

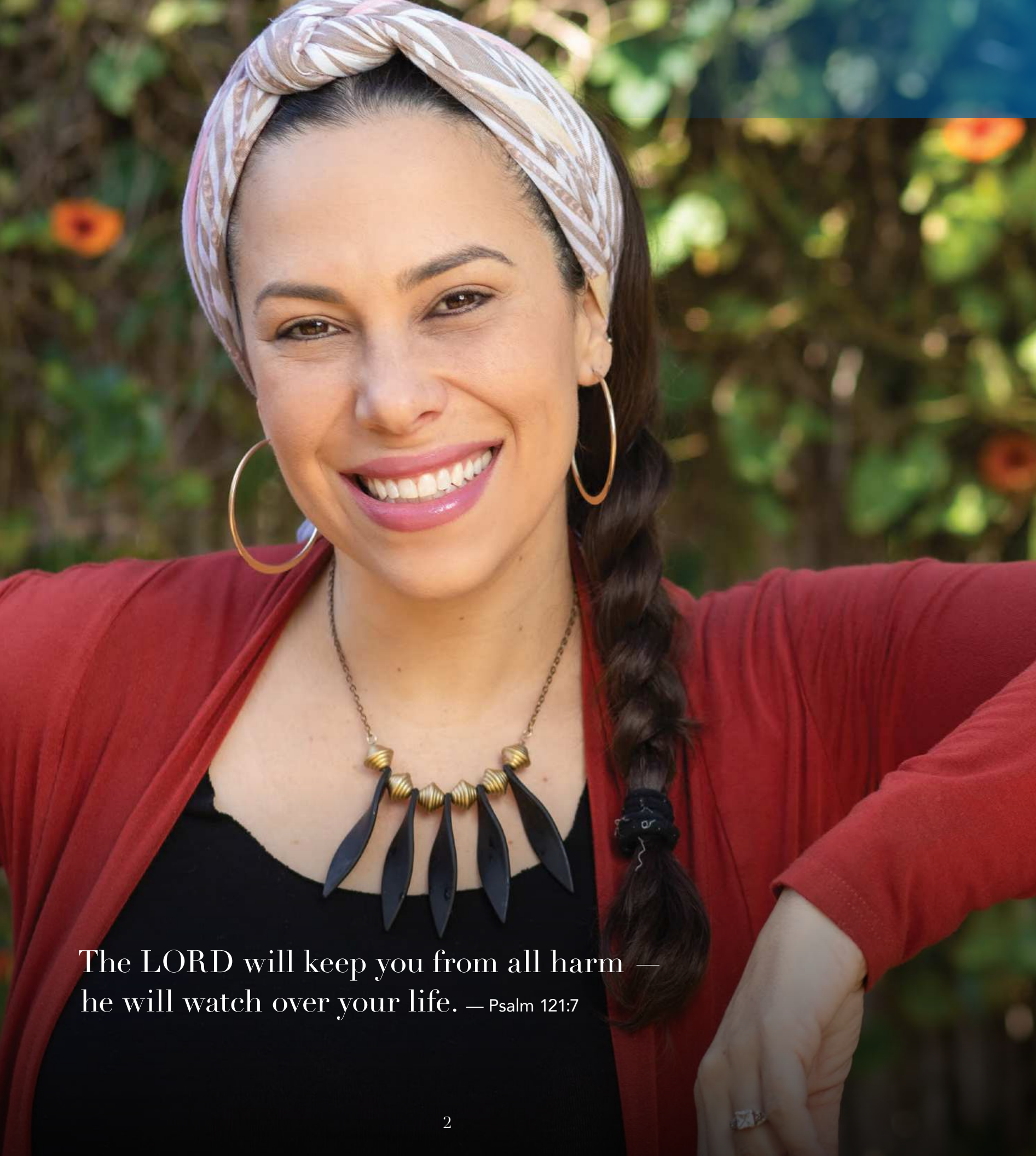
# Annual Report

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2020

The trumpeters and musicians joined in unison  
to give praise and thanks to the LORD.

