



Summary of Activities - 2016

Celebrating our 10th anniversary of activities and support of the diverse communities in the northern Galilee region of Israel, Galila looks forward to the New Year with renewed motivation and commitment - ready to initiate and promote many new programs and projects that will improve the quality of life for so many vulnerable people living across our northern border region.

None of our work could be possible without the dedication, support and partnership of a select group of donors, supporters and dear friends, who have continued to place their faith in our capacity to seek out and implement new initiatives that will make a tangible difference in the lives of so many. We are so truly grateful and indeed blessed by your continued support the work of Galila - the northern Galilee Development Foundation.

As we begin the New Year, we present to you with this comprehensive summary of all our activities during 2016 on behalf of the residents in the northern Galilee region.

Yael Barlev – Director

Ofra Karasanti - Chair

Social Entrepreneurship Programs - Beren Fellows

The "Beren Fellows" is a social initiative of the Galila Foundation and the Beren Foundation aimed at supporting, empowering and assisting social entrepreneurs whose center of life and activity is focused in the Galilee region.

The "Beren Fellows" Participants are: Shaul Zohar- KS Tennis Center, Nili Gal-Yam- Science Center-Shlomi, Rafi Buganim- 'Aharai' (follow me) Pre-army project, Vered Osman- Docu-Village, Sharon Binder- Amirim School, Micha Simblista- 'Nirim' Association, Yoel Zilberman- The 'New Guardians', Osnat Urr- Modern Zionism, Yossi Gimon- 'Erez' College, Eli Kellerman- 'Simcha LaYeled' (children's joy), Sarit Zahavi - 'Alma' Security Lectures, Efrat Noy - Organic Farming project, Kibbutz Hukuk.

♥ 'Aharai' (Follow me!) Activity groups in the Western Galilee

Three groups of 'Aharai' operated during the year under the supervision of a Beren fellows member, Rafi Buganim.



Teenagers from Shlomi, Ma'alot and Kfar Veradim, together with youth from the Druze village Yanuch, worked together in social and educational activities in order to empower young leadership and to encourage social involvement of young teens. The highlight of their annual activities was an experientially challenging hike in 'Nahal Amoud' (a local nature spot in the Galilee) and ended with a gathering at the Sea of Galilee. In a moving ceremony, gifts were awarded to those program seniors who are enlisting into their military service. The Galila Foundation is proud to partner with 'Aharai' in this innovative and empowering activity.

♥ DocuLeaders

Docu-leaders is a unique project in Israel and is an initiative of the multi-cultural center for documentaries film production "Docu-Village" operating within the framework of Galila - Beren fellows Program. This project brings together a selected group of youths from all over Galilee who form a common objective of creating short documentary films that reflect their world and, exposing their lives and surroundings, enabling young teens living in the Galilee to study the field of documentary filmmaking as well as to promote and improve their social and cultural lives together in the Galilee.



♥ Zionism, Judaism & Holocaust Education at the "Amirim" School, Kfar Veradim.

"The fifth question" is an educational-values program engaged in Jewish identity and the connection between young Israelis and the lessons of the Holocaust during WW2. The project, created by Beren Fellow's Osnat Urr, developed a curriculum that enriches the preparatory program for the school's Poland journey for 12th graders. During this program, students are engaged in lectures, workshops, site-visits and various experiential activities that include meetings with survivors, editing memorial ceremonies.



Students are required to research the Holocaust and the survivor's contribution in building Israeli society in general and the Western Galilee in particular. All of the personal stories and interviews are documented, thereby providing historic contribution for future generations. Evaluations of the pilot project indicate that the 'fifth question' project significantly contributes to a deeper understanding of, and attention to, the significance of the Holocaust historic experience among young Israelis. Testimonies of students and teachers show that they have gained an increased understanding, commitment and meaning of Jewish and Israeli identity among the young participants.

