



Galila For A Better Future



Summary of Activity and Projects 2025





**"...AND YOUR
CHILDREN WILL
RETURN
HOME TO THEIR
BORDERS."**

Jeremiah 31:17



Dear Partners

This year, our foundation focused its programs and projects on the evacuated Galilee residents returning home and the physical and human regeneration of the northern border regions.

Alongside our ongoing activities in Galila Foundation's core areas, we have dedicated a significant portion of our time to supporting the home front and the frontlines, to rehabilitation, and to helping residents of northern communities return to a normal routine – while also developing new directions for growth.

We are grateful for the opportunity to partner and collaborate with a core group of donors, supporters, volunteers, and dear friends who continue to place their trust in our ability to contribute, change, lead, and implement new initiatives that make a tangible difference in the lives of many people and help create a better future.

We are proud to present the Galila Foundation's 2025 Activity Report.

Yael Barlev – CEO
Ofra Karasnty – Chairperson

About us

The Galila Foundation, whose roots run deep in the soil of the Galilee, was founded in 2005 by local residents, with the goal of building a better future for citizens of this border region in northern Israel. The Foundation partners, promotes and manages a wide range of creative, innovative and diverse projects in the areas of social entrepreneurship, education, welfare, and community – with the aim of improving quality of life, strengthening community resilience, and developing Israel's northern periphery region. The Galila Foundation operates in collaboration with a core group of global philanthropic partners, out of a shared vision that only together can we really achieve meaningful results.

• **'Galila Fellows'**

The flagship program of Galila Foundation. Within the program, the Foundation identifies social entrepreneurs and accompanies them from the idea stage through implementation. The social initiatives span all areas of life and together create a support framework that promotes quality of life in the north.

• **Community**

The Galilee is characterized by a diversity of communities that together create a unique human mosaic. At Galila, we assist the various communities in promoting initiatives and projects tailored optimally to the needs and unique character of each community. Projects are managed in collaboration with relevant stakeholders in the different communities, in order to achieve the maximum benefit for each community.

• **Education**

Galila Foundation assists in promoting, operating, and supporting projects in the fields of education and welfare. Activities are carried out with various educational institutions and in cooperation with municipal authorities. We believe that education builds community, builds the future, and helps improve residents' quality of life. Projects include a focus on special-needs populations throughout the north, providing solutions and responses to a wide range of needs.

• **Support / Aid Funds**

Galila Foundation operates numerous support / aid funds for those in need. Activities are carried out in full cooperation with the social services departments of the regional and local authorities.

• **Holocaust Survivors**

From the belief that it is our national and moral duty to support Holocaust survivors living among us until their final days, Galila Foundation operates a variety of assistance and support projects aimed at easing and improving the lives of survivors in every area where we can help. Activities are carried out directly with Holocaust survivors and in parallel in cooperation with relevant organizations in the field.

Thanks to our continuing partnership with global donors and foundations, we are able to finance specialized and critically- needed projects and programs throughout the northern Galilee region and beyond – without their commitment and generosity, none of this would be possible and we extend our most heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of cherished donors and supporters worldwide.



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‘Galila Fellows’ Social Entrepreneurship Program

The 'Galila Fellows' program was founded in 2012 as a social initiative of Galila Foundation and the Beren Foundation (a primary donor who has partnered with Galila for over a decade), with the goal of supporting, empowering, and assisting social entrepreneurs whose lives and activities are centered in the Galilee region. This program provides professional mentoring and financial support to a select group of social entrepreneurs and social ventures, whose common denominator is their dedicated work all for the benefit of northern residents across a range of fields: community, social welfare, sports, education, health, and more.

