



AMERICAN FRIENDS OF
NEVE HANNA

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DEBBIE ZALUDA

September 2021

Dear Cantorial Colleague:

I hope this letter finds you and your families well during these challenging times.

We are writing to invite you to help spread the word about a unique Kehillah of our movement. For over 40 years, Neve Hanna Children's Home has provided a loving home for children from distressed family circumstances in the south of Israel. They are the children of Russian, Ethiopian, Middle Eastern immigrants and native-born Israelis. By providing a nurturing and supportive family environment, Neve Hanna offers these young people the chance to grow beyond the circumstances from which they emerged.

Neve Hanna was founded as a home for children from difficult or dangerous family situations. It provides a safe, secure atmosphere for the children which enables them to attend school during the day and return to a loving home where they live in small groups in family settings. In addition, through many individualized therapeutic programs and extracurricular activities, including the professionally run Yeladudes Bakery, a Library and the Petting Zoo, the children become more independent and develop skills which will be of help to them when they leave Neve Hanna.

We refer to Neve Hanna as a Kehillah of the Masorti movement. Since its founding, Neve Hanna has had a strong connection with the movement with Masorti Rabbis and Cantors, providing the children with spiritual and educational experiences. This work is particularly important since the children come from secular homes and now have developed a deeper appreciation for Jewish tradition and observance through the work of Rabbis, Cantors and teachers who have helped Neve Hanna achieve this part of its mission. Currently, our colleague Rabba Liron Levy serves as the Rabbi at Neve Hanna and she continually brings education, inspiration and a spiritual foundation for the children and the staff with a warm and engaging presence.

Our board is now in the process of developing a new initiative called the Neve Hanna Cantorial Circle and we would like to invite all of our colleagues to participate in this effort.

As part of the **Cantorial Circle**, we would ask you to help us in this way:

- Become more familiar with the work of Neve Hanna
- Inform your congregation about this wonderful treasure of our movement and encourage their support of this unique Kehillah
- Write a piece about Neve Hanna in your synagogue bulletin or spread the word about Neve Hanna in other ways through cantorial concerts and other activities
- Make support of Neve Hanna a part of your synagogue's or religious school/USY chapter's Tzedakah efforts
- Cantorial Conventions and Conferences held in Israel. Take time to meet the children and have a song fest at Neve Hanna. Our PR Director, Antje Naujoks can help arrange it
- Connect your Bar/Bat Mitzvah children with our Neve Hanna children

We would be honored to add your name to our **Cantorial Circle**. If you are interested, please contact our Board President, Janet Tobin at jpastpres@aol.com

You can also contact the office of American Friends of Neve Hanna through the website at www.afnevehanna.org or email info@afnevehanna.org

Thank you for your time and we look forward to hearing from you.

Janet and Irwin Tobin

Janet & Irwin Tobin
Co-Presidents