♥ [The 'New Guardian': to Work and to Secure](#)

The Galila Foundation is partnering with the "New Guardian" organization, as part of the Beren Fellows initiative. The foundation funds day programs for schoolkids from the Galilee in order to expose them to the moral and critical activities of the 'New Guardian' project "to work and to secure" the rural farms across the Galilee. As part of their exposure to the issues facing the isolated farms, the school children engage in a day of activities where they learn about the relationship between the land, mutual responsibility and Zionist values in the Galilee. These day-outings are held at the Ein Kamunim farm or at the Lavi forest – located in the heart of the Galilee region.



This is the second project in which Galila has partnered with the 'New Guardian'. Last year, the organization funded the renovations of an education center at Ein Kamunim. The contribution was made possible by a donation from the Beren foundation.

♥ ["Gateway to Industry" program - Erez College, Shlomi](#)

The recently-appointed CEO of the Erez College in the Western Galilee town of Shlomi is the latest candidate to be appointed as a member of the Beren Fellows for 2016. The project he selected as his initiative is the "Gateway to Industry" program aimed at exposing the numerous employment opportunities in the industrial sector available in the Western Galilee region of northern Israel. The program is designed to dismantle the stigmas and prejudices connected with a career in industry that prejudices the younger generation on their dilemma when choosing a rewarding profession and a future career. This program is an important stepping stone for making the right choice based on knowledge, exposure and a better understanding of the modernized industrial sector. This is conducted with hands-on experiences and tours across the region, coupled with a learning experience about the various fields of employment and career opportunities that are available in this region of Israel.



The Galila Foundation has chosen to collaborate with the Erez College and helps to finance this new program in 2016-17 for a total of ten new groups. The evaluation of the pilot group for this program reports that as a result of this experience, many new employment opportunities in the industrial sector have been opened – labeling this program as a successful launch-pad for a rewarding and enriching professional career.

♥ [Tennis Center in Kiryat Shmona](#)

This year, we have opened the tennis season with activities in three different locations. This is the fifth year we are cooperating with the tennis center in Kiryat Shmona, a home to dozens of children who come several times a week for training.



The Galila foundation, together with Shaul Zohar, Director of the tennis center in Kiryat Shmona, and the coach Moshe Azoulay, has developed a model in which Galila subsidizes the activities of the center enabling children to participate in the different activities, that otherwise would not been affordable to them. In addition, this support helps the center to increase the volume of tennis activities in Kiryat Shmona.

♥ Tennis program in Shlomi

The fifth year of tennis activities, held in conjunction with the community center in Shomi has ended. The support of the tennis program is part of a work conducted by Saul Zohar in order to promote the 'white sport' to the younger population in Shlomi, and assimilate in the children's minds. This activity is run by a professional and talented tennis coach that does amazing work with children and is highly respected both by children and parents.



♥ Tennis program in Merom Hagalil

Given the success in both locations - Kiryat Shmona and Shlomi, two years ago, we expanded and opened an additional tennis activity for the children of Merom Hagalil region in the eastern sector of the Galilee. The activity here takes place in two locations: in Hemed and Rechania and the reactions from both parents and children are so positive, that we know how our contribution has allowed children, who have never been exposed to tennis, to enjoy the benefits of this sport



♥ Outstanding program – Science & Knowledge Center for Gifted Children, Shlomi

Dr. Nili Gal Yam, Director of the Science and Knowledge Center for Gifted Children – in Shlomi is a member of the Beren Fellows Program from day one. As part of her social initiative, Nili chose to promote a number of projects at the Center she runs, the first of which is the 'Excellence' program. More than 70 children from Shlomi, Nahariya, Ma'alot, Kibbutzim and Moshavim in the Western Galilee studied this year the Center of Science and Knowledge in Shlomi.



The children arrive at the Center in the afternoon and study several courses in a group setting: Ecology, languages, science fiction, economics, logic, entrepreneurship, law and art. The Center creates a package of knowledge for the children which develops their thinking and exposes them to areas that they would not find in other available educational frameworks.