Current ‘Galila Fellows’ participants:

- **Shaul Zohar** – 'The Tennis Academy in the Galilee' for people with special needs
- **Tira-El Cohen** – Student Villages in the North in partnership with 'Kedma' NGO
- **Yossi Gimon** – Erez – Industry knowledge and Ttraining Center
- **Sharona Mayer** – 'Galilee Human Mosaic'
- **Sarit Zehavi** – 'Alma Educational Research Center for Israel's Northern Security Challenges'
- **Michal Reikin** – 'The Institute for Regional Social Change – RegionaLab'

The Tennis Academy in the Galilee

Shaul Zohar is a key figure in the Israeli tennis world, and in Kiryat Shmona in particular. For decades, he dedicated his life to coaching young tennis players – including Dudi Sela – and established social programs through sport. Zohar not only trained champions but also built a successful tennis center in Kiryat Shmona and instilled a love of tennis in generations of children. He is regarded not only as a coach but as a community leader who contributed greatly to the community in Kiryat Shmona.

Despite the war, he continued to work for his community and sport, and was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award by the Education, Culture and Sports Committee. Shaul's story is one of perseverance, love of sport, and the belief in a person's ability to change their environment – and we are proud to collaborate with him.

The beginning of 2025 was still under the shadow of the war, as tennis training for the children of the regional special needs school "Renanim" was relocated to a facility in the Hazor industrial zone. Immediately following the ceasefire in March, they returned to tennis training at the Renanim School with approximately 100 student participants per week.

Shaul shares his pride in that tennis training was very helpful in maintaining a routine during the war, and that today these special needs children truly look forward to their next session. Caring for special-needs populations is challenging on normal days and even more so in extraordinary times. We are proud of Shaul's contribution to these children during such a challenging period – one in which he himself also coped with the difficulties of evacuation and return home.

Student Villages in the North in partnership with 'Kedma'

'Kedma', a social initiative by Tira-El Cohen, works to restore the relevance of Zionism in the border communities across Israel. The organization establishes fulfillment frameworks for students and young adults choosing to combine their studies with residence in a border community, with the vision that they will remain in the area after their studies and thereby strengthening the rural communities adjacent to Israel's borders.

The Galila Foundation partnered with 'Kedma' with their student villages in the northern border communities of Misgav Am and Metula.

During 2025, 'Kedma' expanded its activity and opened student villages in additional communities across the northern Galilee region. Hundreds of students worked in the villages and 'Kedma's student village initiatives, strengthened dozens of communities, provided an educational responses to more than 20,000 residents, and collaborated with 120 rural farms to strengthen the development of agriculture in the periphery regions.

During the war, 'Kedma' mobilized quickly, assisted 52 additional communities, supported 2,900 new residents, and recruited 115 volunteers who worked in the agricultural farms. The student villages, national service corps, and other young adults have become significant hubs of activity, where young people from the center and the periphery of Israel work together to strengthen community resilience, agricultural development and mutual responsibility.

'Kedma' continues to connect between vision with action and continues to build a future of Zionism, through new communities, and the most vulnerable rural communities and regions across Israel.

Erez – Industry knowledge and Training Center

Erez Center plays a significant role in strengthening factories, maintaining stability and growth, and rehabilitating the economic resilience of the northern manufacturing industry and its workers. In 2025, the Center managed to turn the period of crisis into an opportunity: it maintained a professional and cohesive staff, strengthened its partnerships with factories, and implemented new information systems and infrastructure serving the needs of the industries located in the northern Galilee region.

During the year, innovative training courses were launched – including a 'plastics injection mold' maintenance course that had not been offered in Israel for two decades – alongside additional training courses conducted in the Upper Galilee, Beit She'an, Tefen, and Mevo Carmel, many of them incorporating AI content to adapt to current tech-knowledge.

The Center expanded its connections with leading manufacturers such as SodaStream, Strauss, Keter, Coca-Cola, and Amber, and presented its paradigm for training at-risk workers in governmental forums.

All of these initiatives have served the college, now recognized as a regional training leader and with a renewed sense of purpose and ability to support and influence the northern industry. Erez Center's activity as a nonprofit organization enables it to strengthen industrial workers in the north by training and mentoring them - thereby strengthening the region's industrial potential.

