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Annual Summary Report **2022**
A Year of Initiatives & Projects



Dear friends and partners,

The year 2022 has been an abundant year of widespread initiatives in our northern Galilee region. The aftermath of the Covid -19 pandemic, alongside the sudden absorption of war refugee/new immigrants from the Ukraine, has led us to intensify and diversify Galila's activities, serving many needs of our diverse populations.

We are grateful for the opportunity to continue to learn, to grow, to come together and cooperate with donors, supporters, volunteers, and dear friends who have continued to place their trust in our ability to seek out and implement new programs that are making a tangible difference to so many lives.

We are delighted to present you with this summary of our activities during the year 2022.

Yael Barlev, Executive Director

Ofra Karasanti, Chair



The Galila Foundation was established in 2005 by a group of volunteers, residents of the Galilee, who believed that regional changes must “come from within”. It falls to the residents who live their daily lives in this challenging area of northern Israel, to lead these changes with the aim of improving and advancing the quality of life.

The Foundation works to promote, lead, create and support projects in all areas of life with the overall goal of improving the lives for the residents of the northern periphery. We also work in cooperation with organizations and institutions with similar goals.

Areas of Activity:

Galila Fellows

This is Galila’s flagship program, through which the Foundation identifies social entrepreneurs and works with them from the idea stage through to implementation. The social initiatives cover all fields of life and together create a framework that advances the populations across the northern border communities.

Community

The Galilee is characterized by a variety of communities that together create a unique human mosaic in Israel. At Galila, we aid different communities in moving forward with initiatives and projects that are adapted to each community’s unique needs and character. To maximize their benefit, these projects and programs are run in cooperation with the relevant municipalities and social welfare agencies in all the communities.

Education and Welfare

The Foundation helps in advancing, operating and aiding projects in the field of education and welfare. The activity is conducted by working with the various educational institutions, in full cooperation with the local/municipal authorities. In addition, the Foundation operates a special emergency-aid funds for those in desperate and sudden need. This activity is also conducted together with the local authority’s social service departments. We believe that education builds community, builds a future, and aids in improving residents’ quality of life.

Diverse Population

The Foundation supports various projects and programs across the north that provide solutions and a response to the many particular needs of the region’s diverse population groups that have no response from any government ministry or agency. The programs the Foundation supports are many and varied, in line with the wide variety of populations in our region needing our support, and in accordance with the philanthropic resources that are granted to us each year, earmarked for this specific field of activity.

Holocaust Survivors

Holocaust survivors in the north have been supported by the Galila Foundation since we were founded in 2006. Since we believe it is our national responsibility to assist the Holocaust survivors who live among us for as long as and in whatever way they require, the Foundation runs a variety of aid and support programs aimed at easing many burdens in their lives.

This activity is conducted directly with the Holocaust survivors’ volunteer groups, and we seek to cooperate with all the relevant organizations in this arena.

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Galila Fellows – A Program for Social Entrepreneurism

The Galila Fellows is a social initiative program founded in 2012 as a joint venture between two philanthropic entities - The Galila Foundation and the Beren SEA Foundation – aimed at supporting, empowering and enhancing social entrepreneurs whose initiatives are based in the Galilee region of northern Israel.

The Galila Fellows program identifies and financially supports social entrepreneurs and ventures dedicated to improving the lives of citizens living in the north of Israel, in programs around: education, sport, social welfare and community development.

Participants of the Galila Fellows program:

- ♥ Sharona Shalev-Mayer - The “Galilee Human Mosaic” project
- ♥ Shaul Zohar - “The Galilee Tennis Academy” program for children with special needs
- ♥ Yossi Gimon – CEO, “Erez College” promoting careers in the industrial sector.
- ♥ Shlomo Lempert - “Osim Shechuna” project for youth at-risk
- ♥ Sarit Zehavi - Alma Research & Education center for Israel’s security challenges on the northern border
- ♥ Tira-El Cohen - Establishing student villages in the north in partnership with “Kedma Communities.”
- ♥ Rebecca Schunkert - “Kaima” Organic sustainable farm at Kibbutz Hokuk.

In addition, the foundation is continuing to cooperate with the United Hatzalah paramedical organization, in promoting programs suited to the needs of the northern periphery.