♥ NASA Project

The second social initiative of Dr. Nili Gal Yam is promoting the NASA project. As part of the special study programs at Science and Knowledge Center for Gifted Children, the school has a curriculum in astronomy and space exploration in cooperation with GFTSE and under the auspices of the US space agency NASA, which combines groups of school kids from all over the world for this special program. This project includes joint meetings of schools from across the globe by using video conference technology, lessons led by space experts at Johnson Space Center in Texas, participating in discussion forums and developing ongoing contact via e-mail.



At the end of the school year, students meet at a special NASA space camp in Turkey or Belgium for a week of experiential learning utilizing aerospace equipment, simulation systems for astronauts and, of course, socializing with students of global partner schools in the project. Support of this project enables Galilee-based school children with limited or no capability to finance this trip, to participate and to become enriched to the world of astronomy and aerospace.

♥ Alumni program- Tour of the Galilee

The third initiative of Dr. Nili Gal Yam was created from the need to allow graduates of the Science and Knowledge Center for Gifted Children in Shlomi to engage in learning activities, social and enrichment classes at the 10th -12th grade, in addition to participating in their regular high school studies. Science and knowledge centers work in order to meet the academic, social and emotional needs for these gifted children from 4th grade to 9th grade throughout the country. Over the years and as a result of this continuing program, the children emerged as a consolidated group who are used to meeting every week at the Center in Shlomi to learn, but also enjoy the company of gifted children like them. The main purpose of the graduate program is to preserve these special social connections and enable this peer group to connect and to deal with high school challenges unique to this special group, and in order to enhance the gifted children in the future through the existing high school education system.



♥ The Graduate's home in the Nirim youth village

An additional entrepreneur in the Beren Fellows program is Micha Simbalista, Director of the Youth Village "Nirim", located in Bustan Hagalil, adjacent to the Western Galilee coastal town of Acco. There are many youth villages in Israel, all of them do their work faithfully on behalf of at-risk youth, but the Nirim youth village is quite unique.



The village Director's vision is to push the youths in this village in the direction of excellence and in achieving the high goals and objectives he challenges them with. Many of the youths who come to the village are at a court order as a last step, meet a dedicated team who is focused to maintain and utilize their last chance of a normal life.

During the years, the youth at the village finish their education with a high-school diploma and substantial military service recruits. The need which occurred in the youth village is to provide graduates, soldiers and those who finished their service a home to return to. Galila chose to help Micha in his vision to establish an alumni home which will enable the graduates to have a bridge to full integration into society as citizens. The alumni home is the last step in a long journey for the youth from a life crime to a normal life of citizens who contribute to society.

♥ **Sarit Zahavi, ALMA - Israel's security challenges on the northern border.**

Sarit joined the Beren Fellows Program as a social entrepreneur in the field of disseminating Israel's security challenges and the promotion of the Galilee region to visiting groups, VIP individuals and opinion makers. As part of her activities along the northern borders, Sarit leads varied groups, official delegations and individuals from Israel and overseas on a fascinating journey of in-depth learning about life across the volatile northern border.



Sarit is an IDF Major who served for 14 years in the Research Department of the IDF Intelligence Division, primarily at the Northern Command. She gained an M.A. degree in Middle East and through her tours and lectures to visiting VIP groups, she delivers an enriching experience by illustrating the multi-dimensional security challenges faced by residents in the complex reality of life in communities along the northern border. As part of Beren Fellows Program, the Foundation chose to assist Sarit's operations by enhancing her capabilities by developing her research capacity as well as assisting her in her marketing/exposure to VIP individuals, groups and communities overseas, thereby enabling her to evolve and expand her operation.

♥ **"Simcha LaYeled" (Joy for the child) at the Western Galilee Hospital**

The Beren Fellows Program, supporting entrepreneurs and social initiatives in the North, added onto its ranks Eli Kellerman and the wonderful activities of "joy for the child" and brought this initiative to the Western Galilee Hospital. Following the first and successful year of operating the program in the Western Galilee, we will continue to support and expand the activities planned by Eli at the Hospital over the coming years. The "joy for the child" program in the Western Galilee Hospital includes connecting volunteers with children hospitalized for long periods, several times a week. This is in addition to the various events organized by 'Simcha Layeled' exclusively for the hospitalized children, including a party during the holidays, organized trips and fun days, as well as activities that 'color the days' in hospital in a variety of activities that provide these youngsters with joy, optimism and a feeling of inclusion.