— 2 Chronicles 5:13



The LORD will keep you from all harm —  
he will watch over your life. — Psalm 121:7

*Shalom,*

It was a year that none of us expected or could have prepared for.

When the extent of the coronavirus pandemic became clear in early 2020, we at *The Fellowship* knew that an extraordinary response was needed. The first consideration, of course, was the devastating impact of the virus on people's physical health. Then it became clear that the impact of long-term lockdowns on both emotional and economic well-being could take a disastrous toll as well.

Facing this crisis, we turned to you. And you did much more than rise to the occasion. You took a leap of faith and stood by the biblical values of feeding the hungry, caring for widows and orphans, and providing for the needy in both Israel and the former Soviet Union. You continued to support the prophetic work of *aliyah* (immigration to Israel), which continued through 2020 under strict safety guidelines. Despite facing challenges, hardship, and heartbreak of your own from the pandemic, your faith and dedication allowed us to help more than 2 million people in 2020 — more than we have ever helped before.

As you look through the pages of *The Fellowship's* 2020 Annual Report, I hope you will feel a deep sense of pride and accomplishment when you read about all that you have done for those in need. How wondrous it is that, because of you, we were not only able to fill emergency needs during a year of unprecedented crises, but continue our day-to-day lifesaving programs as well!

My friends, you have proven time and time again that you are prayerfully committed to supporting Israel and her people, but last year you reminded all of us just how deep that commitment really is. I'm personally inspired and humbled by the support of each and every one of you. And I hope in some small way this Annual Report communicates to you how much that extraordinary support meant to Israel and her people during an extraordinarily challenging year.

With deep gratitude, and blessings from the Holy Land,

*Yael Eckstein*

Yael Eckstein  
President and CEO

2 Million People Helped by *The Fellowship*



**435,000** children and families given food, medicine, clothing, or financial assistance



Programs in **40** countries



**104,000** supporters engaged in monthly prayer services



**684,000** meals delivered through soup kitchens and Meals-on-Wheels



Global offices in Israel, U.S., Canada, South Korea



**53,000** prayer requests taken to the Western Wall



**100,000** IDF soldiers provided with basic needs



**800,000** people have access to secure Jewish synagogues, schools, and communities through emergency equipment and mobile bomb shelters



**235,000** Holocaust survivors and elderly provided with basic needs



**4,000** olim (immigrants) made *aliyah*



# COVID-19 Emergency Response

Thanks to your generosity, we responded to the crisis by creating a \$20 million emergency fund, which provided:

- Emergency medical equipment to 23 hospitals and medical service organizations
- Emergency response packages with food and sanitation supplies to elderly in Israel and the former Soviet Union (FSU)
- Face masks for the most vulnerable elderly in Israel and the FSU
- Basic food assistance to children, orphans, refugees, and families in Israel
- Meals through *Fellowship* soup kitchens in Israel to respond to the 60 percent increase in requests for meals
- Financial assistance for food, medicine, and other basic needs to families hit hardest by the crisis
- COVID-19 test kits to the Jewish community in Ukraine
- An ambulance to transport IDF soldiers suffering from the coronavirus
- Meals to children from disadvantaged homes who normally rely on hot meals during in-person schooling
- Emergency aid to *olim* (immigrant) families unable to make *aliyah* (immigrate to Israel) due to the coronavirus crisis





Loti, 86, felt all alone before Passover when the coronavirus pandemic first hit. She couldn't even see her caregiver because of the strict isolation guidelines. But when she saw *Fellowship* friends arriving with a food box and other essential items, she immediately started smiling and said, "This crisis is affecting the entire world, and I want to say thank you to *The Fellowship* for taking care of us here in Israel."

Despite facing your own challenges and hardships during 2020, you remained a faithful friend to Jewish people in need. You rose to the challenge — answering the biblical call to feed the hungry, care for widows and orphans, and provide for the needy who rely on your care.

Through our unique position on the ground in the Holy Land, you allowed us to quickly mobilize and deliver emergency assistance to bless and strengthen all of Israel. During a challenging year for everyone, you allowed us to take extraordinary measures to care for God's people.

Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow. — Isaiah 1:17

"I'll always stand with Israel's people. I'm blessed to send my love with my gifts, and nothing pleases me more. God bless you in all your work."

— James, Louisville, IL

## Helping Families Hit Hardest

The pandemic made a tragic situation much worse for Abir and Sharon.

They were a happy young family with two small children. Then, Abir was walking home one evening. He didn't see a large hole at a construction site and fell into it. Both his arms were badly broken and sustained nerve damage. He's been unable to work ever since.

Those powerful arms, which he once used to protect the people of Israel as an Israel Defense Forces (IDF) special forces soldier, could no longer even hold his

newborn child. Then, Sharon lost her job during the pandemic, and their safety net completely disappeared.

You gave them hope through our Assisting in Fellowship project, which helps struggling families in financial crisis due to the COVID-19 pandemic. "We'll be remembering these days like a nightmare which we survived," said Sharon.

And Abir looks forward to more than just survival. "I'm preparing myself for surgery which I believe will help. I'll be able to work again, I promise!"





2020 got in the way of so many people’s plans for the future — including those dreaming of returning home on *Fellowship Freedom Flights*.

Many *olim* (immigrants to Israel) had to put their move on hold indefinitely until travel restrictions lifted. Tightened security precautions due to lockdowns, including domestic flight cancellations and road closures, left others facing unexpected hurdles as they tried to reach the Holy Land. Still, their commitment to returning home to Israel never wavered — and neither did *The Fellowship’s* commitment and your support.

You trusted that God always has a plan for a hopeful future. Thank you for rescuing His people in need and giving them strength when they needed it the most.

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

— Jeremiah 29:11

## A Historic Aliyah

The Jews of Ethiopia have been waiting for years to realize their dream of a brighter future by coming to the Holy Land — and their *aliyah* took on greater urgency with the escalating political unrest and armed conflict in Ethiopia.

Thanks to you, more than 500 Ethiopian Jews came home to Israel in 2020 as part of a historic mission in partnership with the Israeli government. They reunited with loved ones who already made *aliyah* years ago, meaning whole families were together again in their Jewish homeland. Yael Eckstein wished a warm welcome to these very special *olim*: “We will make every effort to assist them and the entire wonderful Ethiopian community!”



# “We’re Coming Home”



Eduard and Yuliia, who lived in the former Soviet Republic of Belarus, couldn’t believe they would be making *aliyah* amid a global pandemic.

They were happy to quarantine for two weeks after arrival, knowing that it would be worth it to raise their two boys — 9-year-old Alexander and 6-year-old Damir — in the Holy Land. The family also looked forward to reuniting with Eduard’s mother and sister, who both already made *aliyah*.

As a faithful Jewish family, they have always found strength in attending Jewish community events and holiday celebrations in Belarus, and Eduard is full of hope knowing that in Israel his boys will learn of God’s love firsthand. “The feeling is that we’re coming home,” he says.

“It makes my heart so happy to see you post a picture of a plane landing in Israel!”