The Galilee Tennis Academy

Shaul Zohar, one of Israel's top tennis trainers and a Kiryat Shemona resident, is the founder of the Galilee Tennis Academy. Shaul's vision of making tennis accessible to residents of the periphery and sharing it, not only as a sport, but as a way of life that provides lessons for education and values, has achieved great success. This year, too, Shaul led highly successful programs for the special students at the Renanim Regional School in Kiryat Shemona.



While the Covid 19 period has been challenging for all of us, it has been especially so for Renanim's special-needs children. In his unique way, Shaul knew how to adapt the program and its content for Renanim's students and was able to occupy them even during the pandemic crisis. Shaul's work on behalf of the residents of the eastern Galilee has gained great appreciation many sources and he has earned great praise for the personality and activity that make him an example and role model.



The Kaima Farm in Hukuk – Organic Educational Farm

Efrat Noy from Kibbutz Hukuk, established the Kaima Organic Agricultural Farm on the kibbutz together with her friends. These days, Rebecca Schunkert will be replacing Efrat as manager of Kaima farm. We would like to thank Efrat for our longtime cooperation and wish Rebecca every success in her new role.



The Farm's organic produce is sold to residents of the region at prices that will, in the future, be able to financially sustain the Farm and its workers. The crops, which are seasonal, are picked from the field every week, packed at the local packing facility, and sold in baskets to area residents.

It seems like a healthy and simple initiative. However, the implementation of this idea is far more challenging. The Farm's educational goal is to employ young people aged 15-18 who have dropped out of all other educational frameworks and for whom this Farm is has become a home away from home. The young men and women who work on the Farm are all categorized as "youth at risk" and the hard, agricultural work is, for them, their last opportunity to enter normative life. The Farm's managers are also psych-therapists by training and the overall goal is to enable these young people to work at the Farm for a period, after which they will be able to find their way into a more normative life as productive and well-adjusted citizens.

This year, a professional training program for teenagers began, in addition to launching a mass funding campaign that has so far been very successful, thanks to which they donate to 15 low-income families (literally) a basket of vegetables every week!



Professional Industry Training Center – Erez College

The professional Industry Training Center maintains a unique dialogue with industrial plants in the Galilee. Erez College has developed knowhow in diagnosing and characterizing gaps in knowledge and skills, and it has gained experience in providing, in cooperation with the plants and employers, professional training adapted for existing workers. The College operates from the “bottom up”. One plant at a time. One training program at a time. One worker at a time. In this way, it formulates the paradigm of training workers at risk with the aim of bringing about top-down change – of inculcating a culture in which diagnosis, characterization and implementation of professional training is an integral part of working in industrial plants in Israel.



The College has seen constant growth in the past few years (except for 2020, the year of Covid) and the number of participants in its professional training programs has grown. Industry’s need for the unique solutions the College offers is immense. The College’s ability to train existing workers has grown, and significant collaborations have been established with regional Industry 4.0 organizations.

Erez College provides residents with employment security, professional development, and pride with its numerous retraining programs. For the regional industries, the Erez College is also able to remove barriers and enable innovations, employee retention and increased productivity in the northern Galilee’s industrial plants. In 2022, dozens of professional training courses opened for workers at various industrial centers, enabling employment security to hundreds of families in the northern periphery of Israel.



"Osim Shechuna" (Strengthening the Community)

Shlomo Lampert, CEO of the social initiative "Osim Shechuna" (Strengthening the Community), believes the path to promote positive social changes for the weaker communities in Israeli society, depends on developing value-conscious leaders, stemming from the local community, who will take responsibility for the poor neighborhoods and their ever-changing national challenges. These social leaders work towards improving the community from within, by strengthening communal comradery, promoting personal safety, formulating youth empowerment, identity strengthening and encouraging a personal connection to community and country. This year, the Galila foundation partnered with Shlomo's NGO to engage this program with the city of Nahariya. Together with the local municipality, government officials and members of the "Osim Shechuna" organization, we proceeded to improve one of the most challenging neighborhoods of Nahariya. We view Shlomo's success as the city's success, and we all strongly believe that the unique model he has developed will have a positive effect on quality of life for all the residents in the neighborhood, city and entire region.