The slogan of "joy for the child" is: 'together we will replace pain with a smile', and the Galila Foundation is honored to continue towards this goal and for the children of the North and their families.

♥ Support for sustainable farming on Kibbutz Hukuk

The Galila Foundation added another new Beren Fellow onto its ranks this year. Efrat Noy, who together with her husband and friends founded the sustainable agricultural farm in Kibbutz Hukuk, located on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. This farm produces organic products sold at reasonable prices that will be able to sustain the farm and its employees – most of whom are teens-at-risk. The organic crops are seasonal and harvested each week, packaged into baskets and sold to the region's residents.



Presumably, the idea is beautiful, healthy and simple. The operation is far more challenging, mainly because of the social/educational vision of the farm, which is to employ teenagers at the ages of 15-18 who have dropped out from other educational frameworks and found a home on the farm which can receive them. The boys and girls who work on the farm, meet the definition of youth “at risk” and the hard-agricultural work is a way to kick-start a normative life for them. The farm managers are de-facto therapists and the goal is to enable this youth to work on the farm in which they will be able to find their way back into a normative life and eventually enlist in the army. The agriculture work itself is hard work in, every day in all weather conditions.

As part of Beren Fellows program, we worked with Efrat on developing the farm's business plan and to be successful, they need - at this stage - philanthropic support to help them become more professionally sound. After witnessing the enthusiasm, passion and determination of both the instructors and the teens in the program, we invited them to the Beren Fellows program and to support activities and educational pioneering.

Education and Empowerment

♥ Summer activities for youth of Ethiopian - Kiryat Bialik

The ‘Hayut’ organization in cooperation with the ENP, (Ethiopian National Project) operated a summer enrichment program for youths. In addition to the activities taking place at the Youth Club, we added nature hikes, museum and heritage site visits, fun days, water parks and more. The program also provided a framework for youths returning home for the summer from boarding schools and provided an activities solution during the long, hot summer vacation.



Galila participated in financing these activities, thanks to a gift from the Rochlin Foundation, who understand the importance of supporting this program, which they have done for three consecutive years.

♥ CATS delegation, for teenager leadership

'CATS - Children as Actors for Transforming Society', is an international program designed for young teenagers to 'change society through voluntary work'. The program was founded in 2013 and initiated by several NGOs working on behalf of children's empowerment around the world. The thought in establishing this program was to create shared values between teens from various backgrounds and ethnicities on the basis of equality and encouraging them to increase their involvement in the community and build common tools for community activities.



The program took place in Switzerland and the Galila Foundation funded the participation of youths from the Galilee.

♥ Cosmetics course for disadvantaged women – Kiryat Bialik

As part of our vision in assisting disadvantaged communities in the north, Galila initiated and funded a professional cosmetics training course aimed at women from disadvantaged homes. The project was conducted in collaboration with the Youth Center in Kiryat Bialik and the "Sigal Tadmor" Beauty School. The course was exclusively developed for the woman and included professional training in cosmetics make-up, computer classes and vocational guidance helping them to set up a small business. The aim of the 23 sessions course is to enable disadvantaged young women to acquire a profession and increase their monthly income. The project is approved by the government Ministry of Trade & Industry.



The Galila Foundation financed the course with a designated contribution from a US donor that supports the provision of basic assistance to people who can break the 'cycle of poverty' and gain economic independence by engaging this vocational training course.

♥ Basics Cooking Course – for the teens of Kiryat Bialik

A festive meal concluded the cooking course for the "youth promotion" program that took place in Kiryat Bialik. The course was an educational and social initiative for at-risk youths who have dropped out of school and are in need of framework which will open them to a professional world and enable their integration into society in a constructive and positive way. The course which included 10 sessions in fields connected to cooking and the professional kitchen, will enable these youths to acquire the necessary tools to work in a professional setting, and allowing them to gain employment in the food industry, catering and restaurants.