Galilee Human Mosaic

The 'Galilee Human Mosaic' began as a social program that brings together through sport the various communities in the Galilee for a shared social, personal, and communal encounter. Participants in the program learn to recognize the similarities and differences among Jews, Druze, Christians, Muslims, secular, religious, village, town, moshav, and kibbutz residents – all of whom build the Galilee's human mosaic.

The current activity year was a turning point its founder Sharona Shalev Maier, as her organization grew and became an officially registered Israeli NGO in order to expand the social-athletic activities she promotes and implements across a wider region of the northern Galilee border region.

During 2025, the organization worked to connect different communities in the Galilee through sport, movement, culture, and community gatherings throughout the year. The past year was rich in social activity, meaningful collaborations, and extensive on-the-ground activity – especially given the security challenges of that period in the north. The organization created regional connections including projects, sports events, and community gatherings.

Alma – Educational Research Center for Israel's Northern Security Challenges

Lt. Col. (Res.) Sarit Zahavi joined the 'Galila Fellows' program in 2015 as a social entrepreneur in the field of public advocacy and promoting the Galilee before groups, individuals, and opinion leaders in Israel and abroad. In 2018, Sarit founded the Alma Center – an educational research institute that publishes articles, conducts research, participates in panels and lectures in Israel and abroad, and is cited by various entities requiring advocacy materials concerning the turbulent northern front and the security challenges Israel faces there.

The Alma Center continued its activities with higher intensity during 2025. The research department focused on the war, its outcomes, and strategic developments in Syria and Lebanon. The education department hosted approximately 7,000 visitors to the region in 300 groups – all coming from global communities and including government officials, journalists, opinion makers, academics, and students.

Looking ahead, the Alma institute is currently undergoing a comprehensive expansion and development plan, acquiring additional spaces where more activities can be held to the growing number of visitors to the Center.

GalilWest – Regional Leadership Program

Within the framework of the new 'Galilee Institute for Regional Social Change', the first cohort of the GALILWEST Regional Leadership for Change Program was launched this year. The program aims to strengthen the Western Galilee following the upheaval experienced as a result of the Swords of Iron War, and to build a multicultural leadership network aimed at significantly driving long-term regional change.

This newly-formed educational/experiential program is intended for professionals selected from local government, nonprofits, academia, and the business sector, and is based on a year-long training that includes meetings, retreats, seminars and an international study trip.

Its goal is to nurture current and future regional leaders with a shared regional mindset, trust, and cohesion, who will develop initiatives and influence dozens of local organizations.

By 2030, the program is expected to create a network of 100 leading change-makers who will advance inclusive growth, community resilience, and an improved quality of life for all residents of the region.



Community Support Projects

The Galilee is characterized by a diversity of communities that together creating an authentic unique human mosaic. At the Galila Foundation, we assist the various communities in promoting initiatives and projects tailored optimally to the needs and unique character of each community. Projects and programs are managed in collaboration with relevant stakeholders in the different communities, in order to achieve the maximum benefit for each community. Following the outbreak of the war in the northern region, we found ourselves at the heart of activity in the Galilee – leading communities, supporting them during the evacuation phase, and supporting their return home with numerous empowerment and social welfare programs.



Strengthening the Galilee

Collaboration with the Galilee Municipal Clusters

The Galila Foundation collaborates with the municipal clusters that provide regional services to all local and regional authorities in northern Israel. Collaboration with the Eastern Galilee Cluster, Western Galilee Cluster, the Kinneret and Valleys Cluster, and Beit HaKerem Cluster is taking place across a range of education, culture, resilience, and displaced persons assistance activities. During 2025, this collaboration included dozens of projects that assisted, among others, tens of thousands of displaced persons in hotels and in the authorities to which they were evacuated. Additional projects were carried out in the areas of resilience and community rehabilitation, in full partnership with the Jewish Community Federations of New York, Washington DC, and Boston.

