

2019 REPORT ON IMPACT

Strengthening Israel & Her People





Letter from the President

Your support for Israel and the Jewish people has always made the work of the *International Fellowship of Christians and Jews (The Fellowship)* possible. And your unwavering support was no more apparent than in the challenging year that was 2019.

On February 6, 2019, my father, Rabbi Yechiel Eckstein, passed away suddenly. I lost my *abba*, my father. *The Fellowship* lost its founder, its president. And we lost the man who had shepherded what is the largest provider of humanitarian aid in Israel, one that has to date raised more than \$1.8 billion for our charitable work.

Even though my father expected to continue his lifework for a long time, he also prophetically built a system that would carry on without him. And carry on *The Fellowship* has, thanks to you.

Your sacrificial gifts—large and small—continue to serve God’s people. *The Fellowship* helps the impoverished, provides security for Jewish communities around the world, and helps Jews from around the world immigrate to their biblical homeland, Israel. For more than 36 years, my father was right there with you as you supported and protected thousands of needy people in Israel, the former Soviet Union, and beyond. And now I have the privilege to continue this work—with you—into the future.

This document is a roster of all of *The Fellowship’s* lifesaving works. As Moses wrote in Psalm 90, the first of the biblical psalms to be written: “*May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us*” (v.17). I thank you for partnering with me in this, our loving God’s work.

With Blessings from the Holy Land,

Yael Eckstein
President and CEO



Photo: Eric Sultan



Strengthening Israel & Her People Through LIFESAVING PROJECTS

**In 2019 our donors helped
over 1.7 million people in need**

That assistance – fighting poverty, providing security, and facilitating *aliyah* (immigration to Israel) – was given through *The Fellowship's* hundreds of lifesaving projects in Israel and around the world.

You are holding the Report On Impact of those projects.

SINCE OUR FOUNDING

1.9 million people
in the U.S. and around the world
have supported *The Fellowship*

\$1.8 billion has been raised
to help Israel and her people

IN RECENT YEARS

Over \$127 million
has been donated annually

**More than 1.5 million
people in need**
are helped each year by *The Fellowship*

Today, *The Fellowship*
is the largest provider
of humanitarian aid
in Israel.



poverty

Providing food, clothing, shelter, heating, and medicine to the needy and activities to help the lonely and homebound

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ELDERLY AND HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

Budget: **\$22,592,613** Beneficiaries: **156,971**

With Dignity and Fellowship	Monthly food assistance in the form of prepared meals, food cards, or food packages for elderly in Israel; as well as medications, home visits, and emergency funds for basic needs
Community events	Enrichment events and activities for elderly prior to the holidays
31 soup kitchens	Warm meals for thousands of families and elderly within a community setting in Israel
Yad LaKashish	Located in Jerusalem, Israel the "Lifeline for the Old" Center for the elderly offers creative work opportunities in artistic workshops and assistance with basic needs
The Jaffa Institute	Distribution of food to elderly living in South Tel Aviv-Jaffa, Israel
Medical Hotline for Holocaust Survivors	Call center and emergency call buttons in partnership with The Foundation for the Benefit of Holocaust Victims in Israel
Winter Warmth	Financial assistance for the elderly in Israel during winter through the distribution of heating bill grants, blankets, and heaters
Yad B'Yad blankets	Distribution of warm blankets to elderly in Israel during the winter
Chamah	Aid to elderly in Moscow, includes food for soup kitchens, meals delivered to homes, winter relief, and medicine and hygiene products
Federation of Jewish Communities of the CIS	Food and medicine for elderly in the FSU
Joint Distribution Committee (JDC)	Food, medical aid, homecare, and winter relief to elderly and Holocaust survivors in the FSU through Hesed community centers
Chabad Morocco	Food, medical, and financial assistance for needy Jews and Muslims in Morocco, as well as food for <i>Pesach</i> (Passover) and <i>Rosh Hashanah</i>

IMPOVERISHED FAMILIES

Budget: \$4,172,064 Beneficiaries: 182,027

Kupat Yedidut	Emergency funds for basic personal or household needs, serving impoverished families across Israel
Yad B'Yad	Free second-hand furniture and distribution of basic needs for impoverished residents in Lod and neighboring cities
Food assistance in Israel for Passover	Food cards and packages for <i>Pesach</i> (Passover) for impoverished families and elderly in Israel
Food assistance in Israel for Rosh Hashanah	Food cards and packages for <i>Rosh Hashanah</i> for impoverished families and elderly in Israel
Individual assistance for families	Individual assistance to approximately 179 impoverished families in Israel
Canada House	Enrichment activities and services for elderly and youth in Israel, including health check-ups, workshops, lectures, excursions, and outings for the elderly, as well as after-school recreation and homework-help for youth
The Fellowship Crisis Hotline	Assistance and referral for anyone needing help in Israel, handled by 23 staff members in 7 languages
Tourism center in Be'er Sheva	Renovation of a tourism center in Be'er Sheva, Israel
Federation of Jewish Communities of the CIS	Financial assistance to families and elderly in the FSU, <i>matzah</i> for <i>Pesach</i> (Passover), and emergency funds for families in Ukraine
Chabad Morocco	Food and emergency assistance for needy Jews and Muslims in Morocco, as well as food for <i>Pesach</i> (Passover) and <i>Rosh Hashanah</i>

