

An Opportunity to Give and to Receive







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Mission Statement

Yad Eliezer was founded on the premise that **every Jew in Israel is entitled to a life of dignity, self-reliance, and self-respect.** Established in 1980 with the single objective of delivering monthly food baskets to hungry families, Yad Eliezer has grown to encompass fifteen economic and social service programs that impact on the lives of over 18,000 families each year.

Yad Eliezer aims to **combat poverty on the individual, family, communal, and national levels** by providing critical short-term relief while simultaneously confronting the underlying causes of indigence, forging broad-based solutions that empower long-term financial and psychological stability. Each component of Yad Eliezer's comprehensive welfare system – which includes nationwide distribution of essential food, clothing, and household items, job training, and child mentoring programs – contributes towards the fulfillment of its **mandate to engender economic recovery and social development in Israel.**

While its roster of programs has expanded and its budget now exceeds \$22 million per year, Yad Eliezer's cadre of trained volunteers enables the organization to honor its commitment to limited overhead and minimal expenses while providing **personalized and professional assistance to hundreds of thousands** of our nation's neediest.

**From Director,
Yad Eliezer,
Israel**

Dear Friend of Yad Eliezer,

This has been a year of great achievement, and of even greater challenge, for all of us who are part of the Yad Eliezer family. As you read through the pages that follow, we hope you will take pride in learning more about the numerous ways in which we are creating solutions for the critical issues of Israel's needy population – programs that your partnership with us has made possible. Certainly, we have always been proud that Yad Eliezer is more than “just” a charity organization: **We are a worldwide network of members of Klal Israel working in unison to create better lives for Israel's neediest citizens.** It is you, our partners from across the globe, for whom a visit to Israel is not complete without contributing your energy and enthusiasm to packing and preparing food boxes at our Jerusalem warehouse, your children who collect canned goods throughout Israel, your schools who ship us thousands of pairs of second-hand shoes, your generosity of spirit that enables the success of our Feed-a-Baby, Adopt-a-Wedding, and Twin-a-Bar Mitzvah partnerships.

But as we go to press, **a major crisis has erupted in the non-profit world**, one that affects Yad Eliezer no less than other charity organizations throughout Israel. This crisis has little in particular to do with us, or even with Israel as a whole, but is the result of a complex set of unhappy circumstances that has resulted in a worldwide economic slowdown. First, **the U.S. dollar has fallen to a record low vis-à-vis Israel's currency.** The result: every dollar in donations we receive now has 25% less purchasing power than in the past. Add to that **the sudden escalation in world food prices**, itself due to the historic jump in oil prices (gas in Israel is now \$7.19 a gallon!) combined with the Australian drought and regional crop shortages, and you can readily understand the dilemma we face. Global food price increases disproportionately affect the economically weaker sectors, who spend a higher than average percentage of their income on food. The current situation is no exception. Now that basic foodstuffs cost more, poor Israelis can afford to buy even less. But while their need has increased, our ability to help is far less than usual as

our dollar donations continue to decrease in value.

The consequences have been damaging to the extreme. One example: As the result of our devalued funds, we were nearly forced to cut down our Baby Formula allotments for malnourished infants from six cans per month to just four. Only the generosity of one of our donors forestalled the need for such a devastating reduction in the nutritional supplementation we provide to our cadre of hungry babies.

But the challenges go on. And as we face them, we turn to you, our partners, for your ever-reliable cooperation with us in ensuring that the poor of Israel receive the assistance they need. Working together, we will continue to engender their progression from poverty and despair to hope and self-sufficiency. **We thank each and every one of you for being a part of this transformative partnership.**

With gratitude,

*Dov Weisel,
Jerusalem*



Israel Poverty Report 2007: The Poor Get Poorer



The good news for 2007 was: The Israeli economy continued to grow.

The bad news was: The rich are getting richer and the poor remain poor, while the overall number of poverty-stricken people continues to grow.

This was the conclusion of an Adva Institute report published at the close of 2007. The report further indicated that while unemployment has decreased, **the number of salaried workers considered poor rose to encompass 1 in every 5 Israeli employees.**

The main reason for such high growth failing to impact on the nation's lower-earning sectors is its unbalanced character. The economic growth of the last few years was concentrated in the hi-tech and financial sectors, while traditional industries, where most employees earn lower salaries, experienced almost no growth at all. In addition, the reported stated, the socio-economic policy that has guided the federal government in recent years has only increased these gaps in Israeli society. Even the gap between the very rich and the middle-class has widened tremendously. Salaries for the CEOs of Israel's 25 largest publicly-traded firms have increased from \$1 million a year in 2003 to \$2.5 million this year. Even the CEO of an "average" publicly-traded firm now earns 49 times the minimum wage and 22 times the national average. And while the mean monthly income



of Israel's top 10 percentile is over \$10,000, the average Israeli earns less than \$1,500 a month.

The result: The average Israeli will have to work full-time for twelve years before his cumulative pay equals the monthly salary of the CEO of a large firm.

While the salaries of the very rich continue to rise, the National Insurance Institute's annual poverty report announced more bad news for the less fortunate. Nearly 1 in 4 individuals – 1,674,800 people – in Israel lived below the poverty line in 2007. This includes almost 36%,

or 800,600, of Israel's children. **In the Jerusalem and Northern areas, that figure rises to 50% of children in each region living in poverty.**

Further characterization of the status of these children came from another report published at the end of 2007. This report, by the National Council for the Child, indicated that **twenty percent of Israeli children, around 420,000 of the nation's youth, received assistance from government welfare services.** This figure represents a 44% increase from 2001 – and a figure that continues to grow.

Can we expect to see an improvement in 2008?

Dr. Shlomo Savirsky, author of the Adva report, concluded: "Regrettably, the 2008 budget is of a type that reinforces the [negative] directions pointed in the report," and hence, **the plight of the poor is unlikely to be solved in the coming year.**

Indeed, as 2007 drew to an end and 2008 began,



the state of Israel's poor continued to deteriorate. This time, that deterioration was linked as much to the status of the world's economy as to any particular development within Israel itself.

The price of oil has risen throughout the first few months of 2008. Car owners must deal with gas prices that have recently peaked at \$7.15 a gallon! But the nation's poor, while not filling up their cars with gas, have nonetheless found themselves the victims of the shifting oil economy. When oil prices rise, transportation costs rise, food delivery costs rise, utility costs rise – in short, everything gets more expensive.

Combined with a worldwide shortage in major food staples, itself a consequence of several major droughts, natural disasters, and shifting uses of crop-growing areas, and Israel, like nations everywhere, has seen major increases in the price of food. Basic kitchen staples, including fish, chicken, oil, bread, pasta, rice, and basic cleaning products, have risen in price, as have water and electricity rates.