Collaboration with JNF-UK

The Galila Foundation partnered with JNF-UK to operate several social projects for community rehabilitation following their return home to the north. The financial assistance enabled residents to operate diverse programs – primarily in communities that had returned home after the long evacuation period since the outbreak of war in October 2023.

Collaboration with the Keren HaYedidut Foundation

The Galila Foundation partnered with the US based Keren HaYedidut Foundation to help families from the border town of Shlomi return home. With their support, we purchased a wide range of electrical appliances and furniture that would enable residents to return to living in their homes after a prolonged evacuation.

Supporting Small and Medium-size Businesses

This initiative was designed to support small and medium-size businesses belonging to northern residents who were evacuated from their homes due to the security situation, and to connect them with the other displaced communities evacuated to hotels and other towns. By connecting local businesses with displaced communities, the project successfully prevented business closures, secured family livelihoods, and provided essential services. Additionally, the project strengthened community cohesion and social resilience, enabling residents to support each other and contribute to the economic and emotional rehabilitation of their communities. Following their return home after a year and half of evacuation from the region, we continued to support targeted activities for the welfare of returning residents.

Establishing ImagineBox Community Trauma Centers

Since the outbreak of the war, the Galila Foundation has worked to provide support in the provision of trauma and post-trauma treatment and resilience-building for northern residents, in partnership with the 'Athena Fund' and 'Mashabim' Israel's leading NGO developing and providing PTSD therapy treatments across northern Israel.

Within the project, we support a trauma and resilience program based on ImagineBox – an interactive room that enables innovative and experiential trauma treatment, especially among children and youth. The project offers a unique therapeutic space based on virtual reality and gamification, with the goal of preventing and alleviating post-traumatic stress disorders. The room is installed in spaces within schools and community centers and is accompanied by research through which protocols were developed for effective treatment of various anxiety disorders.

Returning Home to the Eastern Galilee

The 'Returning Home to the Galilee' initiative was established by residents of the Upper Galilee Kibbutz communities, with the goal of evaluating and resolving the diverse needs of residents who returned home following 18 months of evacuation. This new initiative pooled resources for communities that remained in the north and did not leave during the war, and recruited volunteers from across the country to help rebuild the affected communities thereby creating a ray of light for tens of thousands of northern residents whose world had collapsed, and for those evacuees preparing to return home.

Following its success during the war period and after residents returned to their communities in the Eastern Galilee, the initiative expanded and included the provision of quality education, new economic development initiatives, and welfare assistance. The Galila Foundation has supported and monitored the initiative since the outset and has assisted in supported programs bringing thousands of northern Galilee residents to their homes in the border communities.

Back Home – Western Galilee

The 'Back Home – Western Galilee' initiative was founded and established by 'Ruach HaGalil' (Spirit of the Galilee), the philanthropic initiative of local industrialist and patron, Raya Strauss. The initiative's goal is to enable entrepreneurs from the evacuated border communities of the Western and Eastern Galilee to begin planning, and preparing for the "day after" – when they will return home to rebuild their communities that were evacuated for over a year and half.

The program was divided into two phases: In the first phase, approximately 100 young men and women from border communities of the Maale Yosef and Merom Hagalil Regional Councils met in specialized educational seminars where they study, drew inspiration, planned, and individually created and developed a project for their own community, that would serve as a focal point for the return. In the second phase, the project's steering committee selected the most verified projects and supported the entrepreneurs' innovative initiative for the benefit of the community.

Galila managed and supported the project together with the 'Ruach HaGalil' team.

Strengthening Druze Communities in the Galilee

The Druze community in northern Israel are concentrated in several rural villages: four in the Golan Heights, four in the Upper Galilee, and the remaining communities in the Western Galilee. Druze men all serve in the IDF or security services (Police, Border Police, Prison Services etc.) and the entire community mobilized together with their Jewish neighbors in northern Israel since the outbreak of war October 8th.

