacher, a counselor, a cook, the cottage, the classroom, the soccer field.... And they are all leaving with mixed feelings.

Kemper Group Home Graduation

In a very moving ceremony we parted from two boys who are leaving the Group Home after a period of 4 years. One of the boys is completing eight years in the "Jerusalem Hills" framework, his journey starting 8 years ago at the Children's Home. The ceremony was attended by the staff and residents of the home, the families of the graduates and representatives from the Children's Home. The graduates spoke with great excitement, as did their parents. The staff and representatives of the boys who are staying also spoke and congratulated the graduates.

We are proud of each and every graduate and wish them great success in their future endeavors.

“Green School” and the connection between the Children and the Staff

The special education school at Jerusalem Hills is a “Green School”. We recycle paper, different types of bottles and used batteries. All the children know that if they have batteries to recycle, they need to put it in the recycling bin found in the principal's office. This seemingly trivial act takes on special significance when the child knows that he will be welcomed by the principal to her office for this purpose.

At Jerusalem Hills many special relationships are formed between the children and the staff, whether it is with the counselors, teachers, therapists, housing manager or principal. The staff members extend so much warmth, love and hugs to the children and they know they will be welcomed with open arms by any staff member.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts...

Towards the end of the school year we were lucky to have some "fun days" thanks to the generosity of a few organizations.

For the past few years the bomb squad of the Israeli Police Jerusalem Division has been escorting the different groups at the Children's Home. Throughout the year the officers arrive at the Home and carry out different activities with the children. This year's activities culminated in a grand event whose sole purpose was to make the children happy. The event included different stations related to the work of the bomb squad unit, karaoke, wall climbing and other fun activities. The time the officers spend with the children is precious, important and meaningful. We are grateful for all the continued work, dedication and generosity of the bomb squad unit of the Jerusalem District and the National Headquarters of the Israeli Police, which have become part of the "Jerusalem Hills" family.

Before their graduation, the Shaked group went to an amusement park as their final group activity. The amazing children overcame strong fears and anxieties and rode the scariest of rides, even if it meant waiting in line for a long time. The staff also took advantage of the opportunity and joined the children on the different rides. The activity was made possible thanks to the generous donation by Bank of Jerusalem, which not only covered the cost of the activity, including lunch, snacks and popsicles for everyone, but also brought in volunteer workers who spent the whole day with the children running from one ride to another.



During the summer months, the Home's maintenance staff goes over the entire campus and prepares it for the upcoming school year. Much to our delight during these months a number of different companies and organizations approached us with a desire to contribute and to help with the renovations. LG Electronics Israel and a group of teens from "Kol HaNearim" took on painting the whole school building, and HB Safety painted one of the cottages. At the Kemper Group Home a group of employees from Intel painted the entrance floor of the home together with the boys. They painted the walls in different colors and gave the residence a renewed look. During August, several other organizations are expected to help paint the children's living quarters at the Children's Home.



Thank you very much to all the organizations and companies for the generous contribution of manpower and painting materials. This contribution is very significant and allows us to start the next year with a clean and refreshing look.

The Neve Ilan Connection

Around the corner from the Children's Home, in the village of Neve Ilan, there is a special group of residents who "adopted" the Children's Home and contribute to it endlessly throughout the year. In addition to the generous donations of games, clothes and books, there are several events to which the residents of Neve Ilan contribute annually.

As part of the "special day" project each child receives a special cake baked with love by one of the Neve Ilan women and a gift bought by Joyce from Neve Ilan with funds donated by the residents. The children's home places great importance on empowering the child and giving him the feeling that he is unique both on the personal and the group level. Therefore we celebrate a "special day" for each child at the Children's Home. Each group marks the special day in a slightly different way. There are those who associate it with the birthday and thus it is added to the birthday celebrations. On the other hand, there are groups in which the child receives an extra day, which is disconnected from the birthday, in which



the group concentrates on him and makes him feel special. The cake and the gift contribute to the sense of uniqueness that is so vital on this important and symbolic day.

Another event that has become a tradition is the annual year end counselors' meeting. As they do every year, the residents of Neve Ilan cooked, baked and delivered a delicious breakfast for the meeting which the counselors enjoyed immensely.

A Special Gift from our New friends at Bezeq

Following a visit to our campus by a Bezeq employee from the human resources department, this department decided they wanted to donate to the Children's Home and organized both a fun day for all the children and a complete makeover for one of the cottages.



The fun day was full of exciting activities, starting with a stand-up show and continued with challenging and fun stations; water slides, soap bubbles, tattoos, makeup, karaoke and more. 50 employees from Bezeq's human resources department organized and operated the different stations and joined the children for lunch in the dining hall at the end of this fun day. There was much excitement among the children, staff and Bezeq employees which lasted many days and culminated with their return for the renovation project. With the help of Nurit, a designer from Kookiya Branding and Strategy, and in consultation with the counselors of the group that was moving into the cottage, a colorful and refreshing concept was

formulated for the makeover. Bezeq ordered new furniture for the central space, re-padded all 17 stools, purchased paint for all the rooms and equipment to repair the staircase leading to the cottage. For two very intense days, 25 Bezeq employees worked hard painting, cleaning, assembling and fixing which brought about a complete transformation of the cottage. When they finished, the employees and the children who will benefit from the project sat together and the children thanked Bezeq personally. If anyone had any doubts about the purpose of the renovation, it was made clear by the words of gratitude and blessings of the children themselves, in their words: "You came on your own free time to do good for children you do not even know..." The children's heartfelt feelings gave everyone great



satisfaction. Thank you very much to Nurit from Kookiya Branding and Strategy for putting so much time and thought into the design of the cottage and thank you to the treasured employees of the human resources department at Bezeq for the generous contribution of equipment, furniture and manpower for the renovation.



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JHTC is committed to restoring to each at-risk boy and girl under our care their faith in themselves and their belief that the world is meant for them as well. The success of our highly personalized long term treatment program depends to a large extent on the generosity and support of our friends and supporters all over the world. Your support will make a real difference and a lasting impact

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