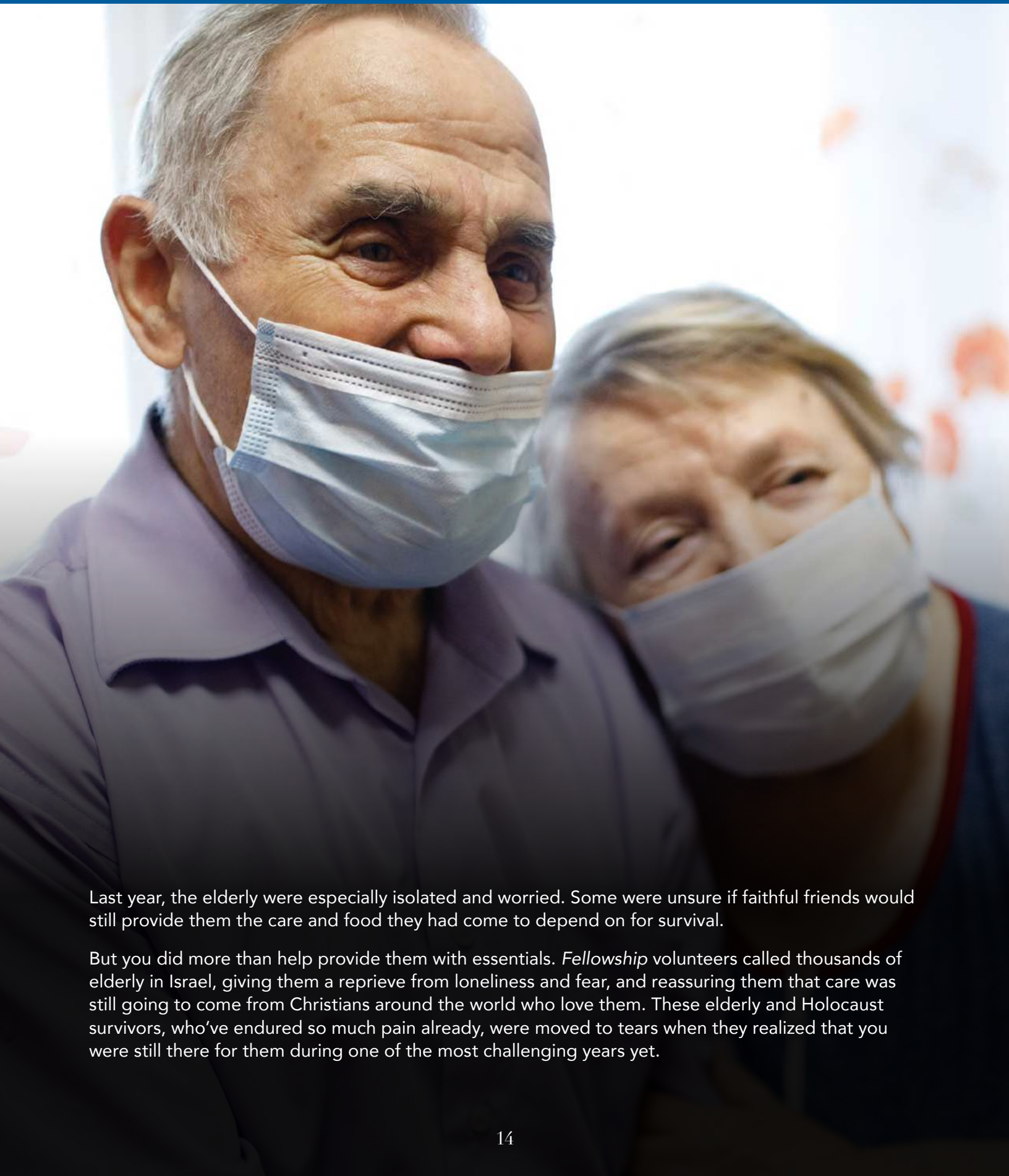
— Barbara, Zephyrhills, FL

Your faithful support helped more than 4,000 Jews make *aliyah* from 30 countries:



- |                    |              |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Argentina          | Kazakhstan   |
| Azerbaijan         | Latvia       |
| Belarus            | Mexico       |
| Belgium            | Moldova      |
| Brazil             | Panama       |
| Bulgaria           | Peru         |
| Chile              | Portugal     |
| Colombia           | Russia       |
| Czech Republic     | Spain        |
| Dominican Republic | Tajikistan   |
| Ethiopia           | Turkmenistan |
| France             | Ukraine      |
| Georgia            | Uruguay      |
| Germany            | Uzbekistan   |
| Guatemala          | Venezuela    |

## Saving the Lives of God's Chosen People



Last year, the elderly were especially isolated and worried. Some were unsure if faithful friends would still provide them the care and food they had come to depend on for survival.

But you did more than help provide them with essentials. *Fellowship* volunteers called thousands of elderly in Israel, giving them a reprieve from loneliness and fear, and reassuring them that care was still going to come from Christians around the world who love them. These elderly and Holocaust survivors, who've endured so much pain already, were moved to tears when they realized that you were still there for them during one of the most challenging years yet.