Alma Research & Education Center on Israel's Security Challenges in the North

Lt. Col. (Res.) Sarit Zehavi joined the Galila Fellows program in 2015 as a social entrepreneur working in the field of “hasbara” (advocacy) and promoting the Galilee to groups, individuals, and opinion leaders in Israel and overseas. In 2018, Sarit established Alma, an educational research institute that publishes articles, conducts research, participates in panels and lectures in Israel and globally, and is quoted by various people and bodies who require explanatory materials about Israel’s stormy northern front.



The year 2022 has been a year of immense expansion at the Alma Center. With a new CEO in place, the organization has significantly increased its activities. With the renewal of flights and the return of tourism to Israel, the Alma team have resumed their efforts to educate and outline the security challenges facing Israel, through guided tours to the northern border and at the Alma Center in the Tefen Industrial Park. At the same time, Alma has published a number of research and opinion articles in global media outlets, helping to elevate their exposure and expand their outreach to new audiences. Lt. Colonel (res.) Sarit Zehavi is gradually evolving into the internationally recognized expert, in the field of Israel’s security challenges in the northern region. We are proud to be part of this important initiative and to witness the impressive development of Alma’s activities and outreach to global opinion makers and audiences.



The Human Mosaic of the Galilee

The Human Mosaic of the Galilee is a social program that, through sport, brings the Galilee's various communities together for social, personal, and communal encounters. Participants in the program learn to recognize the similarities as well as the differences among Jews, Druze, Christians, Muslims, secular and religious, residents of villages, towns, moshavim and kibbutzim, who together make up the human mosaic that is the Galilee region. The past year of activity was one of change in Sharona Shalev-Mayer's work. Her initiative grew and expanded to become a non-profit association in order to broaden its sporting social activities. Sharona's work creates social bonds that use sport to connect the Galilee's magnificent human mosaic.



This past year was focused on establishing and expanding the activity of this grass-roots sports and social-integration organization. Alongside a variety of marathon and other runs taking place across the Galilee region, community development process and gatherings. The main event this year, marking the highpoint of the organization's activities was the annual Christmas Run - a spectacular inter-community event bringing together amateur runners from all communities across the Galilee, and joined by thousands of people from Israel and abroad. The event is a national spectacle and another positive step in ensuring respectful and tolerant interaction between so many ethnic groups that make up the Galilee's population.



Student Villages in the North

‘Kedma Settlement’ is the social initiative of a young woman named Tira-El Cohen, who decided to restore relevance to the value of Zionist settlement in the 21st century.



The organization that Tira-El established deals with creating “fulfillment frameworks” for young people in the rural settlements of Israel’s frontier areas. The young people study and work in the periphery and there is great hope that they will choose to stay in the area after they complete their studies and strengthen its settlements.

Galila has joined with Kedma and is a partner in setting up a student village on Kibbutz Misgav Am in the Upper Galilee, in addition to the one set up in Metula. The student villages make a significant contribution to these isolated communities. By participating in community life, the students make a significant impact on its way of life and on the activity that takes place there, and by bringing a spirit of renewed activity.

The forthcoming year 2023, is destined to be a year of dramatic growth for Kedma in our region, with plans for the establishment of new student villages, highlighting the vision and mission of encouraging young adults to study, settle and contribute to the Galilee community.



United Hatzalah

The Galila Foundation continues its cooperation with United Hatzalah with the aim of strengthening the organization's life-saving activity in the region.



Through this cooperation, the Galila Foundation funds a course for volunteer medics who have joined the organization and have joined the Galilees' life-saving medic team.

The medics' course extended its training period to 180 hours (about 1 week) and includes frontal training, field experience, experience in responding by phone, a first-aid course, internships in providing emergency medical responses until an ambulance and/or treatment team arrive. This is a course that makes the difference between life and death.

To increase the chances of saving lives United Hatzalah aims to reach a wounded or injured person within 90 seconds of receiving the emergency call. This is an extremely ambitious goal in a peripheral region, mostly due to the lack of professionally trained volunteers.

The courses that were opened this year in Misgav and Maalot take us another step closer to that goal. Course graduates who have successfully passed the rigorous selection process join the United Hatzalah's amazing team, which makes such a significant contribution to the quality of life of residents of the north.