The cumulative effect of these national and international factors has been sadly predictable. As reported in a February 2008 report by the Welfare and Social Services Ministry, **Israel currently has 24,000 people eating in soup kitchens and 22,500 families forced to rely on others to feed them on a daily basis,** while close to one-third of the population cannot afford to buy essential food items.

As a result of this growing phenomenon of "nutritional insecurity" – the term defined in the U.S. as "a lack of continuous access to sufficient quantities of appropriate food that can ensure a healthy, active life and normal development" – the ministry found that **450,000 individuals annually rely on food aid from the approximately 500 non-profit organizations countrywide.** In short, nearly half a million people in a population of just 7 million are forced to turn to charity organizations in order to feed themselves and their families.

2007 POVERTY LINE BY SIZE OF FAMILY
(Income per year)

Number of Family Members	United States Poverty Line As per U.S. Department of Health & Human Services 2007	State of Israel Poverty Line As per Israel National Insurance Institute 2006/2007
1	\$10,210	\$5,897
2	\$13,690	\$9,433
3	\$17,170	\$12,501
4	\$20,650	\$15,095
5	\$24,130	\$17,689
6	\$27,610	\$20,047
7	\$31,090	\$22,405
8	\$34,570	\$24,528
9	\$38,050	\$26,415

**INCIDENCE OF POVERTY AMONG FAMILIES,
INDIVIDUALS, AND CHILDREN**
(after subsidies and taxes)

Sector	2005/2006 Percentage	2006/2007 Percentage
Families	20.2	20.5
Individuals	24.4	24.7
Children	35.2	35.9

Sector	2005/2006 Absolute Numbers	2006/2007 Absolute Numbers
Families	404,500	420,000
Individuals	1,630,100	1,674,800
Children	775,400	804,600

INCIDENCE OF POVERTY AMONG FAMILIES – BY TYPE OF FAMILY
(after subsidies and taxes)

Type of Family	Percentage
Elderly head of family	23.5
Families with children	25.9
Families with 1-3 children	18.8
Families with 4 or more children	60.0
Head of family employed	12.6
Head of family unemployed	68.9
Single-parent families	28.9
Total Average	20.5

INCIDENCE OF POVERTY BY REGION
(after subsidies and taxes)

Region	Families	Individuals	Children
Jerusalem	33.3	41.4	53.8
North	32.6	36.6	47.5
Haifa	19.5	22.5	33.7
Center	14.0	14.8	20.4
Tel Aviv	12.4	14.2	23.0
South	22.1	26.1	38.3
Total Average	20.5	24.7	35.9



Thanks! Keep up the good work! Looking forward to coming again!



This organization is seriously amazing! Thank you so much for helping so many people!



Thank you tons for the opportunity you've given us.



You are a great organization. Thanks! Keep up the Great work!



We love helping at Yad Eliezer! Thank you for all that you do!



Awesome! Thank you for the opportunity! It was a blast!

Feeding Hungry Families: A Yad Eliezer Global Partnership

Yad Eliezer began in 1980 in the kitchen of the Weisel family of Jerusalem, when Rabbi Yaakov and Hadassah Weisel prepared a basket of food for a neighbor who could not feed her children. Today, Yad Eliezer is the largest anti-hunger agency in Israel, with an annual budget of over \$22 million that is applied towards the provision of food, as well as other essential programs and services, to 18,000 Jewish families nationwide.

But as we have expanded our mandate to include a range of financial and social service programs, we have never lost sight of Yad Eliezer's raison d'être: Feeding Hungry Families. Indeed, 35% of our annual budget is dedicated to the provision of food – basic items, produce, prepared meals, baby formula, and holiday staples – to those who need it most. Our fundamental goal remains to ensure that no Jewish child in Israel grows up without the vital nourishment he needs to mature and develop. And nowhere is the power and presence of our thousands of volunteers more critical, and more evident, than in their partnership with us in making that goal a reality.

How? And Why?

Government data reports that **one in five Israeli families now lives below the poverty line**, including **more than one in every three children** throughout the country. **In the country's Jerusalem and Northern regions, 50% of children are living in poverty.** These incomprehensible statistics boil down to a single word: **Hunger.**

But Yad Eliezer is combating that hunger with our national network of food distribution to those who need it most. Each month, 7,300 families in nearly 30 Israeli cities receive a Yad Eliezer food box. These “magic boxes”

contain a range of essential pantry staples, including oil, flour, beans, rice, peanut butter, crackers, and “treats,” sufficient to satisfy the needs of an average family for one month.

The goal is a noble one; the logistics are potentially overwhelming. To maintain this level of distribution means that every day, hundreds of boxes need to be packed, sealed, stacked, and sent out to their respective destinations. The potential expenses of such a massive operation, especially on a regular basis, could easily bankrupt us. So how do we do it?

You make it happen.

Every day, our warehouse, with its mile-high food-filled shelves, is packed with high school, seminary, and yeshiva students, visitors from Argentina to Arizona to Australia, synagogue missions, bar and bat mitzvah celebrants, IDF soldiers, summer campers, Birthright participants – in a word, everyone. The diversity of the worldwide Jewish community is reflected in the panoramic spectrum of volunteers who visit the Yad Eliezer warehouse with a single aim: to give help to their fellow Jews in need. Together, they provide incalculable assistance for multitudes of hungry families throughout Israel.

And do they ever have fun while they're at it! Walk into the warehouse any ordinary day, and you'll hear the shouts and the laughter echoing through the twenty-foot-high ceilings, as young and old, men and women, boys and girls, families and groups, share the camaraderie and enthusiasm that erupts naturally from the knowledge that you have done something today, something that truly matters, something that will change a life.

Our devoted volunteers leave with smiles on their faces knowing that the boxes they have packed are now on their way to cities and towns throughout Israel, to the families who are waiting, anxiously, on the other end, for what you – our friends and partners – have prepared for them.'

On their behalf, and ours, thank you.





It feels so amazing to know that because of us, everyone will have food this shabbos.



You've touched my heart. Thank you!



Thank you very much for giving us the opportunity to make a difference. Good work!



We had a great time. Making others happy make us happy.



Awesome job. Keep up the good work!



This experience made our day! We hope to come back soon and bring more friends.

OUR WAREHOUSE VISITORS ARE FROM...

U.S.