The course is funded by Galila Foundation with a designated gift from the HOT Foundation.

♥ **Baking course – at the ‘home for girls’ in Kiryat Bialik**

The "home away from home" for teens in Kiryat Bialik is a haven for dozens of girls in the city, without which they would stray away from normal life. The Galila Foundation chose to support the activities of this House by renovating the kitchen, purchasing equipment and funding a baking course. In this professional retraining course, the girls will study the art of baking and decorating cakes. The professional course will provide these potentially wayward teen girls with professional tools that will help them gain employment in the region and enhance their economic independence.



♥ **Women's Health - enrichment lectures**

The Galila foundation is pleased to be able to fund an important enrichment course on women's health, cancer and empowerment. We believe that, as knowledge is power, learning how to cope with life's illnesses is a most critical tool for the benefit of the community in the peripheral regions of the north. During the year, lectures were delivered to hundreds of women living in the remote villages in the Mate Asher region, on issues relating to health awareness, dealing with cancer.



♥ **Kadima School - petting zoo for children with special needs**

The Galila Foundation funded the establishment of a new petting zoo at the Kadima School in Kiryat Bialik for the benefit of its special needs children. The School runs a project "a positive attitude to animals" where the nurturing of small animals by children who are challenged by autism and other related mental development issues helps them to gain responsibility, maturity, independence, compassion and empathy for others. The project was implemented in cooperation with the local Municipality with a contribution made by the US based Anne & Henry Zarrow foundation.



Community and Welfare

♥ **Lunch program for Ethiopian children, Tzur Shalom**

Hundreds of Ethiopian-Israeli children arrived in the town of Kiryat Bialik over the past few years. Many families find it very difficult to absorb into Israeli society due to the many social and cultural gaps. As a result, families are not able to cope with various challenges they face in raising their children in a modern society. The Kiryat Bialik Municipality stepped up to assist these children and provides them with after-school informal education frameworks, but due to budgetary constraints, the children had little or no resources for their lunch meal during the school year. This year, due to additional budget cuts, the municipality is struggling to meet the costs of this program and they reached out to Galila for assistance.



The Galila Foundation raised a donation from the Sobell Foundation (England). Thanks to their generous contribution, Galila now funds hot meals for 100 Ethiopian-Israeli children in educational after-school programs.

‘Year of Service’ in the Merom Hagalil region

The Galila Foundation supports the activities of a pre-army group who work in the Merom Hagalil Regional Council communities for a full year of service. They began their activities in the region as a mission to work and cement ties with the communities they contribute in.



They are engaged in numerous activities and projects particularly focused on the younger community in the region and they involve themselves in almost every aspect of their daily routines – including teaching, mentoring, guiding and more. The community work is held in cooperation with the local community center and has dramatically enriched the community and social life of the youth in Merom Hagalil. The Galila Foundation is very glad to have helped these young pioneers to create a stronger core group of youngsters in this peripheral region of the Galilee.

♥ Celebrating with Holocaust survivors

This year we celebrated the Passover holiday with 150 holocaust survivors coming from the northern towns of Acre, Nahariya, Safed and Ma'at. They arrived at noon to celebrate at the Sea Life hotel in Nahariya, accompanied by high school students from the Amirim High School in Kfar Veradim together with staff and volunteers of the Galila Foundation. This moving event is in addition to the other commitments of the Galila foundation to the region's Holocaust survivors. Orgad Ronen, CEO at Sea Life hotel in Nahariya, joined in our efforts and provided a memorable lunch event. The beautiful hall, rich menu and outstanding staff all served to make this event phenomenal. The elderly guests all over 75 years, were very thrilled by the occasion and heaped their thanks on all that made it happen.



The high school students from Amirim in Kfar Veradim came with their teachers and sat among the guests, listening and engaging with them. On the artistic side, the singer Alexei Izbkob entertained with Russian-oriented songs and music. At the end of the event, each participant received a gift, in the form of a voucher to be used in stores that will assist with the holiday expenses.