Galila had already funded several projects in the Druze villages before the war, but when the hostilities erupted, the connection with the Druze communities deepened even further. Our familiarity with their unique culture and customs, enables Galila to identify needs and provide relevant and immediate responses that instill in the community with a sense that they are an inseparable part of Israeli society – including global philanthropic support to their communities.

Over the year, Galila established a Psychological Resilience center and a memorial park in the Golan-based community of Majdal Shams. Galila also funded the construction of a multi-purpose sports court, the renovation of children's playgrounds, and establishment of an 'ImagineBox' education and trauma therapy classroom in Beit Jann – these are only a sample of the projects implemented in the Druze community villages.

Golan - Resilience Activities

The Edmond J. Safra Foundation initiated a project in the northern Golan region, aimed at providing the region's youth with recreational activities and support throughout the war period. Within the project, numerous informal education, cultural and social activities were developed to provide the youth with a safe and empowering space, allowing them moments of respite and nurturing a constructive routine amid a challenging reality. This critically important initiative sought to strengthen the sense of community, encourage personal and social resilience, and provide these youths with practical tools for coping with this very challenging security period.

Merom Hagalil - Resilience Activities

A project focused on strengthening community resilience in Merom Hagalil rural communities through programmed activities for youth and community, developed by professional coordinators hired for this project. The coordinators operate in various communities in the area and provide youth and families with a framework of educational, cultural, and social activities, aimed at creating a sense of belonging, stability and support during a challenging time. The project ensured vital community continuity, strengthened social connections, and helped the younger community to cope with the complex reality.

Ma'ilya – Resilience Activities

As part of the northern strengthening program, Ma'ilya Council – a Christian village in the Western Galilee, located 7 kms from the Lebanese border – served to strengthen the local community during the war period. Although the community was not evacuated during wartime, the program's emphasis was placed on promoting community, social, and educational activities designed to empower residents, strengthen personal and social resilience, and ease their coping with the challenging reality. These steps were designed to ensure that Ma'ilya residents would continue to maintain a sense of security, optimism and endurance over time.

Peki'in – Resilience Activities

With the aim of strengthening community resilience in the rural Druze community of Peki'in during the war period, the local municipal council organized various activities to provide youth and families in the area with a supportive framework of numerous recreational, cultural, and educational activities, alongside the provision of emotional and social support. Through a combination of community initiatives, group gatherings, and experiential programs, the project created a sense of security and belonging, that eased the coping process with the challenging reality, and also provided practical tools for strengthening personal and community resilience. The project was funded by the New York Jewish Community Federation.

Kibbutz Hanita – Resilience Activities

The Kibbutz management team built a working plan including projects for the benefit of this border Kibbutz residents: construction of a sports 'mini-pitch', upgrading Kibbutz infrastructure, establishment of a gym, and additional projects to improve the quality of life for returning Kibbutz members following their long evacuation from their homes and in order to attract new residents. Galila provided the resources for these projects and they are now in the implementation phase.

Restart Galilee

A strategic program founded by local industrialist and philanthropist Raya Strauss, aimed at uniting the entire Galilee under a single 'One Galilee' brand. The initiative works to strengthen tourism in the Galilee by supporting regional entrepreneurs, marketing ventures, programs, and special events while recruiting partners for this project from multiple sectors.

Galila is managing the initiative and in connecting philanthropic partners together to ensure the continued funding of this important initiative.

Community Memorial Projects

The Swords of Iron War has exacted a heavy toll from many families in Israel. The issue of memorialization is a sensitive and painful one, that must be handled with sensitivity, respect, and consideration for families who have lost their most precious. During the past year, we have had the privilege and honor of working with several families on special projects for the community in which the families chose to memorialize their loved ones. May the memory of our beloved fallen be a blessing.