Arizona
Florida
Maryland
Minnesota
New York
Rhode Island

California
Georgia
Massachusetts
Missouri
Ohio
Tennessee

Connecticut
Illinois
Michigan
New Jersey
Pennsylvania
Virginia

Canada

Cote St. Luc, Quebec
Hull, Quebec
Richmond, BC Canada
Toronto, Ontario

ESC, Quebec
Montreal, Quebec
St. Laurent, Quebec
Unionville, Ontario

Hampstead, Quebec
Quebec, Quebec
Thornhill, Ontario
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Israel

Beit Shemesh
Jerusalem
Ramat Beit Shemesh

Efrat
Kochav Yaakov

Hashmonaim
Modi'in Ilit

South Africa

Johannesburg

England

London
Manchester
Middlesex

Australia

Coolbinia, Western Australia
Melbourne, Australia
Perth, Western Australia
Yokine, Western Australia

Mexico

Mexico City

Switzerland

Geneva

Brazil

Rio de Janeiro

Austria

Vienna

Argentina

Belgium

Antwerp



It's amazing to make such a difference in someone else's life! Thanks for giving us this opportunity!

5,000 volunteers visited the warehouse in 2007.
Join this partnership – make your trip to Israel a more meaningful one!

Want to join in the action? Make the Yad Eliezer warehouse a part of your next visit!
This is a wonderful way to incorporate a volunteer element into your trip and to demonstrate to your children

the importance of helping others – even on vacation.
So...
Take two hours out of your next visit to Israel, and be part of an experience that will change a needy family's life – and your own.

- To arrange for your...**
- Family**
 - Synagogue**
 - School group**
 - Summer camp**
 - Bar/bat mitzvah party**
 - Youth group**
 - Mission to Israel...**

To volunteer at the Yad Eliezer warehouse, contact us now at: volunteers@yadeliezer.org
We look forward to seeing you there!



We admire your dedicated work – kol hakavod



Thanks so much for including us in this mitzvah!!



An experience to always take with us.



It felt very good giving to Israel!



Programs & Partnerships: Yad Eliezer 2007 Activities

Yad Eliezer began in 1980 with its now-famous food boxes.

In the nearly 30 years since, we have never lost sight of our original objective: to guarantee basic sustenance to Israel's neediest. But as we have grown and developed, we have found it critical to expand the definition of "sustenance" to include a range of services beyond the mere provision of a box of indispensable food items. We identified the critical fact that food distribution, while essential, can on its own breed a cycle of dependence and unravel the already frayed self-esteem of the economically disadvantaged. To counter these potential repercussions, Yad Eliezer developed a three-part system – **Feeding Hungry Families, Social Services, and Celebrations** – that seeks to achieve its more far-reaching goal: **to relieve the immediate need of Israel's poorest families while simultaneously empowering them to break through the vicious cycle of poverty and achieve self-sufficiency.**

How does Yad Eliezer realize these aims? Through its litany of **Programs and Partnerships**. Yad Eliezer's roster of **Programs** has been methodically designed to combat poverty at its root, offering short-term relief to every family in need, while facilitating long-term recovery on the individual and national level. But each program succeeds in working at its most effective and fiscally efficient only through the many **Partnerships** forged with our tens of thousands of generous friends from around the world. We are grateful for the cooperation of our friends in our range of partnerships, including the Produce Partnership, in which dozens of Israeli farmers donate up to a million dollars worth of surplus produce to their fellow citizens; and the Twin-a-Bar Mitzvah Partnership, which

FEEDING HUNGRY FAMILIES

enables bar mitzvah boys around the world to twin with a boy in Israel in honor of their own coming-of-age. Then we have the Job Employment program, emergency loan funds, Holiday packages, and the list goes on...

We are particularly grateful for the recent endowments you have given us, endowments which have made it possible to expand the range of our services even further. These include Kol Kallah, Birchas Rachel, and the Frances Gindi Bridal Fund, which, in addition to the ever-popular Adopt-a-Wedding Partnership of the Gitty Perkowski Simcha Fund, have made it possible to give tens of thousands of couples a proud and dignified start to their married lives. The long-standing Keren Yaakov Zev Orphan Support Services and our newer Chonon & Miriam Vim Widows and Orphans Fund have provided us with greater capacity to assist some of the most tragic cases in the low-income sector. Working families facing unexpected crises continue to benefit from small but targeted loans and grants from the Keren Yisroel Mordechai Emergency Fund. And our hallmark Yad Zvi Baruch Big Sisters program, and its partner Big Brothers program, which provide adult mentors for the most emotionally neglected of our youthful citizens, are literally changing the face of Israeli society, one child at a time.

Read on for more details of the programs we offer and the partnerships you provide.

Keren Eliyahu Feed-a-Baby Program

The Yad Eliezer Keren Eliyahu Feed-a-Baby Program began one morning in 1989. That was the day we met Ora. Ora was unable to nurse, and so had turned to baby formula – an item far beyond the food budget for an impoverished mother of three. To postpone having to purchase any more, she kept watering down the



remaining powder. Finally, she brought her severely malnourished baby to us and begged for our help.

We found many more mothers diluting infant formula to forestall the need for the next can... And so our baby food program was born.

Today, Yad Eliezer's Feed-a-Baby Program is the only program in Israel that cares specifically for those infants whose mothers are unable to nurse but cannot afford to purchase formula. These babies suffer increased risk of serious developmental challenges that can result from poor nutrition. We provide our 2,350 infant recipients in 27 cities with the nourishment necessary to ensure their complete physical and mental development during the critical first months of life, enabling them to grow up into healthy and happy children.

Surplus Produce Partnership

This program represents a unique partnership: between Yad Eliezer and the farmers of Israel. Both individual farmers and Israel's major agricultural cooperatives have chosen to join with us in donating their excess fruits and vegetables, the surplus produce they would otherwise destroy to avoid flooding the market, to the country's many citizens who can not afford their purchase.

One million dollars worth of produce – melons, tomatoes, avocados, peppers, oranges, potatoes, onions, and more – is donated directly to 9,000 poor families each year. Yad Eliezer's fleet of refrigerated trucks traverses the country round-the-clock picking up farmers' excess produce and bringing these nutritious deliveries to families throughout the country.

We are particularly proud of this program because it costs so little and



is such a testament to the innate goodness of the many generous people throughout the country who have chosen to join the Yad Eliezer Produce Partnership.

Michyat Sara Meals-on-Wheels Program

Thousands of elderly and disabled men and women live lives of lonely poverty. They sit alone in bare rooms, hoping for the sound that will alleviate the emptiness of their hunger and the pain of their solitude: a knock on the door. Yad Eliezer became determined to answer their silent cry. Today, our Homebound Delivery Program provides regular meals to over 350 homebound and elderly individuals each day, as well as delicious Shabbat meals to an additional 350 families each week.



SOCIAL SERVICES

Big Brothers/Yad Zvi Baruch Big Sisters Program

In 2007, 36% of the nation's juvenile population – 804,600 children – lived beneath the poverty line. These children are far more likely to suffer from untreated emotional or learning disabilities, parental neglect, or abuse. A disproportionate number also grow up with an “absentee parent,” a parent (usually the father) who is not present physically due to divorce, death, imprisonment, or abandonment, or one who remains emotionally unavailable due to physical disability, mental illness, or substance abuse.