ASSISTANCE FOR WOMEN IN DISTRESS AND CRISIS, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:

Ruach Nashit ("Women's Spirit")	Supports mentorship program helping women victims of violence in Israel gain economic independence
Bat Melech	Shelters for battered women from religious and Haredi communities in Israel
Small Gifts	Financial assistance to pregnant women and new mothers living in poverty in Israel and supplies for their children

"The food helps us so much. I have a list of products from the supermarket which I purchase every month with The Fellowship food voucher. These are products we need to live, and knowing that The Fellowship provides this for us on a consistent basis has given us a tremendous sigh of relief from fear of going hungry."

— Rachel, an elderly woman who receives food assistance through *The Fellowship's* With Dignity and Fellowship program

CHILDREN AND YOUTH AT RISK

Budget: \$8,016,846 Beneficiaries: 53,515

PROTECTION AND CARE FOR CHILDREN

ELEM	Homeless shelters and counseling for at-risk youth in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv
Nigunim	Hostel for ultra-Orthodox young women in Israel
Neve Michael Children's Village	Renovation of outdoor sports court in Israel
Clothing assistance for Rosh Hashanah	Vouchers to buy clothing for children in welfare residences in Israel
Yad B'Yad	Backpacks with school supplies for the new school year distributed in Israel around <i>Rosh Hashanah</i>
Chamah	Food and medicine for children at Chamah Center for Child Development in Moscow
Federation of Jewish Communities of the CIS	Hot meals for children in Or Avner schools, food packages and clothing for children during <i>Pesach</i> (Passover) and <i>Rosh Hashanah</i> , summer camps, basic needs for orphanages and families
Shema Yisrael	Hot meals and transportation for students in the Shema Yisrael school network across the FSU, as well as support of summer camps
Tikva Odessa	Food and other basic needs for students and orphans at orphanage in Ukraine
World ORT	Hot meals and transportation for Jewish high school students in Russia, Kyrgyzstan, Ukraine, Moldova, and Estonia
Chabad Morocco	Hot meals for children in Morocco in summer and winter camps, as well as clothing for <i>Pesach</i> (Passover) and <i>Rosh Hashanah</i>

"It was unbelievable to see the change in my precious little girl. She has started talking like a 12 year old, even laughing and singing, which she hasn't done in years. I wish you could have been here when she was a little girl – her life would have been so much easier. I am so grateful for your help and cannot express what it means to me to have my little precious Sonya returned to me."

— Anna, whose daughter Sonya received medical and developmental aid in the FSU

EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMS FOR AT-RISK YOUTH

Afikim	After-school clubs for poor youth and empowerment program for parents in Israel
Dennis Survival	Martial arts program to foster self-discipline and prevent violence among youth in Israel
Birthday Gifts to Children	Distribution of birthday gift cards for children in welfare dormitories and shelters in Israel
Susan's House	Life-skills and professional job training for at-risk youth in Israel
Tzaad Kadima ("A Step Forward")	Housing and vocational training for youth and young adults with severe physical disabilities in Israel
Project Star	Program to bring Russian Jewish children closer to Judaism

"I'm so appreciative of these donors who help. I bless them for their support. It really strengthens me. It moves me. Thank you!"

— Genet, a mother of 3 children who receive hot food and supportive activities at the Afikim after-school program



MINORITIES IN ISRAEL

Budget: \$673,565 Beneficiaries: 12,410

Academic scholarships	Academic scholarships for Druze, Circassian, Christian, and Bedouin students in Israel
Hurfesh Orphanage	Extracurricular activities for children's home in Druze community of Hurfesh, Israel
Tabor-Social Leadership	Pre-army leadership program for young Druze in Israel, which prepares them for their IDF service and later civilian life
HaNoar HaOved VeHalomed	Multiple branches of a youth movement providing education and empowerment by serving as cultural centers for Israeli and Druze youth to meet, as well as Arab and Jewish youth to improve their relationships
2 ambulances	Operation of 2 ambulances in the Bedouin community of Neve Midbar in Israel
Aid to refugees and work migrants in Israel	Easing the economic welfare of asylum-seeker families and children by providing them with necessities - programming includes partnership with 3 organizations: Mesilla, CIMI, and JACC

“The Fellowship cares about people. They help the people of Israel regardless of their religion. I am a Christian woman, and as such, I feel proud to live in a country that cares for all its citizen.”