For the Community

The Galilee is characterized by a diversity of communities that together make up a unique human mosaic. We at Galila support these communities to advance initiatives and projects that are adapted in the best feasible way to each community's needs and specific culture and character.

To maximize what they can achieve for the community's benefit, the projects are run in cooperation with the relevant agencies and non-profit organizations in the various communities.



"Bedarkeh" – Assisting Impoverished Women

The "Bedarkeh" ('in your path') organization assists women from weakened backgrounds and lacking family support, through a comprehensive rehabilitative process.



This NGO provides safe and 'homely' apartments for these women and individually accompany and mentor all the women on their path of regaining independent lives.

The Galila foundation contributed to refurbishing four apartments in northern Israel, by purchasing electronic appliances, furniture and accessories, to help transform these apartments into safe, warm and comfortable homes.



Association for the Rehabilitation and Rescue of Endangered Animals

Two years ago, a unique rehabilitation center for endangered dogs of restricted breeds was established in Moshav Peki'in, located at the heart of the Western Galilee. The center focuses on rescuing and rehabilitating dogs belonging to restricted breeds; Pit Bull Terrier, Rottweiler, Mastiff, etc. - many of them victims of abuse and neglect.



This one-of-a-kind organization was established by Mr. Yuval Mendalovich, together with a team of dog trainers and volunteers, out of pure compassion and love for these sweet misunderstood canines. Today, the rehabilitation center is home to 150 dogs and 5 donkeys - granted a second chance to a happy life. This animal sanctuary is the only place in the country to openly welcome these unfortunate dogs, treating them like family, with love and care. The majority of these dogs come from violent and harsh backgrounds. During their stay at the center, the dogs receive professional training to advance their rehabilitation process, with the hope of finding a loving and permanent home, back in normative society.



Playgrounds in Beit Jann and Rameh

Rameh and Beit Jann are two Druze villages located in the Upper Galilee hills. This year, with a contribution from the US-based Rothberg foundation, Galila was instrumental in the construction of new playgrounds in these villages, offering the children of these communities a modern and fun place to play and engage socially.



Both villages are currently under expansion, with young families determined to raise their children in comfortable and modern surroundings by moving into these newly constructed neighborhoods. We are delighted to support this positive momentum and help these families fulfill their recreational needs. The project was managed in partnership with local village municipalities, who were responsible for the land preparation and development in the intended areas, in compliance with construction standards. The playgrounds opened earlier this year, following a brief ceremony with the village municipality leaders, local families and representatives of the Rothberg foundation.



Kfar Kama – soccer program for children and youth

Galila is pleased to support the third year of the soccer advancement program in the Circassian village of Kfar Kama, located in the Lower Galilee region. The project is funded by the Altshuler-Shaham Foundation and run by the village's education department, for the benefit of both children and youth of the village.



‘Growth Engine’ research

The ‘growth engine’ research program is a joint initiative of a number of philanthropic foundations operating in the north of Israel, with the purpose of evaluating the projects and programs already operational and examining measures of philanthropic initiatives’ effectivity in improving the lives of the region’s residents. We are hopeful that analysis of this research will enable the foundations to direct their philanthropic initiatives to areas and issues where the impact will be most accountable and effective.

Safed College - Ambulance Simulator

The Galila foundation is proud to partner with the emergency-medicine department at the Academic College of Safed.

The ambulance simulator was provided to the college enabling paramedic teams in-training experience life-saving techniques in the most effective and practical way possible.

The simulator will also serve students participating in continuing education programs outside Safed college.

The pooling of resources and the opportunity to grant multiple paramedics the chance to gain “hands-on” ambulance experience is a representation of Galila’s mission - to enable multiple audiences to benefit from philanthropic contributions granted to the community.



Misgav Am – after school center.

Misgav-Am is a Kibbutz in the Upper Galilee, located at the north-eastern corner of Israel, close to the communities of Metula, Kiryat Shmona and directly on the Lebanese Israeli border.



In 2008, with a contribution from the Meyerhoff Family Charitable Fund, Galila opened the after-school activity center for the children and youth of the Kibbutz.

Fourteen years later, we were delighted to return to the Misgav-Am and renovate/refurbish the center once again.

A new generation of Misgav-Am children have now been delivered a pleasant and fun space to spend the afternoon hours, after returning from school to this remote Kibbutz.