The result: Thousands of children in Israel today subsist in unstable family environments with parents unable or unwilling to guide them as they grow. These boys and girls need help to remain in a constructive framework – off the streets and in school – so as to gain the tools they need to build productive lives. To achieve these goals, we established our Big Brothers program in 1999; in 2003, the Yad Zvi Baruch Big Sisters Program, which memorializes a unique individual and his concern for youth, was launched for at-risk girls.

Applicants are referred by school principals and local social service organizations and are carefully screened to ensure their suitability for the program. Careful use of funds – nearly 90% of the 2007 budget went directly towards subsidies for individual mentors – has enabled the program to remain highly cost efficient. Furthermore, the program's proven success has motivated most municipalities to contribute 25% of the cost of providing the Big Brother/Sister to eligible children in their community. We rely on foundations and individual friends of Yad Eliezer to help subsidize the remaining costs, as we strive to include ever more of the children on our waiting list.

Yad Eliezer's Child Mentoring Program today provides supportive adult mentors to over 4,300 children from low-income, single-parent homes in 31 cities nationwide, empowering them to overcome their challenging circumstances and succeed, now and in the future.



The Shalhevet Initiative

Building on the success of the Big Brother/Big Sister program, Yad Eliezer established the Shalhevet Initiative, which provides on-site remedial education to low-income yeshiva elementary students with learning disabilities. In our work with children from disadvantaged backgrounds, we gained insight into the educational challenges particularly prevalent among this sector, specifically, the

disproportionate number of students suffering from reading and other learning difficulties. These discoveries pointed clearly to the need for a preventative program targeted to the underprivileged student population.

This year, we provided on-site remedial education, within 12 schools that are not government funded for this type of program, to approximately 150 academically challenged low-income students in grades 1 through 5, with the aim of thus preventing the development of more serious educational, emotional, and behavioral problems later on and the concomitant need for such services as our Big Brother/Big Sister Program. Such early and effective treatment empowers our students with the scholastic, personal, and social success necessary for a future of achievement as creative and contributing citizens of Israeli society.

Job Training Program

Yad Eliezer aims to foster dignity and self-reliance among Israel's disadvantaged sectors, to empower those we aid to support their families without assistance. However, many of these individuals lack the skills and education essential for gainful employment.

Yad Eliezer's Employment Opportunity Program affords men and women the opportunity to study such specialized fields as law, business management, computers, banking, marriage counseling, hydrotherapy, and social work, with potential for dignified employment, empowering them to make the dream of self-sufficiency a reality. Job placement counselors then assist graduates of the program in finding suitable positions. Careful screening of applicants and the high motivation of the participants have



given us a retention rate of nearly 100%.

In 2007, 500 individuals were enrolled in Yad Eliezer's Job Training program, at a cost of about \$600,000 for the year.



Emergency Fund

For parents working full-time just to put food on the table, an unexpected emergency often emerges as the decisive force that propels the family into total crisis and chaos. A relatively small but well-placed sum can serve to stave off a spiraling situation and prevent the onset of a debilitating financial situation.

With this in mind, Yad Eliezer established an emergency fund to deal with one-time crises, ranging from medical and dental emergencies, unpaid rent and utility bills, and purchase of essential appliances

and household items. But every case shares a common factor:

these are not ongoing circumstances but single occurrences that must be addressed immediately to assure the continued and positive functioning of the family unit. Our ability to provide this critical assistance is aided by the generous endowment of **Keren Yisroel Mordechai**, which provides part of this funding. Yad Eliezer dispensed approximately \$5,397,492 in emergency grants and loans during 2007.

Widows & Orphans Assistance Funds

Keren Chonon & Miriam Vim Widows & Orphans Fund – In 2006, a group of family and friends decided to memorialize their



beloved Elchonon & Miriam Vim, a couple of tremendous kindness and compassion whose greatest love was to help those in need. The Chonon & Miriam Vim Fund provides stipends of \$500 or \$1000 to widows, divorcées, and orphans, giving much-needed assistance to single parents and their children.

Keren Almanos – This special fund augments our ability to aid a most disadvantaged sector of Israeli society by serving as a direct support system for widows and orphans. Currently 170 bereaved families are receiving monthly subsidies through the Keren Almanos, providing them with a measure of financial security as they struggle to rebuild their lives and homes.

Keren Yaakov Zev Orphan Support Services – Jack (Yaakov Zev) Fogel was a legend in his time. He was an incredible man who had a particularly soft spot for children who had lost a parent.

Among Yad Eliezer's 18,000 families are over 500 whose children have experienced the death of their mother or father, or of both parents. They don't require much – only the basic necessities of life: food and love. Our Orphan Support Services provide more than just financial aid. The Fund coordinates the range of economic, medical, and psychological services these children need to ensure that they are able to grow and thrive.

Tzefat Dental Clinic

As rockets hailed down on northern Israel during the 2006 Lebanon War II, Yad Eliezer played a prominent role in providing food and care to both soldiers and civilians across the embattled region. In the months following the war, Yad Eliezer remained “on the front,” helping families to reconstruct their lives and overcome the traumas of the conflict period.

But that wasn't all. Yad Eliezer resolved to transform this episode of great challenge into an opportunity for growth and development.



The war had uncovered the “secret” of severe poverty rampant throughout the North, and Yad Eliezer took advantage of the newfound governmental and philanthropic interest in the region to establish a series of long-term social welfare programs. One of our major achievements to date has been the establishment of the Yad Eliezer Tzefat Free Dental Clinic.

In March 2007, the inauguration ceremony for the Dental Clinic took place. The ceremony marked the beginning of a unique partnership between the city of Tzefat, which donated the building and exempted Yad Eliezer from future tax and utility payments; one of Israel's health funds, which provides the dentists (whom Yad Eliezer pays); and Yad Eliezer itself.

As 2007 drew to a close, the dental clinic was in full force, with 8,000 visits over the course of the year. Every one of the thousands of children who came for treatment received the necessary dental care absolutely free, while adults paid just \$5.00 a visit.

Zichron Baila Shoe Lift Partnership

This program is another example of how Yad Eliezer coordinates between those who have much to give and those who need so desperately to receive. It represents a partnership with schools across America, giving children and their families an opportunity to do an “easy mitzvah” – one that teaches the children the value of what they have and the importance of recognizing that while they take certain “necessities” for granted, other children may not quite be so fortunate.



Yad Eliezer's Zichron Baila Fund coordinates the Shoe-Lift Partnership in schools throughout the United States. Children bring in their used (but still serviceable) shoes, along with a small donation to pay for the shipping costs. These shoes are then transported to Israel where they begin a new life on the feet of children whose parents cannot afford to buy them shoes.