— Samira, a 79-year-old woman who received essential food and dental assistance in Shfar'am, an Israeli-Arabic village

“I always dreamt of being a doctor and your scholarship helped make my dream come true. I was really blessed to have your scholarship.”

— Rina, recipient of *The Fellowship's* academic scholarship program, and is the first female Druze doctor in her community

REFUGEES LIVING IN JORDAN

Budget: **\$360,232** Beneficiaries: **20,780**

AID TO CHRISTIAN REFUGEES FROM IRAQ LIVING IN JORDAN

Medicines and Medical Center for Christian refugees

Medicine subsidies and funding for the operation of a medical clinic in Jordan for Iraqi Christian refugees

Food assistance for families of Christian refugees

Food cards to Iraqi Christian refugees living in Jordan

AID TO DRUZE REFUGEES FROM SYRIA LIVING IN JORDAN

Aid to Druze refugees in Jordan

Assistance to Druze refugee families who fled from Syria to Jordan, including food cards and purchase of school supplies

“I’m thankful to you that you help us and I’m thankful to you too for your praying. And I’m very happy that I know there is a lot of people with us, praying for us. So thank you.”

— Nardeen, a young Christian refugee in Amman, Jordan





security

Supporting the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), providing for soldiers in need and victims of terror, and protecting Israel's citizens

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SECURITY ASSISTANCE

Budget: **\$1,211,049** Beneficiaries: **999,722**

Security drones	Funding for surveillance drones for security in Sha'ar HaNegev, Hof Ashkelon, and Ariel
Protective vests	Flak jackets for first-response volunteers in communities surrounding the Gaza Strip
Bomb shelters and fortifications	Funding of 9 fortification and renovation projects across Israel, as well as the purchase of 15 mobile bomb shelters
Security of Jewish schools, synagogues, and community centers	Funding for security infrastructure at Jewish schools, synagogues, and community centers in: Israel, Georgia, Germany, Norway, Finland, India, France, Mexico, Thailand, Brazil, and many others worldwide
World ORT	Security measures for a Jewish school in Ukraine
Chabad Morocco	Full-time private security guard at the local Chabad center in Morocco for daily security, as well as additional security for large gatherings

“We are always on alert. We always know that we’re going to be surprised. We don’t know when. We don’t know from where. And we have to be on alert all the time. The help that we get from the Christians in America... without that help we would be ten years behind.

“I would like to thank The Fellowship for all they have been doing to support the state of Israel. We appreciate it. Thank you very much.”

— Ilan Isaacson, Head of Security and Emergency for the Eshkol Regional Council

REHABILITATION OF SOLDIERS & CITIZENS

Budget: \$2,136,804 Beneficiaries: 6,123

VICTIMS OF TERROR AND TRAUMA

Etgarim	Purchase of a new boat in Israel to support the rehabilitation of wounded soldiers and those suffering from Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) through sailing and sports
Makom Balev (“Place in the Heart”)	Retreat for bereaved families of the Druze community in Israel
Summer Camp for the Bereaved	Support of a summer camp where parents and children of fallen IDF soldiers can connect with peers who have also suffered this terrible loss
IDF Widows and Orphans project	Support of empowerment camps for orphans ages 6-18 who need moral support
IDF Appreciation Week	Support for a “Fun Day” for IDF soldiers from the Druze community during Appreciation Week
Addiction Center	Establishment of a center for guidance and treatment of addictions
Mevo Modi'im Fire Victims	Financial assistance to 79 families in the Israeli community of Mevo Modi'im which was destroyed by a fire

RENOVATING AND EQUIPPING HOSPITALS

Hadassah Medical Center	Ongoing building of a rehabilitation center at Hadassah Medical Center – Mt. Scopus
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“The Fellowship helped me and my family with furniture for our home. This allowed me to do my job as a soldier. I didn’t have to worry about the financial situation at home, and who’s going to take care of it. It’s made it possible for me to do what I need to do.”

