



Hazon Yeshaya Humanitarian Network



www.hazonyesaya.org

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Vocational Training

"Hazon Yeshaya used to give me food for my kids. Now, I learned a trade, found a job and can feed my family."

At Hazon Yeshaya's Vocational Training Centers, hundreds have already graduated, found jobs and have begun earning a living with dignity. The people who come here desperately want to learn but they just don't have the means. Here they learn for **free**.

Our aim, is that the needy, including widows, single mothers, battered wives, new immigrants, people who grew up poor and never had the chance to get a proper education finally get that chance at Hazon Yeshaya.

Courses are presently offered in hairdressing and cosmetics, computers skills, bookkeeping and secretarial skills. The students receive diplomas and start new lives.

Most of our students are single parents. By helping them, we help feed many more than just one person. More importantly, we break the cycle of welfare and poverty by restoring dignity to otherwise broken families and build a better future for Israel.



All costs for printing and mailing of this Newsletter have been generously underwritten by **A Friend of Hazon Yeshaya**

Volunteers

Hazon Yeshaya is blessed with an "Army of Volunteers" who help out every day throughout the country.

On any given day, 600 wonderful people come to Hazon Yeshaya's facilities to help us offer lifesaving humanitarian services to the destitute in Israel.

They work in the kitchens preparing meals. They pack food for delivery to our many distribution points. They serve food in communal dining rooms and bring individual meals to people who are ill and homebound.

Food baskets are packed and stockrooms are cleaned. In the offices, envelopes are stuffed and papers are filed. Any and every job is eagerly tackled so that Hazon Yeshaya can keep overhead down to a mere 3%.

Native Israelis, tourists, Birthright groups, soldiers, they are the backbone of this organization. Young people, families visiting Israel, Bar and Bat Mitzvah celebrants, even old people, who still have a little spunk in their step, work tirelessly to help the destitute live better and happier lives.



Hazon Yeshaya invites you to visit our facilities and lend a helping hand. Write to us at: volunteers@hazonyesaya.org.



As we celebrate a New Year

Hazon Yeshaya celebrates its eleventh year of operation. We continue to expand to meet the growing need among Israel's poor. We are now helping the beleaguered residents of Sderot. More school children, impoverished families and destitute elderly, including Holocaust survivors, are benefiting from our daily hot meals.

Hundreds of people have graduated from our free Vocational Training Courses, have found jobs and are earning money to feed their families. The courses, including hairdressing and cosmetics, computer skills, bookkeeping and secretarial skills, are a tremendous success.

Our free Dental Clinics continue to bring smiles to thousands of kids and old people who otherwise could not afford dental care. With those smiles come better health and a new outlook on life.

Food assistance, training, dental care, day care centers, clothing and shoes, all of the life-saving humanitarian services that we offer, are made possible thanks to the kind help of our "army of volunteers" and the generous donations of our worldwide supporters.

Large donations from the Claims Conference, Weinberg Foundation, La Fondation de la Shoa, as well as many others, go a long way to help us assist the poor. So too, we thank the thousands and thousands of individuals who partner with us in achieving such success alleviating poverty and despair in Israel.

From the Founder and Director

As we begin a New Year, we pray for health, happiness and hope for the future. But more and more of our fellow citizens have no hope. They stare at empty cupboards and a bare table. Hazon Yeshaya brings new hope to the needy.

Most soup kitchens close down for the festivals. At Hazon Yeshaya, we realize that hunger knows no holidays. We distribute daily meals and 15,000 holiday food baskets to our recipients so they can celebrate the holidays. We erect Sukkas so that the destitute of Israel can participate in the events that so many of us take for granted.

In this season, we read the Book of Isaiah in which the prophet implores us to "care for the people who need care, to help the oppressed, to look after the orphan and to plead the case of the widow", "to share our food with the hungry, provide the poor wanderer with shelter and to clothe the naked."

It is this "Vision of Isaiah", "Hazon Yeshaya" which has driven me in this great project. I hope you will find it in your hearts to join me.

Your support is needed now more than ever. Between increased poverty and the threat of war, children, families and the elderly are desperate. With your assistance, a multitude of the destitute will be freed from hunger and despair.



Thank you,
Abraham Israel
Abraham Israel

Israel Central Bureau of Statistics:

The National Insurance Institute again showed an increase in poverty among the elderly! 23.5% of Israel's old folks are now living under the poverty line!

THE ELDERLY WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN

It is heartbreaking to see our elderly citizens rummaging through garbage to find a few scraps to eat. They can barely afford rent, leaving nothing for the electric bill, let alone food.

Many of these destitute souls are Holocaust survivors. They suffered through the horrors of the Shoah in camps and ghettos. Now, they live through a new horror, making daily decisions such as whether to buy bread or costly medicine.

Hazon Yeshaya relieves them of these decisions by providing them with daily, hot meals of meat, chicken or fish, soup, salads, cooked vegetables, rice or pasta and fruits for dessert. We also distribute food parcels to fill their cupboards, provide free dental care to restore their smiles and free clothing and shoes.

For those who can walk to Hazon Yeshaya's communal dining rooms, the elderly can enjoy the camaraderie of friends. For the ill and homebound, volunteers deliver their meals and sit with them so they do not eat alone. We treat each needy recipient with dignity and respect.