CELEBRATIONS

Gitty Perkowski Simcha Fund/Adopt-a-Wedding Partnership

Since its inception, the **Gitty Perkowski Simcha Fund** has catered simple yet elegant weddings for couples who could not afford to host a celebration of their own. Through our **Adopt-a-Wedding Partnership**, the budget for these weddings, about 500 each year – over 10,000 to date – is covered primarily by the many newlyweds from around the world who opt to sponsor a wedding in Israel in honor of their own. This partnership is a prime example of the unique cooperation that exists between Yad Eliezer's services in Israel and the greater Jewish community. We at Yad Eliezer “host” the weddings in one of our halls, while the festive celebrations themselves depend on the generosity of our friends around the world who choose to share their joy by sponsoring a wedding in Israel in honor of their own special day.

Wedding Funds

In recent years, devoted friends of Yad Eliezer have endowed additional programs that aim to help needy couples receive a joyful start to their new lives together. They are:

- Kol Kallah Bridal Vouchers Program** – provides upwards of 100 brides annually with vouchers towards the purchase of appliances, kitchenware, and linens at Yad Gittel, a non-profit discount housewares center in Jerusalem, while each bride receives the name of her donor so that she can pray for him/her under the *chuppah*;
- Birchas Rachel Chasan Fund** – presenting each



groom-to-be – 150 throughout the past year – with a dignified new *kittel* and *tallis* to wear, first at his wedding, and then throughout the years to come;

Frances Gindi Bridal Fund – offering much-needed cash grants for poor brides, with 20 to 25 brides receiving grants of \$500, \$1,000 or \$1,500 each year.

Bar Mitzvah Twinning Partnership

Parents making a wedding are not the only ones who struggle to mark the significant milestones in their children's lives. For hundreds of boys in Israel whose parents are forced to choose between a pair of *tefillin* for their son and food for the whole family, an upcoming Bar Mitzvah provides much reason to worry but little reason to celebrate.

In answer to this need, Yad Eliezer launched the Bar Mitzvah Twinning Partnership, which enables Bar Mitzvah boys from around the world to “twin” with their 13-year-old counterparts in Israel. With 60 Bar Mitzvahs celebrated during 2007, this program continues to give young men and their families the opportunity to make *tzedakah* a fundamental element of their own event, while giving each needy boy in Israel his very first pair of *tefillin* – and a reason to celebrate.

Shabbat & Holiday Funds

Holiday Distribution Program – Everyone deserves a special treat at holiday time. But Israel's poorest families long ago learned to face the disappointing reality that there would be nothing special on their Yom Tov



plates. Until Yad Eliezer stepped in. Last year, we distributed our *packages of joy*: 275 tons of chickens – up to ten chickens per household – along with vouchers redeemable for *matzah*, wine and other delicacies, to tens of thousands of needy families throughout Israel, enabling them to celebrate the holidays with dignity and delight.


Apple Pie Fund/Chicken for Shabbat Program – For Israel's poor families struggling to make ends meet, a chicken on Shabbat is often beyond the means of their meager budget. Yad Eliezer determined that for just a small sum each week, we could instill hundreds of homes with an atmosphere of Shabbat serenity and joy.

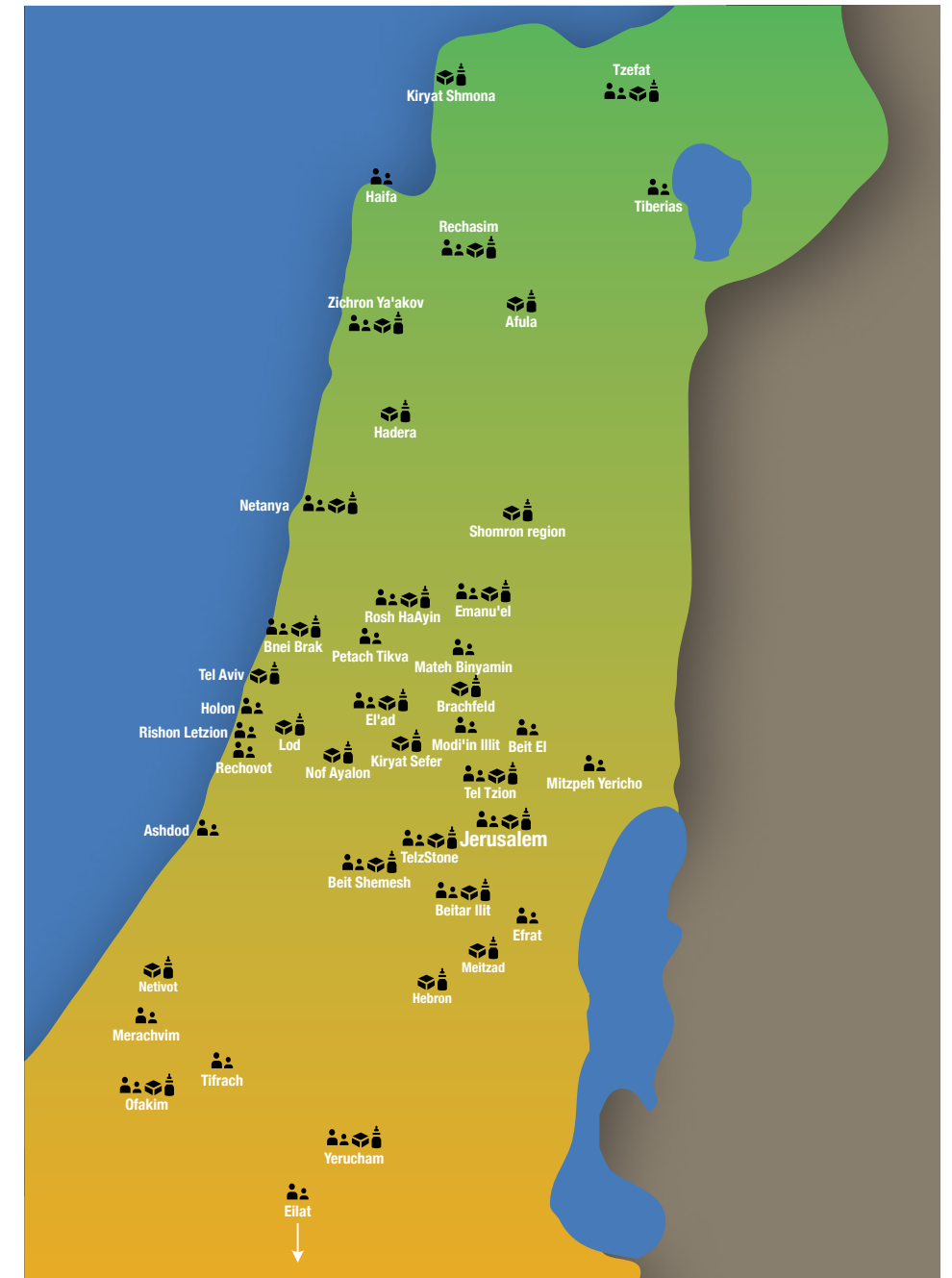
Much of our funding for the Chicken Program comes from the Apple Pie Fund of Baltimore and Minneapolis. This fund is meant to commemorate a very special grandmother, Mrs. Sarah Landesman, who baked apple pies for the poor of her community in McKeesport, Pennsylvania. With the help of her dedicated family and friends, we currently deliver



our edible “gifts” to over 500 needy families – a total of more than 1,000 chickens distributed throughout Israel each week!