Wartime Activities

Galila continued to provide equipment to emergency first-responders forces in rural communities located adjacent to the northern border. The equipment included protective and emergency equipment for these community forces, including firefighting and defense equipment. The equipment greatly assisted in extinguishing fires and saving lives and Galila is proud to take part in the war effort. Additionally, we distributed rescue and salvage equipment to the Regional Clusters and municipal councils according to specifications built with professional personnel.

Animal Rescue and Rehabilitation Association

At the heart of the Western Galilee, in Moshav Peki'in, a rehabilitation farm for stray and abandoned dogs was established in 2019. The farm was established by Yuval Mendelowitz together with a team of trainers and volunteers. Today the farm houses approximately 150 dogs and 5 donkeys. This is the only center that these dogs with a home, personal attention and the opportunity to rehabilitate them and return to good lives and adoptive families. The Galila Foundation donated equipment to the young farm and assists it as a platform for its fundraising operation.

The Walks

Support for teenagers fleeing Ukraine and Russia as they rebuild their lives in Israel.

The project connects these young people with Israelis, places, traditions, and opportunities. We link immigrant youth with local peers and educators, and create art together – viewing creativity as a central tool for social integration.

Home for Lone Soldiers in Nahariya

The Galila Foundation partnered with a local NGO and renovated a home for lone soldiers in the city of Nahariya. The house was completely renovated and furnished with everything a soldier needs when coming home and feeling at home! The donation was made thanks to the US based Rothberg Foundation.

Keshet Youth Club in Ma'alot

The Keshet youth club is a supplementary therapeutic-educational framework for at-risk children, operating five days a week after school hours until evening. It provides children with academic and social enrichment, individual and group therapy as needed, with the goal of strengthening their emotional state and improving their social connections. Galila Foundation responded to the authority's request to renovate the space and give the children an inviting and pleasant place to spend their afternoons.



Educational Projects

The Galila Foundation assists in promoting, operating, and supporting projects in the fields of education and social welfare for communities of all ethnic backgrounds from across the entire northern Galilee region. Activities are carried out with various educational institutions and in cooperation with municipal authorities in the north. We believe that education builds community, builds the children's futures, and helps improve the residents' quality of life.



Schools

Amirim High School

Amirim School is a six-year junior high and high school in Kfar Vradim. The US based Zimmer Foundation has supported the school for years and enables us to renovate and refurbish spaces in the school.

Galim School for Children with Special Needs

'Galim' School is a regional school for children with special needs aged 6–12. The school's success lies in the fact that many students return and are integrated into the regular education framework – integration that would not have been possible without the studies in the unique framework of 'Galim.'

The various donations to the school enable the school's educational director to create innovative and optimally tailored curricula that benefit both children and staff alike. Galila funded this program thanks to a multi-year commitment by the Israeli 'Milouot' company.

Meitar School

The Meitar School is a regional school for children with complex mental challenges, grades 1–6, located in the rural community village of Bustan HaGalil. The special projects operated by the educational teams there greatly assist the children during the school year.

This year, Galila assisted the school in constructing an interactive playground. The project was built during a particularly challenging period, in the midst of the 'Swords of Iron War.' The new playground serves the children daily and is a symbol of collaboration and belief in the importance of a supportive educational environment.

Keshet Elementary School

Keshet School is a 6-year elementary school for primary school students in Kfar Vradim. With a donation from the US based Zimmer Foundation, the school was equipped with outdoor playground equipment. The space gives children an additional place to spend their recreation time at school.

Ramot School

The 'Maale HaGolan' Education Center is a community educational institution within the Golan Regional Council, offering young children a diverse and innovative learning environment that cultivates values and improving their qualitative education program. Thanks to a donation from the US based Rothberg Foundation, Galil renovated and renewed the school courtyard, installed playground equipment for younger children, and created an outdoor classroom for older students.