This one clubhouse is a model of Galila's decades-long involvement in renovating and refurbishing spaces for the younger residents of the remotest communities dotted along the Israel-Lebanon border.



A flotilla in memory of the On Barzilai z"l

The year 2022 was the second year in which the Miluyot family, together with the family of On Barzilai (who passed away from Covid 19), decided to commemorate On's life with a flotilla that took place at the Betzet beachfront in the Western Galilee - with over 150 sailors, ages 14-80, participating in the event.



The purpose of the flotilla was to commemorate On Barzilai by hosting an event that emphasizes the sea, surfing and Betzet beach - a place he cared deeply about. This event merged together sports and environmental protection for the benefit of both the region's residents in addition to the general public.



Assisting young individuals lacking family support

As part of the foundation's initiatives for the benefit of weakened populations, Galila foundation handed out gift packages for the Hanukkah festival to young individuals from towns and communities across the northern region who lack a home environment and family support. The gift package included a heater, portable audio-speakers, and confectionary. We are hopeful that this modest gift has helped make their winter just a little warmer and sweeter.



Rama - Mini pitch sports court

During the past year, the Galila foundation constructed a mini-pitch sports court in the Druze village of Rama, located in the Northern Galilee hills. The mini pitch was built adjacent to the new education campus that is currently under construction, and in close proximity to the newly developed veterans' neighborhood. The Rothberg foundation generously contributed to the construction of this sports court, with foundation representatives from Israel and the US attending the opening ceremony.



Playground renovations

Last year, we renovated two playgrounds located in the remotest northern border communities. The playgrounds had originally been constructed in 2008, with a gift from the Baltimore-based Meyerhoff foundation. This year we renovated two more playgrounds - in the remote villages Kfar Yuval and Kibbutz Hanita – both laying on the volatile Israel-Lebanon borderline.



My Israel

Galila Foundation continued its cooperation with the My Israel organization, whose vision and mission are to advance social projects – especially those that are welfare related – in the periphery regions of Israel.



The program is an initiative of new immigrants from the UK who decided to contribute to Israeli society by opening the door – via an array of media options – to British charitable donations. The organization uses various platforms to raise funds for projects in which Galila is a partner. The cooperation between the organizations enabled an increase in the funding available for various social projects that benefit residents of the north.

Supporting Ukrainian war refugees/new immigrants

Since the outbreak of war between Ukraine and Russia, the Galila foundation, reached out to various foundations to assist the many war-refugee new immigrants that have settled in northern Israel. We contemplated on what we can offer these immigrant families, beyond their necessities, that will help support their adjustment to their new lives in Israel. We decided to provide each family with laptop computers/electronics tablets, making it easy for them to communicate with loved ones who are still in the Ukraine and help them practically in building a new life here in Israel. More than 100 families received a laptop computer from the Galila foundation. In addition, we purchased new equipment for the Hebrew language 'Ulpan' at Kibbutz Yechiam in the Western Galilee.

More than 200 children received a new school bag, fully equipped with all school supplies.

We wish all of these new immigrants a swift and positive absorption in Israel and particularly in the Galilee.

This was made possible thanks to The Robert M. Beren Foundation, H.O.T foundation, the Rothberg foundation and MY Israel charity fund.



Education & Welfare

The Galila Foundation helps to promote, run, and assist projects in education and welfare, out of a belief that education builds community, builds the future, and enhances the quality of life for the residents. We work on these activities with various educational institutions and in cooperation with the local municipal authorities. The Foundation also operates assistance funds for those in need, working in full cooperation with municipal social welfare departments.



Ofek Educational Institution, Kibbutz Evron

This year, the Galila Foundation funded the establishment of a photography lab at the Ofek educational institution in Kibbutz Evron, located in the Western Galilee.

This new laboratory will allow students who come to the school from the entire Western Galilee region to enjoy a new, compatible curriculum.

The establishment of the laboratory was made possible thanks to a contribution provided to Galila by Miluot Industrial Group.



Amirim School

Amirim is a six-year high school in the Western Galilee community of Kfar Veradim.

This year we assisted by purchasing new computers for the computer room and English corner in the school.

This contribution is a designated gift for the English Learning project that has been successfully operating in the school over the past few years.