Israel Central Bureau of Statistics:

A staggering 925,800 children in Israel now live below the poverty line! The latest figures show that 35.9% of children in Israel go to bed hungry!

WE WILL GIVE OUR CHILDREN NEW HOPE

Imagine waking up in the morning, getting dressed and going to school without breakfast. Imagine watching your friends eat lunch, while you have nothing. Imagine leaving school to roam the streets, looking for food.

It is a frightening prospect. It is sad. It is outrageous. But this is exactly the plight of hundreds of thousands of children in Israel today. They live in neighborhoods rarely seen and hardly talked about by the millions of tourists who visit Israel every year.

With help from school officials who identify those youngsters from impoverished families, Hazon Yeshaya insures that these children get vitally needed nutrition. In schools and afternoon extended school programs, we provide hot nutritious meals to the kids, their only meal of the day.

The after school programs include homework assistance, extracurricular math, science and sports activities. Hazon Yeshaya works every day to give these kids from the poorest neighborhoods a chance for a better life and brighter future.



HAZON YESHAYA HEADS NORTH

Hazon Yeshaya opened a new facility in Eilat early last year. It was hard to believe that the glitzy tourist town at the far southern tip of Israel was home to so many destitute children, families and old people. But the need existed and we met the challenge.

Then, we looked toward the Negev. Our central facility in Rishon leTzion was straining to assist the nearby communities. Ashkelon was the obvious choice. Now in full operation, our Ashkelon facility delivers life-saving humanitarian assistance to the beleaguered residents of the south.

In addition to Ashkelon, the towns of Sderot, Netivot, Ofakim and Dimona are just a short drive away. With daily terror from rocket attacks and much higher unemployment than the rest of the country, the desperate residents can depend on Hazon Yeshaya.

While working to ease the suffering of the destitute in the south, Hazon Yeshaya is not ignoring the plight of those in the north. There, too, unemployment is high. After the War in the North, many businesses relocated to the center of the country, leaving families and the elderly to fend for themselves.

To more efficiently help the people in places like Haifa, Nahariya, Tiberias, and Kiryat Shmona, Hazon Yeshaya is set to open a new facility in Carmiel. Right on the main highway and centrally located in the Galilee, we will be able to assist our northern brothers and sisters with greater ease.

With 11 years of experience in alleviating poverty and lifting the poor out of despair, our expansion will allow us to reach many, many more who desperately need our help. Just as at our other facilities, our "army of volunteers" will deliver hot meals to schools, communal dining rooms, distribution points and directly to the homes of the sick and feeble.

Did you know....? Hazon Yeshaya...

- serves over 14,000 hot, nutritious meals every day – over 400,000 every month in a nationwide network of over 60 distribution points.



- has facilities all over Israel.
- provides assistance 365 days - even for Yom Kippur, Passover and Succot – since the sick and the elderly need to eat every day.
- relies almost totally on a volunteer workforce – from the director down – keeping overhead down to a mere 3%.
- assists people without discriminating – the only criterion is true need.



- requires that every recipient register with us. We check with government welfare authorities to insure that only the truly impoverished receive the many services which we offer.
- is the largest provider of food assistance to Holocaust survivors in Israel, actively seeking to aid Holocaust survivors, of whom an above-average number are living out their golden years in hunger.

- makes home deliveries to the bedridden and to those incapable of leaving their homes.
- provides food parcels to 6500 impoverished families each month. In addition, 15,000 parcels are distributed during holidays with special gifts.



- feeds over 10,000 school children who go hungry because they do not get adequate nourishment at home or in school.
- partners with municipalities around the country to provide hot meals at afternoon extended school programs, enticing poor children to come in off the dangerous streets to improve their skills and excel in studies, in order to break the cycle of poverty.
- invests time and effort, making sure that the ingredients in its meals are of the highest quality and nutritional value, without compromising taste. Meals are always fresh; leftovers are unheard of.



- sponsors regular Bar/Bat Mitzvah celebrations for boys and girls who are orphans or who come from abusive or dysfunctional homes. They celebrate their entry into adulthood at the Kotel. Afterwards, they enjoy a festive dinner and receive gifts.
- operates a free clothing store where needy individuals and families can "shop" in a dignified manner, and receive assistance from a volunteer to find what they need.

- runs Vocational Training courses for chronically unemployed adults. Without the ability to pay tuition, they are left with no way to improve their lives. At Hazon Yeshaya, they are given the opportunity to learn skills needed to enter the workforce and feed their families with dignity. Courses are offered, totally FREE of charge. We teach Hairdressing and Cosmetics, Computers, Secretarial Skills, Bookkeeping and Office Management.



- has set up FREE Dental Clinics. Dental care in Israel is not covered by National Health Insurance. Hazon Yeshaya's free Dental Clinics serve the underprivileged, both young and old. Not just fillings and cleanings, but specialized dentistry is offered including dentures, bridges and crowns. Using the services of top dentists, we bring improved health and smiles to kids and old folks.



- operates day care centers, recognized by the Ministry of Education, for children from impoverished homes. Hazon Yeshaya believes that it is vital for poor children between the ages of 3-5 to get a head start and 2 nourishing meals per day to aid their development at this crucial age.
- treats all with the utmost dignity and respect. We make every effort never to turn away anyone who is truly in need.