Early Childhood Program, Ma'alot

The municipality of Ma'alot in the Western Galilee collaborated with an Israeli philanthropist who understood the importance of investing in early childhood education in the peripheral towns in northern Israel. Together with the municipality education department, an enrichment program for children and staff was created and operated during the school year. Young children in Ma'alot enjoy a garden space, yoga classes, developmental activities and more. The investment in quality education for this young age group is a significant and important investment that creates a better future for program participants.

Scholarships

Scholarships for Students in Safed

The Galila Foundation, through the US based Rothberg Foundation, awarded scholarships this year to 25 Druze students and IDF reserve servicemen studying at Safed College. The scholarships helps bridge social gaps, strengthen the Druze community, and supports the IDF reserve servicemen for whom this past two years were particularly challenging.

We are proud to participate in this initiative, supporting our shared community life in the Galilee.

Leadership Program at Reichman University

Courtesy of a designated donation from the US based Rothberg Foundation, Galila provided support this year to a leadership training program at Reichman University.

This program includes courses by leading Israeli academics, covering various aspects of leadership training, such as decision-making, persuasion, psychology of leadership etc. The curriculum also includes practical workshops, tours of social organizations throughout Israel, and meetings with senior decision-makers and social leaders. Through this intensive experience, students develop essential skills in social entrepreneurship and leadership, positioning themselves as drivers of change in Israeli society after graduation. Galila is proud to support the development of Israel's future generation.

Special Needs Populations

Beit Shai Community Center for Special Needs families

A unique project serving the mentally challenged population in the northern town of Nahariya and across the Western Galilee rural communities, Beit Shai aspires to be a warm home for children on the autism spectrum together with their parents and siblings. The center offers a range of services, including therapies, enrichment classes, and social activities, and enables parents to receive professional counseling and guidance. The center's goal is to improve the quality of life of children and their families and to assist in their social integration. Through the US based HOT Foundation and the Robert M. Beren Family Foundation, we assisted in subsidizing professional therapies and activities at Beit Shai for special needs children and their family members.

Activities for Children with Special Needs, Kfar Vradim

The community center in the town of Kfar Vradim annually holds a range of activities for children with special needs together with their families. These programs enable the children and family members to experience moments of shared happiness and joy. This valuable initiative is funded by Galila.

'Yes and No' Group – The Israeli Guide Dog Center

Galila assists the 'Yes and No' cycling group in its recreational activities. Riding tandem bicycles is not the exclusive domain of people with disabilities – it is pure enjoyment of challenging collaboration. Every person who has openness and the ability to give finds the joint activity fascinating and enjoyable. The group's include sighted volunteers, who participate in various activities alongside people who are blind or visually impaired.

Summer Camp for Children with Special Needs – Mero Hagalil

Galila Foundation supported this year's camp for children of Meron Heights. This special camp is a unique initiative designed to create recreational activities for 20 children with special needs from the area together with their parents. The project aimed to provide families with an accessible, enjoyable, and strengthening experience, that significantly contributes to strengthening family bonds, increasing a sense of capability, and building a community support network.



Holocaust Survivor Welfare Projects

Holocaust survivors in northern Israel have been supported by Galila Foundation since its founding in 2005. Our initiative stems from the core value that it is our national duty to assist Holocaust survivors living among us, until their final days, Galila operates a variety of assistance and support projects aimed at easing and improving the lives of survivors in every area where we can help. Activities are carried out directly with Holocaust survivors and in parallel in cooperation with relevant NGO's supporting the frail and elderly population of holocaust survivors.



'Latet' Project for Holocaust Survivors in the North

More than 1,300 apartments belonging to Holocaust survivors were renovated and furnished as part of a joint project by the Galila Foundation and the 'Assistance for Life' program of the Latet organization. Within this project, we conducted site visits to hundreds of homes of Holocaust survivors living in northern Israel cities and towns: Kiryat Shmona, Nahariya, Karmiel, Safed, Acre, Kiryat Bialik, Kiryat Haim, Kiryat Ata, Kiryat Yam, and Shlomi. Following an accountable evaluation of each request for renovation assistance, we performed repairs, adaptations, installed safety equipment, purchased air conditioners, refrigerators, cooking ovens, furniture, shower chairs, and everything needed to turn the survivors' apartments into a place where they can live with dignity and safety for the remainder of their lives.