Gvanim School

The Gvanim school is an elementary school - located on a campus in the Ein HaMifratz village, part of the Matte Asher Regional Council.

This year, with the support of benefactors, we constructed an outdoor educational space for educational and social activities for the children attending this school for special-needs kids.



Galim - School for Children with Special Needs

Galim is the regional school for children with special needs aged 6 to 12. The school's success lies in the fact that many of its students go on to integrate into normative educational frameworks, something that would not be possible without the benefit of studying in Galim's unique program.

Various donations to the school enable Galim's educational director to create innovative programs. These are optimally adapted to the children's needs and that benefit both children and staff.

This year, Galim students - who continued to study during the covid 19 crisis - benefited from a contribution of dozens of computers and electronic tablets.



Meitar School

Meitar is a regional elementary school for special education located in the village of Bustan Ha-Galil, on the coastline of the northern Galilee region. Meitar is a school for children with complex mental-health challenges and learning disabilities. The one-of-a-kind projects taking place in the school, facilitated by the school's staff, have an immensely positive effect on the children throughout the school year.

This year, we assisted the school by purchasing equipment for children's recreational activities.



Keshet School

The Keshet School is a six-year elementary school located in the rural Western Galilee community of Kfar Veradim. With a contribution from the Max & Pauline Zimmer Foundation, the school was finally able to fulfill its dream of establishing an English learning center. To the delight of the school's headmaster and staff, it is now possible to incorporate creative, independent, and pedagogically flexible learning at the school, suitable for all age groups, with varied levels of English language teaching.



The Korczak Education Center

The Korczak Center – established voluntarily by two educators, Batia Gilad and Dr. Avi Tsur – expanded its work this year and hosted groups and provided educational activities, all in the spirit of legendary educator Janusz Korczak.

In addition, the education centers' staff guide visitors with fascinating workshops that have been designed for schools, local educational teams and educators from overseas, on issues relating to education - inspired by the philosophy of Janusz Korczak. As part of the center's activity, a special workshop for the educational teams took place. Following this workshop, the teams were invited to participate in an international conference, as representatives of the Israeli educational center.



Shlomi youth club

The Shlomi youth club for youth at-risk was recently renovated and assistance was needed in purchasing furnishings and other equipment. With the support of the HOT Fund, Galila purchased and installed kitchen equipment, computers, furniture, and accessories, offering the youth at-risk a conforming environment, with technology that can help prepare them for the future.



Early Childhood Education - Maalot

The Ma'alot municipality created a partnership with an Israeli donor who understood the importance of investing in early-childhood education.



Together with the local education department, an enrichment program was developed for children and staff that operates throughout the school year.

There is no question that investing in early-childhood education is significant and leads to a better future for the young participants in this program.



Supporting People with Special Needs

The Galila Foundation supports various projects that provide aid or otherwise respond to the many needs among the diverse populations across the north. The Foundation supports many projects that are varied, in keeping with the diversity of the populations who need support and based on the annual budget raised from philanthropic sources for this purpose.



Ozen LaLev – The Attentive Hearts Project

Ozen LaLev is a social project that was initiated and run by Dr. Sharon Lubasz. The Galila Foundation formed a collaboration with Ozen LaLev, aimed at expanding the activities this moving program offers to include people with special needs, part of the process to empower both them and the wider community.



Ozen LaLev's activity is unique in Israel. The project trains volunteers from populations that are considered “disadvantaged” (people with limited mobility, blind people and those who are vision or hearing impaired, those who are chronically ill, and elderly people, among others). This project trains these volunteers to provide emotional support and works with them as they go out and ensure that every person in the community has a supportive shoulder and an attentive and accessible ear, as well as providing social and emotional tools, including rousing lectures that change people's thinking and their direction in life.

Ziv School for Special Education, Safed

Ziv is a unique school for teenage patients in the psychiatric ward at Ziv Hospital in Safed. The teenagers originate from diverse social-economical, cultural and religious backgrounds, communicating in varied mother-tongue languages (Hebrew, Arabic, Russian, Amharic etc.) and in some cases not speaking Hebrew at all. The school makes an effort to cater to the specific educational needs and mental abilities of the pupils, in accordance with their age and personal capabilities.