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. — Deuteronomy 31:6



### Elderly Know They're Loved

"I want to thank you for coming and bringing me this food. It's saving me," said Shulamit, when we first visited her home during the health crisis.

At 81 years old, she used to go to a *Fellowship* elderly club in Israel for food, support, and friendship; and then it was forced to close during the height of the virus. Shulamit worried she'd lost the support of the community she depended on for survival. She felt heartbroken.

But because of you, we immediately delivered food and sanitation supplies to Shulamit, so she didn't have to worry about venturing out into the world and could stay safe at home. During a year like 2020 that no one could have prepared for, we are overwhelmed by your kindness and friendship to God's people ... and so is Shulamit.

# Lifesaving Food Deliveries



Thanks to you, we cared for survivors like 81-year-old Maria, who vividly remembers the famine in Ukraine after World War II. She had to eat frozen potatoes that she dug from the snow with frostbitten fingers. She even remembers eating pieces of straw used for animal bedding because she and her sister were so hungry. Such pain and hunger are not easy to forget. But when she sees a *Fellowship* food box has been delivered to her front steps, thanks to faithful *Fellowship* friends around the world, this sweet Jewish woman is reassured that she will never go hungry again, and she feels wonderfully comforted!

## In total, you helped:

- **15,000** participants in *The Fellowship's* With Dignity and Fellowship project receive monthly meals, food cards, food boxes, or medications; and home visits
- **100,000** elderly and Holocaust survivors in the former Soviet Union access ongoing food, medicine, and winter heating assistance
- **96,361** elderly worldwide with emergency COVID-19 assistance, through supported soup kitchens and partner organizations
- **8,294** Holocaust survivors receive emergency call buttons in partnership with the Foundation for the Benefit of Holocaust Victims in Israel



"I am a caregiver for the elderly, and it broke my heart to see these suffering people. They deserve so much. God loves us all, and I am happy to do what I can for them. Thanks for all you do!" — Rita, Orem, UT

# Standing Stronger Together in God’s Holy Work

We at *The Fellowship* know that we are stronger together, and that God is stronger than any challenge or difficulty, whether it’s a pandemic or rocket attacks. When we unite as a people of faith, we can act in extraordinary ways to serve God’s people and protect the most vulnerable.

I sought the LORD,  
and he answered me;  
he delivered me from  
all my fears. — Psalm 34:4

## Good Work Is Passed Forward

You made it possible for us to deliver hundreds of care packages to Israel Defense Forces (IDF) soldiers who were either placed in isolation at their bases or hospitalized due to the coronavirus, as well as purchase an ambulance to take them to the hospital.

But this kindness didn’t end there — the IDF soldiers passed this good work forward by volunteering with *The Fellowship* to help thousands of elderly in need at the start of the pandemic by packing food boxes with Yael Eckstein for emergency delivery.



“It is an honor to help! God bless Israel forever,  
from the bottom of my heart!”  
— Wallace, Valparaiso, IN



## Emergency Bomb Shelters

“I still remember the screams and tears of the children during the last red alert siren,” said Yuval, the owner of a small bakery in Ashkelon, who now has two *Fellowship* mobile bomb shelters placed in his community. “We are all here in an open area. We did not have any protection. Now we are protected.” For years, *The Fellowship* has been installing mobile bomb shelters in Israeli communities where there are no established shelters to protect the residents from terror attacks. Last year you made it possible for us to place 24 shelters in vulnerable communities, protecting countless elderly, Holocaust survivors, and families.



### You protected Israel and Jewish communities around the world by providing:

- 100,000 IDF soldiers in Israel and Israeli first responders with support and equipment to do their job well
- Security infrastructure at Jewish schools, synagogues, and community centers in Bulgaria, Netherlands, Germany, Laos, Colombia, South America, and France
- Security measures in two Jewish schools in Ukraine and Kyrgyzstan

## Light in the Darkness



After retiring from her career as a professor and chemical engineer in Ukraine, this 82-year-old Holocaust survivor lost her only son. A few years later, Esther's husband passed away. "I found myself completely alone," she explained. Today, because of her limited mobility, Esther has also lost contact with her friends. Then *Fellowship* friends delivered a *Hanukkah* food box to her door. She told us this food also nourishes her soul.