In 2025, the renovations and furnishing were carried out thanks to the generous donation of the US based Harry and Jeannette Weinberg Foundation.

Holiday Gift Distribution for Holocaust Survivors in the North

For the past 15 years, on the eve of the Rosh Hashanah and Passover Jewish festivals, the Galila Foundation provided financial assistance to hundreds of Holocaust survivors from the northern Galilee towns Acre, Nahariya, Shlomi, Karmiel, Ma'alot, Hazor, and Safed during the holiday season.

As part of the activities for Holocaust survivors, festive gatherings were organized by groups of volunteers in the various cities. At the end of the joyful social event, each survivor received a holiday gift card they can use at any supermarket or store in their vicinity.

The assistance of around \$100 enables survivors to pass the holidays in relative comfort, knowing that someone is thinking of them and their welfare throughout the year and especially during the holidays.

Holocaust Survivor Aid Fund in the North

Galila has been managing a regional aid fund for Holocaust survivor residents of the north for 15 consecutive years. The fund is designed to assist Holocaust survivors in purchasing things they cannot afford such as medications not covered by the national health basket, treatments, home safety equipment, electrical appliances etc.

Requests are received from the municipal welfare departments and/or those caring for Holocaust survivors to the fund's assistance committee, which operates on a voluntary basis. Grants are provided directly to survivors and/or suppliers, with the goal of easing the lives of those in need, with minimal fuss and bureaucracy.



Before



After

Distribution of Gift Vouchers to Holocaust Survivors



Support / Aid Funds

The Galila Foundation manages numerous support / aid funds for targeted residents-in-need across the northern Galilee region. This is implemented in full cooperation with the social services departments of the local and regional authorities.



Northern Aid Fund

Galila has been managing a regional aid fund for Western Galilee residents for several years. Requests are forwarded by welfare departments on a monthly basis, which are reviewed and approved by the fund's volunteers committee, who oversee the allocations process.

The fund assists dozens of families in financial distress each year – children, youth, the elderly, and single-parent families. Assistance to families is provided thanks to a donation from the US based HOT Foundation.

Hesed Fund

The vision of the Hesed Fund is to connect good people who can help good people who most need help. The fund was established and run by local Galilee volunteers – a wonderful group of residents of the Western galilee town of Ma'a lot, who manage the many requests directed to them: assistance for those in need, new immigrants, the elderly, Holocaust survivors, and anyone who has fallen into a crisis and needs our support.

In the past year, the fund has operated a group of regional volunteers who cook and provide fresh cuisine for our soldiers operating and protecting the residents in our region. Galila manages the fund on behalf of these amazing volunteers at no administration costs.

'Giyus MeHaLev' Aid Funds

Galila works in collaboration with the 'Giyus MeHaLev' (Giving from the Heart) NGO within the framework of individual support funds. The joint projects include a crowdfunding campaign to assist families and individuals in financial distress – primarily around the topic of serious illnesses requiring expensive medical treatment.

The campaigns and their management are supervised by professionals and managed with the goal of helping families and patients cope with the reality that has suddenly fallen upon them.

The Galila Foundation is committed to promoting and supporting projects that improve the quality of life of all northern residents living in villages, moshavim, kibbutzim, towns and cities scattered throughout this region of the State of Israel.

Our work at Galila is a privilege!

We feel blessed for the ability to support, encourage, create, and work in collaboration with all those entrepreneurs, organizations, people, and programs who together build a human, social, and quality mosaic that contributes to the challenging lives of northern residents.



Our home | Our path | Our future

Join What We Do

We invite you to support any activity or project of Galila Foundation – donations are tax-deductible.

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