The Galila Foundation operates a variety of activities for Holocaust Survivors including an assistance fund for the needy, meetings with survivors, educational enrichment programs on the Holocaust and the distribution of vouchers for holidays. The event at the Sea Life hotel was the peak-event of our activities that takes place in cooperation with the Association of Concentration Camps and Ghetto Survivors in Israel.

We are ever so grateful to the generous donors from the US – the HOT foundation, PEF – Israel Endowment Fund Inc., Mid-Kansas Jewish Community Federation and from England, the Sobell Foundation, who all helped in making this important activity happen.

♥ Assistance to Holocaust survivors in the holidays

Twice a year, Rosh Hashanah and Passover, the Galila Foundation helps almost 400 survivors living in the northern Israel towns of Acre, Nahariya, Shlomi, Carmiel, Maalot, Hatzor and Safed to get through the holidays by providing them with \$100 gift-vouchers that they can use in stores in the region. The vouchers are handed out individually at festive meetings organized by groups of volunteers in the various towns. At the end of the happy occasion we give each survivor a holiday gifts given in the form of gift card.



Western Galilee Assistance Fund

The Galila foundation has been managing a regional assistance fund for residents of the Western Galilee for a number of years. Requests for assistance are processed through the municipality/regional council's welfare departments once a month and each request is reviewed and approved by a committee of volunteers ensuring maximum accountability to the funds granted by generous donors for this purpose. The fund is primarily designated to help families in financial distress, as well as the elderly, Holocaust survivors and single-parent families.



♥ The Sloviter Assistance Fund for Matte Asher

With the generous funding from the US based Sloviter family, the Galila Foundation established together with representatives of Matte Asher Regional Council a special emergency-assistance fund.



A committee of volunteers and professionals in social services and health established specific criteria's by which local residents will be able to receive the appropriate assistance for their plight, under the supervision of Matte Asher Regional Council. All donations for this project will increase Galila's capacity to assist many more families across the northern Galilee communities requiring this assistance in times of emergency.

Adrenaline running club - Christmas Run

Galila Foundation supports the Christmas Run which started a year ago and due to the request of the crowd became a tradition and is held annually. The Christmas Run is a unique race to mark the holidays of light: Christmas and Chanuka, that shall be held on December 23rd, is a welcomed initiative of the council of Meilia in the western Galilee. The Christmas Run aims to promote sports, culture, and social values.



The Race will take place between magical alleys of Meilia, a Christian village filled with modern and unique historic sites and every year for Christmas adorned fir trees lit up and a variety of ornaments and colored lights are throughout the village, which gives the village a spectacular atmosphere and a magical look. In the unique mosaic of communities all living together in the Galilee region, the race is an opportunity to connect people from all sectors, not only for sports activities, but also to

meet cultural, social, fun and crosses religions. On this day, we invite everyone together Christians, Muslims, Druze and Jews of all ages and all sexes to join the joint running to mark the holidays of light and for the sake of good.

Special Populations

♥ 'Wings' summer camp for special needs kids

The Galila foundation has assisted the Merom Hagalil Community Center in funding the 'wings' summer camp. The camp is designed for people with special needs from a variety of disabilities, organic limitations, intellectual – developmental disabilities (mental) and the autistic spectrum. (Blindness, cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, mental ...) In the Merom Hagalil Regional Council, there are 95 special needs kids ages 3 to 21. 35 of them come from disadvantaged families, supported by the regional council's department of social welfare. The camp was run by teenagers and volunteers from the region. The following goals of this activity were realized: 1. Helping parents of children with special needs during the summer vacation. 2. The community center has subsequently expanded its activities to include new populations. 3. Integration of special needs kids at the community center 4. Expanding volunteer opportunities for youths and adults in the community. Most importantly, the children had great fun and got to leave their homes during the long summer vacation and enjoy fun experiences run by the youths of Merom Hagalil. Galila is delighted to have been involved in this meaningful project.