Yad Eliezer's services span the width and breadth of the land of Israel, from Tzefat in the north to Eilat in the south, helping families in need in nearly 100 communities around the country.

-  Monthly Food Boxes
-  Baby Formula
-  Big Brother/Sister



Yad Eliezer is the largest food relief organization in Israel, supported by the donations of caring individuals.

Featured Program: Food Boxes
Feeding hungry families with monthly essentials

One-third of Israeli children lives below the "poverty line" Yad Eliezer responds with 100,000 food boxes of essentials for a hungry family- rice, pasta, flour, oil and more.

The Red Wagon
2-minute film

CLICK TO PLAY

Yes - you can dance at two weddings!
Sponsor a Yad Eliezer wedding for a needy couple in Israel

News & Events

Tournaments for a Wonderful Cause
Sometimes doing great things and having an incredible time go hand-in-hand! This summer, the Jersey Shore was host to 3 tournaments that raised significant amounts of tzedaka for Yad Eliezer - funds that were used to feed thousands of families throughout Israel.

Milka's Corner

Adding Light to their Lives
It was soon after Esther's husband divorced her, leaving her to raise six children on her own, that she was diagnosed with cancer. She had struggled since then, trying to provide for her children's basic needs despite the challenges of her medical condition.

Are You... In The Picture?

Family Fun at Yad Eliezer this Summer
Families from all across the US have made time during their vacations here in Israel to visit Yad Eliezer's warehouse. This week, families from Harrison, Teaneck and Toronto packed boxes which were sent out to needy families throughout Israel.

Donate Now

Yad Eliezer Annual Report

Yad Eliezer 30

American Friends of Yad Eliezer has received the highest 4-star rating from **Charity Navigator**, America's largest independent evaluator of charities.

Home | What we do | Who we are | Give now | Contact Us

Bringing Yad Eliezer to the World Bringing the World to Yad Eliezer

www.yadeliezer.org

In today's day and age everyone seems to be surfing. No matter what the weather is outside, no matter what time of day or night it is, everyone is surfing. They are surfing from the comfort of their homes, in their offices, while sipping their hot drink in a coffee shop, on the train, in fact in nearly every imaginable place – and they are surfing without getting wet! In the current techno-communication age, cyberspace, the home of the Internet, has become the place where everyone goes, and by extension, where everyone needs to be. For any individual, organization or business who wants global coverage, the Internet is the place to create a presence, as one's webpage on the "net" becomes the primary form of introduction for millions of people throughout the world.

We at Yad Eliezer are proud of our web presence.

www.yadeliezer.org is a comprehensive website with inviting graphics that encourages all visitors to feel welcome, to come inside and take a look around, and to become part of the Yad Eliezer family. The website is constantly being updated to ensure that the site's tens of thousands of visitors are kept up to date with Yad Eliezer news and happenings and to give exposure to as many aspects of Yad Eliezer as possible. And those visitors keep on coming! Over the past year we have seen an incredible increase of visitors to our site, with a total of nearly 3 million hits over the course of 2007!

Join us now for a behind-the-scenes look at Yad Eliezer on the web:

Home Page

Typing in www.yadeliezer.org will bring you to our homepage. There you can get an overview of all that is new and exciting here in the world of Yad Eliezer! Viewing opportunities include:

Featured Program

This feature rotates so as to constantly highlight a different one of the many programs of Yad Eliezer. “Clicking” through the illustration will lead you into the site’s What We Do section. There you can gain insight into the many aspect of the current feature, including the need for such services and how Yad Eliezer is helping to find solutions.

News & Events

This is the section that enables you and all our other site visitors to keep up with what’s going on at Yad Eliezer. Here we aim to keep you up-to-date with happenings throughout the world of Yad Eliezer, in Israel and around the globe. Discover who were the lucky winners of our last raffle campaign, just how many children were warmed this winter by our Coats for Kids campaign, and Yad Eliezer’s forays into the world media.

Milka’s Corner

A very popular feature of our site! The Milka in the title is our very own Milka Ben Zimun, who is usually the first to visit a family when they cry out to Yad Eliezer in distress. This one-woman powerhouse has seen and heard many tales of utter desolation. However it is her unremitting dedication that brings hope even in truly desperate-seeming situations. Thanks to Milka’s efforts – and the thousands of site visitors who read her stories and join in her efforts to bring hope and help to those who need it most – many of these desperate cases ultimately have happy endings.



Are You... In the Picture?

Yes, you too could be famous! You could find your photograph on the Yad Eliezer website – right here on the home page. All you have to do is volunteer – as do hundreds of groups and families each year – to pack food boxes at the Yad Eliezer warehouse in Jerusalem. In this section we feature online photo

albums of the men, women and children who visit our warehouse each day. These albums serve as a great memento for those who posed, packed and smiled. Once you’ve been a volunteer, check out the website to find out: Are You in the Picture? And you won’t be the only one to enjoy your newfound fame. No matter where they may be, family and friends from around the world can see the fun you were having – and the good work you were doing – just by coming to our site and clicking on the album.

Multi-Media Center

This handy feature on our website is one that allows Yad Eliezer to come alive for our visitors. Let’s begin with the Interactive Map of Israel: Simply roll your mouse over one of the points, each representing one of the many communities where Yad Eliezer is active, and you will get a listing of which Yad Eliezer programs operate there. Then move over to the Audio Slide Show for an overview on the multi-faceted approaches Yad Eliezer is using to combat poverty and assist individuals and families in breaking that most vicious cycle. Back on the homepage, don’t miss the “Red Wagon!” Our popular 2-minute film, with over 13,000 viewers this year, is a very special mini-movie on giving and receiving.

Inside Our Site

Within the site itself, you can learn even more about Yad Eliezer – and how you can partner with us in making our goals a reality.



Clicking on the **What We Do** tab brings you to a comprehensive list of all of our activities. You can “roll over” any program with your mouse to learn more about Yad Eliezer’s efforts in that area, be it Food, Social Services or Celebrations, and how we are bringing relief to Israel’s needy families through our own “web” of support and empowerment programs.

