



Women's International Zionist Organisation
for an Improved Israeli Society



OUR
PROJECTS
THEIR
LIVES





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WIZO, the Women's International Zionist Organisation, is a non-party international movement dedicated to creating a brighter tomorrow for those in Israel who need our help. With over 800 projects supported by 250,000 members worldwide, WIZO supports women, children, families and the elderly from different communities across the country.

In Australia we are the largest Zionist Women's Organisation represented in five states. Our 4000+ members help us support our 9 vital projects in Israel:

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WIZO

Ahuzat Yeladim

“ I can't imagine what my life would have been like if I hadn't come to WIZO Ahuzat Yeladim. The staff and my family here have enabled me to turn my life around and I am privileged and proud to have been accepted into the IDF at the end of my schooling. ”

Michael

Residential school in Haifa for troubled youth



High on Mount Carmel above the sparkling Mediterranean, WIZO Ahuzat Yeladim is a therapeutic and post-hospitalisation residential school which offers support for troubled youth from 11-18 years old. This school is a last resort for these young people who have suffered abuse, rejection and neglect. They suffer from behavioural, emotional and psychiatric problems and have special educational needs. WIZO Ahuzat Yeladim is their last opportunity to resume a normal life and to succeed in being part of the wider society. These teenagers live and are schooled at WIZO Ahuzat Yeladim. The school becomes their home.

Ahuzat Yeladim has the capacity to house 120 students. They are cared for by a team of psychologists, social workers and teachers who utilise innovative programmes including the Pet Therapy Programme, a Therapeutic Gardening Programme and mentoring at the nearby naval base. In 2010 a new dormitory in the school known as Ahuzat Ha'aktana (Mini Ahuzat), was

opened to house 15 students between the ages of 7-11, for whom removal from their family was necessary for their safety.

This project continues to evolve depending on the specific needs of each child. Individual learning programmes assist the students to reach their potential. Specific therapies are created for each child as their needs differ from one another.

WIZO Ahuzat Yeladim is important for many reasons. It provides a safe home for the students, a place where they can change their lives for the better. By supporting this vital project, WIZO Australia has made a real difference to young lives in Israel.





MAKOM BALEV

Centre for Girls at Risk

“*Makom BaLev has given me a safe haven from the life I have been living. Here I feel safe, cared for and loved. I'm treated with respect and encouraged to become educated and to look forward to being able to make a positive contribution to my community.*”

Adi

Emergency Housing and Treatment Centre for Young Women in Be'er Sheva



Empowering and keeping women safe is an integral part of WIZO's philosophy.

Be'er Sheva is the largest city in the Negev Desert of Southern Israel and is a virtual melting pot of Jewish immigrants from East Africa, the former USSR and Ethiopia. In addition, its southern location and neighbouring Bedouin and Arab communities make for a complex social and diverse community.

In 2008, WIZO UK stepped in to create the ADI Programme in Be'er Sheva to assist a group of twelve girls ages 13-16 who had been emotionally, physically and sexually abused and who also lacked family or community support. As WIZO's work and reputation with the young teens expanded throughout Be'er Sheva, older girls aged 16-26 began to approach WIZO for help. The numbers of girls grew in both groups, not only making the premises crowded, but

also making it clear that the developmental, emotional and therapeutic needs of the two age groups were very different. The older girls needed a place of their own and WIZO Australia was approached to support this new project for 16 to 26 year olds. Makom BaLev – 'A place in the heart'.

This facility will take many young women off the streets and away from prostitution. It will give them an opportunity to be educated and go out into the community and become proud of what they can achieve.

Programme highlights

- Professional counselling and support to a maximum of 50 young women
- Vocational rehabilitation tailored to individual needs
- Referral to medical care
- Safe and hygienic emergency housing
- Hot nutritious meals

THE RAYA JAGLOM

Day Care Centre

“As a single parent I was finding it very hard to care for my baby and to work. The centre’s care-givers and professionals have given me the emotional support and tools to help me deal with everything. I don’t feel so alone and I know I can now give my child a good start in life.”

