

**NEVE HANNA
CHILDREN'S HOME**

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**AMERICAN FRIENDS OF
NEVE HANNA**

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Fall 2021, Rosh HaShana 5782

Dear Friends,

The world still faces challenging times. Each age group around the world deals with different hurdles and questions. For children and teenagers it is quite difficult to find their place in adult society due to all the restrictions. Children have to deal with the most important aspects for their progress in life faced with many obstacles. That is even more so with the children and teenagers of Neve Hanna, since they deal with a traumatic past, learning deficits and complex family relationships. A very stable factor in their lives is **NEVE HANNA**, even more so during present times. NEVE HANNA can proudly state: all children and teenagers are doing well considering their past background.

They accomplished the best they could with school and happily accepted therapy and remedial teaching as needed to help them grow. We enriched their leisure time activities, added tasks to further their social skills and lead them toward developing leadership ability. Neve Hanna is their constant, stable, loving as well as embracing home, but it is most essential that we help the children build and maintain bridges with their biological families.

NEVE HANNA owes a great deal to its dedicated staff. Without all members of our team willing to go not only an extra mile, but many extra miles, we would not have been able to look at this challenging time with such pride. The same is true for our friends and their unwavering support of NEVE HANNA which enabled us to carry on and implement wonderful activities. **NEVE HANNA owes you – our friends and supporters in the USA and Canada – a huge THANK YOU!**



Since spring brought with the riots very unsettling implementations for Israeli society, NEVE HANNA decided to extend its Shared Community, embracing Jewish and Arab members from the area within the frameworks of our joint Jewish-Bedouin daycare center "Path to Peace." Some years ago, we revived youth meetings and joint parent activities in our bakery implementing "Path to Bread".

Highlights of the past six months:

➤ A slow down, but nevertheless continued **Torah-Scribe-Project** – We implemented workshops for each family group to actively involve the children in the writing process of the Torah. It was learning and fun at the same time. We will keep you updated early in 2022 regarding our dedication.

➤ We made huge progress with our library. The **“Buy a Book – Build a Library”** campaign of the AFNH is a huge success. NEVE HANNA finished the interior of the library, approximately half the books have been purchased, the librarian started to work and some teenagers are involved in the library management. We received a special donation of books in English from our former child Baruch Inbar. He lives in the USA following his studies there. Baruch publishes children’s books, text and illustrations, all fruits of his creativity. His books are in English, but with dedications in Hebrew that proved to be a wonderful surprise for the children, boosting their pride and aspirations. The library dedication is scheduled for late August, right before the new school year starts. To our delight, **Janet and Irwin Tobin, co-presidents of the AFNH** will still be in Israel and can continue to actively participate.

➤ Janet and Irwin were also able to join us for the **Bar/Bat Mitzva celebration 2021** in Jerusalem. A most moving *Aliyah LaTorah* followed by a weekend of festive activities in NEVE HANNA itself. **Thanks to special support of the AFNH** 12 children celebrated: Agam, Emma, Liza, Camilla, Eden, Sapir and Mori, Chananel, Nehoray, Eyal, Leon and Ori. They can reflect on months of learning, preparation and growth as well as educational and fun trips, and as volunteers for **Tikun Olam projects** throughout the summer months.

➤ Especially moving, during these difficult times, was that we were able to welcome, Gillian Rosenberg a **volunteer from Chicago**. She was in Israel for a year participating in a Mechina program and afterwards joined us in NEVE HANNA for a few months. At NH she was involved in one of the daycare centers and stated in a report: *“One of the most meaningful experiences was helping a kid with his math homework. He went from feeling frustrated and upset to being so proud. It was wonderful to see!”*



With the best wishes for a good start into a sweet year bringing all of you and your families joy and happiness and above all good health!

David (Dudu) Weger
President

Itzik Bohadana
Director

Chaim Appel
Chairman of the Board