— Mulu, a soldier in the IDF

ASSISTANCE TO SOLDIERS IN ISRAEL

Budget: \$8,157,343 Beneficiaries: 259,469

ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY AND LONE SOLDIERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Kupat Yehidut	Emergency funds for basic personal or household needs (furniture and appliances) for needy soldiers and their families in Israel
Food assistance in Israel for Pesach (Passover)	Food cards for <i>Pesach</i> (Passover) to needy soldiers and their families
6 Fellowship Hospitality Vehicles	Operation of five vehicles and purchase of four new ones to distribute free drinks, light meals, and computer access for IDF soldiers across Israel who are at training bases, serving in outlying posts, or at the home front
Adopt a Battalion	Adoption of 6 IDF combat units, supporting activities for the wellbeing of the unit, comradery and pride of the soldiers, mutual responsibility, and volunteering in the community
Netzach Yehuda	Housing assistance for 20 Haredi soldiers from the Netzach Yehuda unit living in Jerusalem apartments
Home for lone soldiers	Ongoing construction of a home for lone soldiers in Rishon LeZion in partnership with the FIDF
Care Packages for Hospitalized Soldiers	Care packages containing hygiene products, drinks, snacks, and reading and audio materials for wounded soldiers recovering in Israeli hospitals
Renovation of 3 conference halls	Renovation of 3 conference halls in Alon Education and Instructional Center to be used for IDF soldier training and educational programming

“The history between Jews and Christians has been very complicated. But suddenly, Christians are saying, let’s forget history, let’s support the Jewish people. I look at this gift kit of basic things such as food, a towel, hygienic products and such, as much more than simply the products themselves. I see it as a statement of love that says they appreciate us and want to let us know that we have friends. I just want to thank them.”

— Aden, hospitalized as a result of being injured, along with four other soldiers from her unit, following a car-ramming attack in Jerusalem



aliyah

Helping Jews immigrate to their biblical homeland, Israel (*aliyah*), and assisting them with their resettlement needs (*klitah*)

ALIYAH AND KLITAH

Budget: \$6,570,150 Beneficiaries: 5,467

Aliyah (immigration to Israel)

Aliyah flights bringing *olim* to Israel from 30 countries including: Ukraine, France, Belarus, Brazil, Georgia, Argentina, Turkey, Uruguay, Moldova, Azerbaijan, Russia, Germany, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Venezuela, Latvia, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Spain, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, Malta, Mexico, Costa Rica, Hungary, Belgium, Panama, Peru

Klitah (absorption assistance in Israel)

Assistance in arranging housing upon arrival, financial grants to start their lives, festive welcome in airport, aid fund for *olim* in need or distress, and absorption seminars (providing information about employment, housing, education, and other issues)

ASSISTANCE FOR YOUTH MAKING ALIYAH WITHOUT THEIR PARENTS

- Kfar Sitrin Village** Assistance for boys from the FSU making *aliyah* without their parents
- Beit Ulpana** Assistance for girls from the FSU making *aliyah* without their parents

“We’re going home! It’s amazing that Israel allows all Jews to come to Israel, to return to their home. Thanks to the assistance of The Fellowship, this move has become much easier for us. We’re not taking many things with us – some clothes and items with sentimental value. We’re leaving our previous lives behind and we want to build a new home in Israel. Our children will be born in Israel and they’ll be proud Israelis.”

— Olena and Pavlo, *olim* from Ukraine

EMPOWERING YOUTH AND ADULTS (FOCUSING ON ETHIOPIAN-ISRAELIS)

Budget: \$358,318 Beneficiaries: 14,102

PREPARATION FOR IDF SERVICE

Acharai Preparation for service in the IDF, including support of group activities

POST-ARMY SERVICE

Fellowship scholarship program Scholarships to young adults from the Ethiopian community after their military service

Tech-Career Academic scholarships and technological training for young adults from the Ethiopian community in Israel

Nishmat-Maayan Program Job and life-skills training for Ethiopian women in Israel

Hadassah Medical Organization Scholarships for Ethiopian students in the dental hygienist and dental assistant programs

“I’d like to thank you for the scholarship I received which assists me in funding my studies. The ability to combine work to finance studies at the same time that one is studying is almost impossible. Your funding helps me a great deal and encourages me to progress and invest in my studies.”

— Adi, Ethiopian-Israeli student who received a scholarship to fund her studies in a dental training program



SUPPORTING THE ETHIOPIAN-ISRAELI COMMUNITY THROUGH GRANTS TO ORGANIZATIONS

Tene Briut	Promotion of health awareness in the Ethiopian community, including operation of an informational program
The Israel Association for Ethiopian Jews	Lobbying and advocacy for Ethiopian Israelis
Tebeka	Services in legal aid, counseling, and representation in Israel

“I feel I’m ready to successfully enter the cyber job market. What’s clear to me, is I wouldn’t have been able to do this without the help of The Fellowship.”

— Natan, an Ethiopian student in the Tech Career occupational training program



The Fellowship offers our promise to you

Experience

More than \$1.8 billion raised in 37 years

Efficiency

No bureaucracy means quick delivery of aid

Effectiveness

A proven history of accomplishments

Integrity

BBB and other seals of approval



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