Shifra

A Multipurpose Day Care Centre in Tel Aviv



Located right in the heart of Tel Aviv, this is one of the city's most popular Day Care Centres. Named after World WIZO's longest serving President, this centre cares for over 100 children, from 6 months to 4 years. With WIZO Australia's support, recent renovations have provided safe, state of the art playgrounds, complete with art-inspired fencing and sun awnings. Modernised interiors and a new kitchen help create a warm, learning environment.

WIZO's main objective is to create a high quality, comprehensive support system model that focuses on the interaction of children and parents. Care-givers and allied professionals help the parents develop skills for taking care of their children at home, thus preventing the disintegration of the family unit.

This Multipurpose Day Care Centre is open from 7:00am until 7:00pm catering for the needs of at-risk children often suffering from neglect and abuse. The Ministry of

Welfare and Local Government authorities work in close cooperation with the WIZO staff at this centre to ensure the needs of the children are met in the most effective manner.





THE CHORLEY

Day Care Centre

“We know our children are getting the best possible care whilst we work, which is necessary for survival. The facilities here are fantastic. The educational, cultural and social activities are so varied and give our children a safe environment, good food and love.”

Revital and Eli

A nurturing facility in Ra'anana for children from all walks of life



This Day Care Centre was inaugurated in 1997 and is located in the Lev Ha'park district populated mainly by young, middle class couples. The neighbouring suburb is Kiryat Sharet, a low-income community, from where welfare cases are mostly enrolled into the day care centre.

The Chorley Day Care Centre cares for approximately 80 children, a growing number of whom are deemed at risk. Many of the parents who use this centre find themselves in dire circumstances and as such it accepts babies who are younger than 6 months old.

Programmes in the Day Care Centre support the child's development while encouraging curiosity, experiential learning and self-

expression in a supportive and warm environment. It offers programmes which include play, creativity, educational games and activities designed to promote sensory and motor development. The children participate in a variety of enrichment activities such as a music and movement class, developmental gymnastics, children's theatre performances and an animal petting programme.

Recent renovations have made the Chorley Day Care Centre a modern facility that is able to offer the very best for its children. There are three newly renovated playgrounds, each with sun awnings and age-appropriate equipment. A new kitchen has the capacity to serve both meat and milk meals separately.

A group of four young children are standing in front of a whiteboard, engaged in a drawing activity. The whiteboard is covered with colorful scribbles in blue, red, and green. The children are seen from behind, focused on their work. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting an indoor classroom or activity room setting.

THE SHIKUN MIZRACH

Day Care Centre

“I’m fortunate that this facility is available in our area. My children thrive under the positive influences they receive here. The staff have helped me deal with my previous inability to know how to take the best possible care of my children.”

Sarah

Supporting disadvantaged families in Rishon Le Zion



From when it first opened its doors in 1971, this Day Care Centre has been a vital resource in an old neighbourhood that has traditionally been riddled with crime and drug use. The centre has three classes catering for 80 children, a quarter of whom are welfare referred.

Devoted staff care for the children and are assisted by an occupational therapist who volunteers her services fortnightly. There are therapists from the municipality, assisted by WIZO volunteers, who work with parents to assist them in caring for their children as many suffer from emotional problems.

These therapists, together with social workers, often visit the children's homes to ensure their needs are taken care of.

The Maon Ve'od programme provides extra activities for the children in addition to the current activities which include story time, music hour, arts and crafts and gymnastics. Parents pay an additional fee of 80 NIS per month so that the children can participate in music and movement enrichment classes, attend five theatre performances per year and receive birthday, Channukah and Purim gifts.