The atmosphere in the school is engaging and filled with learning and creativity, which contributes positively to the wellbeing of these teenagers, in the midst of their suffering and illness. Being part of this school is an empowering experience for both pupils and their teachers, strengthening their coping skills, optimism and hope for the future. Since this special school is situated within a closed psychiatric ward, there are certain rules that are applied there. The school is focused on the medical and therapeutic needs of these unfortunate teenagers, and their physical and mental wellbeing will always receive preference. This year, the Galila Foundation provided equipment to the school, in order to enrich and improve the surroundings - for the benefit of these young patients.

The “My Piece of the Puzzle” Summer Camp

The ‘My Piece of the Puzzle’ project operates a summer camp for children with special needs, together with youth-at-risk with the goal of creating a meeting between two populations who have been marginalized.



The summer program was held in the village of Nahar HaYarden. Combining the youth-at-risk and youth with special needs – and using the educational model developed by “My Piece of the Puzzle” that fosters a sense of capability, acceptance, and self-confidence, alongside fun and a break from routine – together created an exceptional experience for these groups.

The Galila Foundation was pleased to have the opportunity to support such a values-based and important project, taking place in the Galilee.

"Love Thy Neighbor", Kfar Veradim

The community center in Kfar Veradim facilitated a fun day for children with special needs, accompanied by teenage volunteers.

The day included a variety of fun activities - such as soap bubbles, clay, chocolate, animals, reflexology, arts and crafts, drumming and more.



Breakfast and lunch were also provided, together with a respite space enabling the children to take breaks during this special day. The Galila Foundation contributed to the funding of this exciting program.

"Yes and No" Riding Group

This year we continued our collaboration with the Galnaim North organization to encourage volunteering in the community and to help in running a sports activity program for people with special needs.



The activity of "Yes and No" includes operating and managing a riding group for blind and sighted people. At the Galila Foundation, we purchase the special equipment needed for the project, and enable the volunteers to work on behalf of the vision-impaired population who live in the area.

"Disabled - Not Half a Human Being"

Disabled, Not Half a Human Being is a non-profit organization that advocates for raising the disability pension, together with defending other human rights of disabled people in Israel.

This year, Galila Foundation supported this organization, assisting disabled individuals in Israel.



"Life-Line" - Summer Camp

The Galila Foundation is proud to have donated, again this year, to this moving social and community project, initiated by Koby and Miriam Darchi from the town of Kfar Veradim. The Life-Line summer camp for people with disabilities and special needs is entirely a donation to the community and an example of human kindness.



The Darchi family open their home for a week to some 40 people with disabilities, together with their caregivers. During the week, the participants enjoy a wide variety of activities, lectures, workshops, and guided activities, all of which are donated by members of the community.

In addition, the participants enjoy joint meals and meetings with community members of Kfar Veradim and the surrounding region.

The camp gives the participants' families a week of respite, during which they know that their loved ones are looked after, busy and surrounded by a loving community that cares for them.



Projects for the Wellbeing of Holocaust Survivors

The Galila Foundation has been supporting Holocaust survivors in the north since its inception. Believing that we have a national duty to aid Holocaust survivors who live among us for as long as they need us, the Galila Foundation operates a range of aid and support projects that are designed to make life easier, safer, and healthier for the survivors - in any way we can. This work is done directly with the survivors, as well as in cooperation with the relevant organizations in the field.



LATET Project for Holocaust Survivors in the North

More than 900 apartments of Holocaust survivors have been renovated and refurbished through a joint project of Galila and the Latet organization's 'Aid for Life' program. As part of this project, we visited hundreds of homes of Holocaust survivors who live in the most impoverished neighborhoods in northern cities and towns: Carmiel, Safed, Akko, Kiryat Bialik, Kiryat Haim, Kiryat Ata, Kiryat Yam and Shlomi. Where necessary, we carried out repairs, made adaptations, installed safety equipment, purchase air conditioners, refrigerators, ovens, beds, and shower seats – anything that is needed to make the survivors' apartments places where they can live safely and with dignity. We will continue with this project in the coming years as well and will endeavor to assist any survivor who needs our help.



All the apartments we renovated and refurbished in 2022, was made possible thanks to the generous gift of The Robert M. Beren Foundation.