Who We Are will give you all the background you want about Yad Eliezer. Check out **In the Press** and see the international media coverage given to Yad Eliezer’s critical work. For those who like to “crunch numbers,” the **Numbers & Success** section breaks

down what we do into a range of key figures, while **Poverty in Israel** gives the background that explains just why our help is needed so urgently in the first place.

Here too you can find the archives for our readers’ favorite sections – **News & Events**, **Milka’s Story**, and **In the Picture**. So just in case you missed out on an album or update, click here to go back in time and find out everything you’ve missed.

Finally, having surfed to your heart’s content, and read in depth about all that we do and all that we are, we hope you’ll complete your virtual visit in the **Give Now** section. You can choose to make a general contribution, which we will channel into the project that needs it most, or you can choose the program you deem particularly relevant or significant. A range of sponsorship opportunities and donation options are available for each program category. Of course, the highest level of security is maintained to protect your privacy and financial information. With that in mind, what could be an easier way to give than via the website? No phone calls to make, no envelopes to mail – just the knowledge that you have provided your fellow Jews in Israel with the help they need. So without further ado...

Visit the Yad Eliezer website today – www.yadeliezer.org

Facts & Figures: Yad Eliezer 2007

Item	2007 Figure
How many programs does Yad Eliezer have?	15
How many families received assistance?	18,000
What was the annual budget?	\$22 million
How many volunteers helped Yad Eliezer this year?	Over 12,000
What was the value of our donated goods and services?	\$1.95 million
FEEDING HUNGRY FAMILIES	
How many families received food each month through our Food Boxes program?	7,300
How many food boxes were delivered?	80,300
What was the value of each food box?	\$55 at 2007 retail prices
In how many cities?	27
What was the annual cost of the Food Box program?	\$2,515,266
How many families received baby formula each month from the Keren Eliyahu Feed-a-Baby program?	2,350
How many cans per month do they receive?	6
What is the cost per can?	\$4/can, at wholesale prices
Cans distributed per year	150,000
In how many cities?	27
Annual cost of Baby Formula program?	\$585,489
How many families received produce through our Surplus Produce Partnership?	9,000
What was the total value of distributed produce?	\$1 million
How many people received Meals-on-Wheels?	350 individuals daily + 350 families (approximately 1,200 people) weekly
What was the value of each meal?	\$50 per family per week
Annual cost of Meals-on-Wheels program?	\$755,185

Item	2007 Figure
SOCIAL SERVICES	
How many Big Brothers/Sisters were there in the Big Brothers/Yad Zvi Baruch Big Sisters program?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3,800 Big Brothers • 500 Big Sisters
In how many places?	31
Annual cost of Big Brothers/Big Sisters program?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Big Brothers – \$3.7 million • Big Sisters – \$339,000
Municipality contribution	25%
Remaining cost/child	\$1,300
Age range of participants	8-13
How many students were enrolled in the Shalhevet Initiative?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jerusalem – 94 • Beitar – 45
How many individuals were enrolled in Job Training?	500
Which professions did they study?	Law, business management, computers, banking, marriage counseling, hydrotherapy, and social work
Annual cost of Job Training program?	\$579,452
How much money was distributed through the Emergency Fund and Keren Yisroel Mordechai?	\$5,397,492
How many patients visited the Tzefat Dental Clinic?	8,000
What is the charge per patient?	Children are free; adults pay \$5 a visit
Celebrations	
How many weddings were made this year through the Gitty Perkowski Simcha Fund/ Adopt-a-Wedding Partnership?	550
How many total weddings have been made to date?	About 11,000
Number of YE wedding halls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 in Jerusalem (2 owned by Yad Eliezer and 2 where Yad Eliezer has hosting privileges) • 2 more being built in Bnei Brak

Item	2007 Figure
How many couples benefited from our Wedding Funds?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kol Kallah Bridal Vouchers Program – approximately 100 • Birchas Rachel Chasan Fund – approximately 150 • Frances Gindi Bridal Fund – 20-25
How many Bar Mitzvahs were made this year through the Bar Mitzvah Twinning Partnership?	60
How many tons of chickens were distributed during the 2007 holiday periods as part of our Holiday Distribution Program?	Rosh Hashana: 125 Pesach: 150 Total: 275 tons
At what cost?	Rosh Hashana: \$500,000 Pesach: \$600,000 Total: \$1.1 millions
How many families received these chickens and other delicacies?	Rosh Hashana: 10,000 Pesach: 12,000 Total: 22,000
How many families received chicken each week through our Chicken for Shabbat program?	500
How many chickens were distributed?	Over 1,000 chickens/week
What were the 2007 costs for the weekly chicken distribution?	\$464,725



ContactUs:

We invite you to join the Yad Eliezer Family...

If you wish to:	Email:
Make a contribution to benefit Yad Eliezer programming	contributions@yadeliezer.org
Sponsor a particular project	contributions@yadeliezer.org
Adopt-a-Wedding or Twin-a-Bar Mitzvah	weddings@yadeliezer.org barmitzvah@yadeliezer.org
Feed-a-Baby	babies@yadeliezer.org
Support a Big Brother/Big Sister partnership	rafi@yadeliezer.org
Enroll your school in the Shoe-Lift partnership	sori@yadeliezer.org
Arrange for your family or group to volunteer at our Jerusalem Warehouse	volunteers@yadeliezer.org
Organize a Yad Eliezer fundraiser in your local area	volunteers@yadeliezer.org
Receive further information on any aspect of Yad Eliezer	info@yadeliezer.org

You can also contact the Yad Eliezer office nearest you:

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Contact us through our website: www.yadeliezer.org

The financial and hands-on support we receive from our friends worldwide enables Yad Eliezer to continue our vast array of programs that aid over 12,000 families each year.

Join the Yad Eliezer Family today!

Looking Forward....

Looking back at 2007, we can say: Much has been accomplished. Ever so much more remains to be achieved. With the support of some of Yad Eliezer's most generous friends, this year saw the initiation and expansion of several important ventures. Some highlights of the year include:

Our Dental Clinic in Tzefat is now in full force, with 8,000 visits over the course of 2007. As always, kids see the dentist for free, while adults pay just \$5.00 a visit!

The Shalhevet Initiative, our unique program that provides mainstreamed remedial assistance to disadvantaged children with learning disabilities, has since expanded to encompass 237 students in schools – and we can barely keep up with the constant calls to expand even further.

Finally, by popular demand, we are in the process of building two new wedding halls, as we aim to accommodate the endless requests we receive and provide an increasing number of affordable celebration options for Israeli couples.