♥ Shlomi's elderly computer instruction program.

This Galila foundation renovated the day center for the elderly in Shlomi. As part of the renovation project and purchase of equipment at the center, the need arose for computer instruction classes to enable the elderly to learn about this basic, modern tool for communication, information and knowledge. During the year, a specialized teacher tutors the group of elderly citizens and the newly renovated and equipped computer room is now a hub of intensive activity. Galila continues to help the elderly and Holocaust survivors in the north and views the activities in the Shlomi elderly residents club as a source of pride and successful cooperation between Galila and the local Municipality.



♥ Assisting the nursing home in Kibbutz Hanita

A donation from a Dutch family channeled through Galila was dedicated to activities taking place at the nursing home at Kibbutz Hanita. The gift was transferred to the nursing home enabling the staff to fund new enrichment programs for the frail elderly residents at the home.



Renovations & Refurbishment Projects

♥ Kfar Masaryk Tourist Center.

The Tourist center in Kfar Masaryk was set up in this Kibbutz to expose the general public as well as visiting tourists to life on the kibbutz from the early days of the enterprise. It's a one-of-its-kind experiential visit and engages the visitor with a hands-on peek into the evolution of the Kibbutz movement in Israel. Active tours are conducted learning about the original industrial pioneers (Asker, Naaman, Silora and Ducart), and enjoying the sculpture garden and art gallery containing the works of Kibbutz artists from around the country. The Tourist center holds events and workshops for school-groups and families and has become an attractive educational center for Israelis and tourists alike.



Galila donated audio-visual equipment to the Visitors Center in Kfar Masaryk, which was critical for the development of this evolving tourist enterprise. The contribution was made possible by a donation by 'Miluot', a local industry.

♥ Galila Foundation and 'Latet' organization partner in 'Aid for life' project

Galila has initiated a new project called "Aid for Life" together with 'Latet' organization. The project will renovate apartments of impoverished Holocaust survivors in the north of Israel, to improve their life-quality and personal safety. The two organizations are determined to ensure that these Jewish heroes will live out their remaining years in dignity, safety and relative comfort.



The pilot for this project began in the coastal town of Acre where, at this time, ten apartments have already been renovated and safety-upgraded. The three-year project is aimed at providing solutions for over 600 living quarters housed by holocaust and ghetto survivors, who live in poverty and financial hardship. The Galila Foundation raised the funds from a US-based philanthropic foundation who have partnered with us on this important project.

♥ Upgrade at the Meitar School playground

The Meitar School serves over 50 special needs children residing in the Western Galilee, all with a range of complex mental health challenges, ages 7 - 15. The school is in Moshav Bustan Hagalil and it's a one-of-its-kind facility in the region. One of the key areas that needed intervention was the outdoor playground which is used not only for recess, but also for classes during the long school day. There was an urgent need to erect a mechanized shading area as the space was unusable for many hours each day exposed to the hot sun. The project was coordinated by the Matte Asher Regional Council, who, in partnership with Galil approached a US-based family foundation who agreed to match Galila's funding contribution to this project. The system was installed and the playground is now in full use for the benefit of both children and staff – every school day, throughout the year.



The Galila Foundation is honored to participate in this project for the benefit of special needs children and would like to thank the partner donor and the Matte Asher Regional Council for the implementation of this renovation at the school.

♥ Computer class at Galim School

A special donation by a regional commercial company to the 'Galim' school has enabled the opening of a computer class for the children containing new equipment and computer systems.

"Galim" is a regional school for children with special needs between the ages of 6 -12, located in an educational complex situated between two Kibbutzim, Ein Hamifratz and Kfar Masaryk. It is attended by kids from the entire Western galilee region. Many of the special needs students who study at the "Galim" school are integrated with 'regular' kids - as part of the school's integration philosophy that has been very successful. Galila established this project at the school, in cooperation with the Matte Asher Regional Council and the professional staff at the school. The school year opened in September and the kids welcomed this new computer laboratory which undoubtedly will improve their study capabilities.