THE RAE & TOM MANDEL FAMILY CENTRE

For Women & Children

“When I needed help at a difficult and unhappy time in my life, I found it here. The social workers, psychologists and lawyers giving pro bono legal advice are always readily available. This support helped me overcome my problems and I feel very positive for a brighter future.”

Esther

For Women and Children in Modi'in



Thanks to the generosity of Tom z'l and Rae z'l Mandel from Melbourne, this centre was opened in 2011 for the benefit of the women and children of Modi'in. It offers services such as family counselling and legal advice and is a major welfare resource in the area.

The centre offers women and girls at risk the opportunity to work with psychologists and social workers. They receive free legal advice from volunteer lawyers twice a week. Social workers and family counsellors

provide counselling and family mediation. Additionally, the centre supports single mothers in their day to day lives.

Young mothers can attend workshops on re-entering the job market after maternity leave. The centre also caters for the elderly, organising trips, performances and workshops for the senior citizens group. The centre runs a very successful Op Shop and the wonderful WIZO women in the area volunteer for this.



THE KORSUNSKI

Youth Club

“With so many interesting and meaningful after-school activities and supervision, I’m off the streets and keeping out of trouble. The staff encourage us to ensure our homework is done, to be good students and ultimately, good citizens.”

Michal

An activity centre for the youth of Kfar Saba



Named after Fania z'l and Godel z'l Korsunski from Perth, the Korsunski Youth Club is a home away from home for over 400 children. Based in the Kaplan district of Kfar Saba, a low socio economic area, the Youth Club runs an after-school programme and play centre offering enrichment activities. Most families are unable to provide meaningful after-school activities for their children, leaving them vulnerable to potentially dangerous influences after their school day is over. The Fanya and Godel Korsunski Youth Club offers a warm, safe and welcoming atmosphere for children.

Gymnastics, drama, music, art and dance classes as well as tutoring in maths and literacy are offered. Martial arts classes, community theatre and artistic photography courses are popular, while access to computers and homework supervision assist the children in their learning. The club's auditorium was named in memory of Denny Govendir z'l, a long-serving Executive Director of WIZO NSW.



A group of women are shown from the chest up, many with their arms raised in a celebratory gesture. They are wearing various colored shirts, including red and green. The background is slightly blurred, showing a white banner with a blue floral design. The overall atmosphere is joyful and energetic.

THE AYA DINSTEIN

Women's Club

“Being involved in the varied activities at this Club has enabled me to have a new lease on life. I may live on my own but here I'm never lonely. Our Women's Club has given me new friendships and a purpose every day.”

Rachel

A centre for elderly women in Jerusalem



Based in Ramat Eshkol, this vibrant centre was begun in 1973. It has had many incarnations - its current one, a place where women of Golden Age can meet and take part in activities.


These include Israeli dancing, English classes, Bible Studies and activities based around the many Jewish holidays throughout the year. Managed by a volunteer for the past eleven years, the centre has over 50 regular attendees who

have forged friendships and continued their education. To help raise funds, the centre is rented out in the afternoons to a Bridge Club and becomes a synagogue on Shabbat.

The centre is used for exercise classes, counselling sessions for single parents, senior citizens' activities, a girls in distress group and for a special after-school programme under the auspices of The Jerusalem Welfare Department for the children from dysfunctional families.

HATZOR AIR FORCE BASE

Children's Facilities



“Having my children engaged in activities here gives me peace of mind to concentrate on my work and enable their father to concentrate on helping protect our country.”

Regina

On-Base Day Care Centres and Youth Club



There are many families who live on the Hatzor Air Force Base. To support the vital work they do, WIZO has a number of projects on the base, primarily day care centres and a youth club. These now include:

- Martha Jacobson Day Care Centre
- Hala Goldstone Kindergarten
- Nelly Weiss Kindergarten
- Sonia and Don Marejn Kindergarten
- Vonnie Coppersmith Toddler's Home
- Larry and Bobby Adler Toddlers Home
- Ann Zabłud Youth Club



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