Distributing Holiday Gifts to Holocaust Survivors in the North

As we do every year at the eve of the Rosh Hashana and Passover Jewish holidays, the Galila Foundation provided financial assistance to hundreds of Holocaust survivors in the northern communities of Akko, Nahariya, Shlomi, Carmiel, Maalot, Hazor and Safed.



As part of our activity on behalf of Holocaust survivors, volunteer-organized festive events were held in these cities. At the end of the events, each survivor received a holiday gift in the form of a gift card.

This assistance of several hundred shekels per person enabled the survivors to spend the holidays in relative comfort and in the knowledge that there are those who think about them and their welfare throughout the year and especially around the holidays.



Aid Fund for Holocaust Survivors in the North

For several years, the Galila Foundation has managed a regional aid fund for Holocaust survivors who live in the north. The Fund is intended to help the survivors to purchase items that they could not otherwise afford, such as medicines that are not covered by their health-care provider, treatments, safety equipment for the home and electrical appliances, among others.



Requests for assistance are sent to the Fund's aid committee by the local authorities' welfare departments or by other bodies that work with Holocaust survivors. The aid committee operates on a voluntary basis. Grants are paid directly to the survivors and/or to suppliers to make the survivors' lives as comfortable as possible, by keeping bureaucracy to a minimum.

Assistance Funds for Families and Individuals

The Northern Assistance Fund

For several years, the Galila Foundation has been managing a regional assistance fund for residents of the western Galilee. Once a month, the local authorities' welfare departments send us requests for approval by the Fund's aid committee, whose members serve as volunteers. Every year, the Fund helps dozens of economically distressed families, children, youth, the elderly and single-parent families.



Hesed Fund

The vision of the Hesed Fund is to bring together 'good people' who can help other 'good people' who need assistance. The Fund was established voluntarily by a wonderful group of Ma'alot residents who manage the many requests that they receive for aid to those in need, including new immigrants, the elderly, Holocaust survivors – anybody who is in crisis and needs immediate help. For each request, the group tries to find donors to gift amounts that, while not large, often save families from economic collapse. Every donation to the Fund is directed to a specific request from a person in need and is handled with accountability and sensitivity. The Galila Foundation manages the Fund for the volunteers at no additional cost and without any compensation.



"Raising from the Heart" Assistance Funds

The Galila Foundation works in partnership with the non-profit organization "Raising from the Heart" to grant assistance funds to needy individuals. These joint projects include a crowd-funding social campaign to raise funds for needy families and individuals. The organization offers financial support to families plagued with life-threatening or chronic illnesses, which demand expensive medical care. The campaign will be carefully supervised and managed professionally, so as to ensure maximum financial support for these families and patients, suffering from ill health and a harsh reality.



The Galila Foundation is committed to advancing and supporting projects that help to improve the quality of life of all residents of the north, whether they live in villages, moshavim or kibbutzim, or in the towns and cities that are scattered across this region of Israel.

*Our work at Galila is a privilege!
We feel blessed to have the ability to support, to encourage, to create, and to work in cooperation with all the entrepreneurs, organizations, people, and programs that together are building an ethical and high-quality human and social mosaic that contributes to the challenging lives of those who make their home in the north.*

Yael Barlev - Executive Director

Ofra Karasanti - Chair

Our Commitment | Our Passion | Our Blessing



We invite you to donate to any of the Galila Foundation's activities or projects. Donations are recognized for tax purposes.



In the United States:

Please make checks payable to:

PEF Israel Endowment Funds,

630 Third Avenue, Suite 1500

New York, NY 10017-6745.

A letter should be attached to the check stating the following:

“Donor-designated to Galila Foundation – for a Better Future #580410546”



In the United Kingdom:

Please make cheques payable to:

Galila Charitable Trust

C/o Mr. Steven Davidson,

Oliver Clive and Co., Ltd.,

14 David Mews,

London, W1U 6EQ

England



In Israel

Bank transfers to:

The Galila Foundation for a Better Future

First International Bank (31)

Branch 120, Kfar Veradim

Account no: 186681

Please make checks payable to:

The Galila Foundation for a Better Future

Mailing address:

P.O. Box 9, Migdal Tefen,

Israel, 2495900

Donations may also be made through JGive by scanning the code.





Galila – For a Better Future

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