Even during challenging times, we can still find strength and joy when we trust in our loving God. Thankfully, as a people of faith you knew that it was even more important in 2020, amid so much uncertainty and turmoil, to help Jewish people in need find comfort through celebrating their faith traditions. You shined a hopeful light in their darkness.

Your word is a  
lamp for my feet,  
a light on my  
path. — Psalm 119:105

"May God bless this organization with so much help that there will not be anyone in need of food or love." — Charlene, Electra, TX

## A Sweet New Year



"The fact that *The Fellowship* has come to see that I'm all right makes me feel so good. May you always be healthy and blessed!"

That's Veronika, an 86-year-old Holocaust survivor from the former Soviet Union who has no family support in Israel. Last year, she faced an operation on her leg and the global coronavirus crisis all on her own. After paying for expensive medicines

and her caregiver in Israel, she had little left for purchasing groceries.

Then you brought her nourishing food and traditional *Rosh Hashanah* honey to ring in a sweet new year and start the High Holy Days. "I don't even have the words to say how happy this makes me," she said.

## During the Jewish holidays, you helped:

- **315,000** people in Israel and the former Soviet Union receive food so they could celebrate with dignity
- **28,087** children in Israel and the former Soviet Union receive clothing cards to celebrate the High Holy Days and Passover
- **7,610** soldiers and their families living in poverty receive Passover gift cards to purchase food and clothing

# Thank You

Every day, *The Fellowship* is privileged to meet the people you help and to hear how your sacrificial giving has touched them and given them strength during challenging times. Here are just some of their kind and inspirational words of thanks.

I will praise God’s name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving. — Psalm 69:30



## Blessed Assistance

“Help came unexpectedly and just in time from *The Fellowship*! Thanks to this help, I was able to pay off my debt for utility bills and buy school shoes and clothes for my son Egor. Thank you so much!”

— Marina, whose son attends a *Fellowship*-supported Jewish school in Ukraine

## Lifesaving Visits

“You can’t imagine how much your help means for me. I’m completely lonely, and these people from *The Fellowship* are just saving my life by visiting me, comforting me.”

— Sofia, an 84-year-old beneficiary of our With Dignity and Fellowship program in Israel

## Grateful to You

“Thank God, there still are kind people willing to help the elderly to survive in such difficult times. I am deeply grateful for that.”

— Olgerd, an 85-year-old Holocaust survivor in Russia

## Staying Strong

“We’ve been receiving food box deliveries for years. We don’t know how we would be able to live without them. The fact that we’re here for one another is what helps us stay strong. Also, these food packages show us that there are good people who care about us and want to make sure that we have what we need to live and survive.”

— Sonia and Clara, 80-year-old twins from Moscow, Russia, who made *aliyah* and now volunteer at the *Fellowship* soup kitchen in Haifa where they also receive daily meals

## A Holy Reunion

“My parents and I don’t stop crying, but now these are tears of joy and excitement. We’re a religious family, and for years we prayed and cried every day for the gift of our family being reunited. Thank you so much to *The Fellowship* for helping us fulfill our dream.”