In 2008, Yad Eliezer is continuing to confront the challenges of a fluctuating global economy, doing our best to ensure that Israel's needy do not suffer because of worldwide food shortages, price increases, and currency instability. Our goal remains, as always, to expand and develop creative approaches to the multiple and diverse challenges of poverty and so fulfill our mission of enabling the poor to achieve lives of dignity, pride, and self-respect.

In 2009, who knows? Perhaps there won't be a need for us anymore. But so long as we're needed, we'll be there.

Wishing you the best in this and all the coming years.

Sori Tropper,
Chair, American Friends of Yad Eliezer
New York

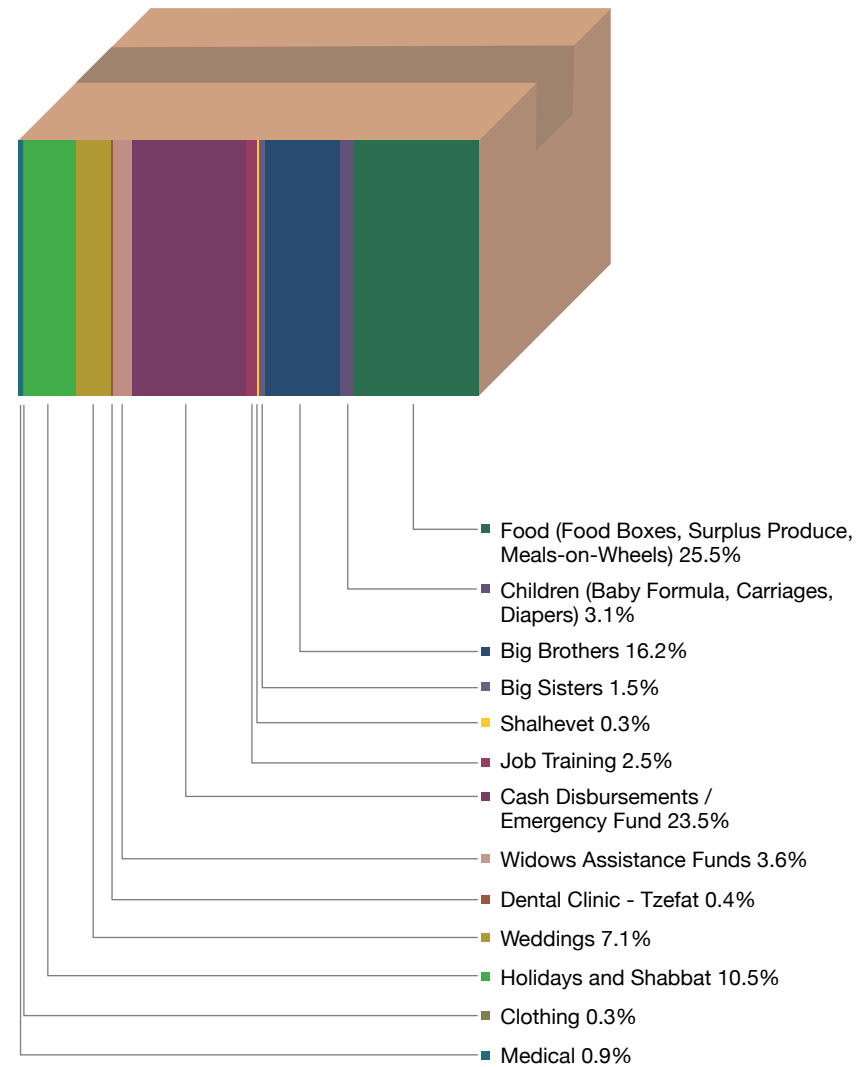
2007 Income Statement

<i>Income</i>	<i>USD</i>	<i>%</i>
Income Israel	3,225,928	15.2%
Income Overseas	11,833,981	55.8%
Income Big Brothers/Sisters Israel	975,875	4.6%
Income Big Brothers/Sisters Overseas	2,572,631	12.1%
Income Weddings	633,348	3.0%
Income Non-cash	1,950,000	9.2%
Total Income	21,191,763	100.0%
Operating Expenses		
Food (Food Boxes, Surplus Produce, Meals-on-Wheels)	5,852,138	25.5%
Children (Baby Formula, Carriages, Diapers)	715,155	3.1%
Big Brothers	3,706,419	16.2%
Big Sisters	339,000	1.5%
Shalhevet	70,993	0.3%
Job Training	579,452	2.5%
Cash Disbursements/ Emergency Fund	5,397,492	23.5%
Widows Assistance Funds	818,301	3.6%
Dental Clinic - Tzefat	87,073	0.4%
Weddings	1,637,382	7.1%
Holidays and Shabbat	2,400,275	10.5%
Clothing	78,879	0.3%
Medical	213,463	0.9%
Sub-total Program Expenditures	21,896,022	95.5%
G & A Expenses	1,028,247	4.5%
Total Expenses	22,924,269	100.0%
Surplus / (Deficit)	(1,732,506)	-8.2%



American Friends of Yad Eliezer has received a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, America's largest independent evaluator of charities.

Expenses 2007



**State of Israel
Authorization**

Translation:

**State of Israel
Ministry of Justice
Office of Non-Profit
Authorization**

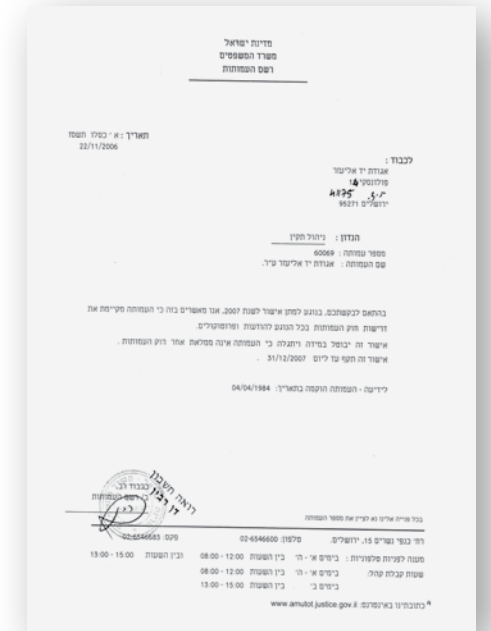
November 22, 2006
To: **Yad Eliezer**
Polanski 14
POB 41175
Jerusalem 95271

Non-Profit ID #: 60069
Name of Non-Profit: **Yad Eliezer**
Organization
Est. April 4, 1984

As per your request regarding receipt of authorization for the year 2007, we hereby certify that your organization fulfills all of the legally mandated criteria for non-profit organizations. This certification will be revoked if it is discovered that the organization has violated any of the laws concerning non-profits. This certification is valid until December 31, 2007.

Yours sincerely,

Dan Ravin,
Comptroller
Office of Non-Profit Authorization



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