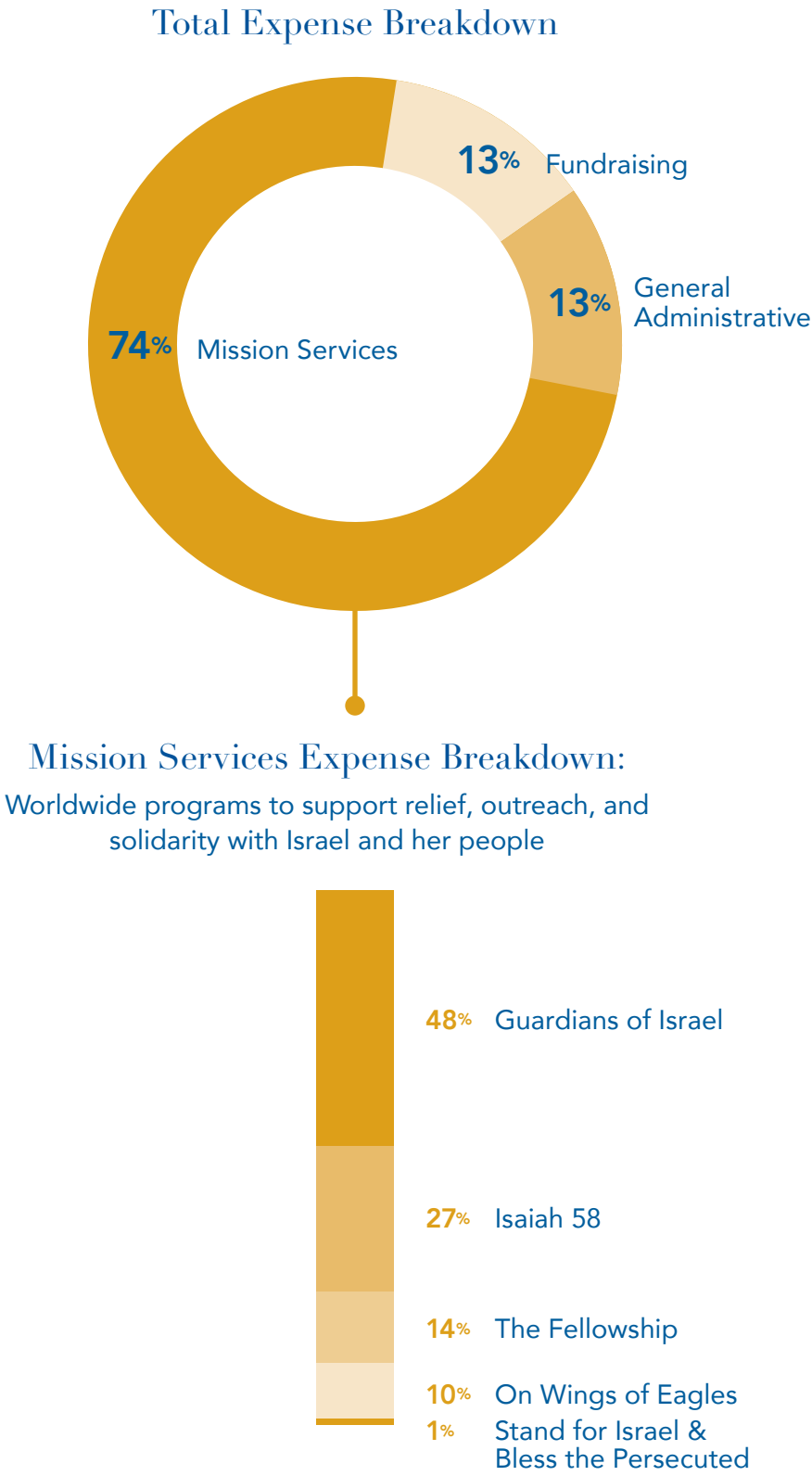
— Ganeta, who lives in Be’er Sheva, Israel, and was reunited with her family, thanks to *Fellowship* Freedom Flights

Financial Statement for Year 2020

REVENUE		2020
Contributions		\$ 166,698,374
Net Investment Income		4,123,742
Other Income		321,082
TOTAL REVENUE		\$ 171,143,198
ALLOCATIONS AND DISBURSEMENTS		2020
Mission Services		
The Fellowship		\$ 14,180,383
Guardians of Israel		49,044,410
Isaiah 58		27,872,757
On Wings of Eagles		10,538,740
Stand for Israel		318,057
Other		311,742
Subtotal, Mission Services		\$ 102,266,089
Support Services		
General and Administrative		17,324,235
Fundraising		18,351,836
TOTAL EXPENSE		\$ 137,942,160
Other Items		(\$ 6,128,806)
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS		\$ 27,072,232
NET ASSETS		2020
Beginning of Year		\$ 51,676,680
End of Year		\$ 78,748,912



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