Dear all,

In the following pamphlet, I am pleased to present the activities conducted under the auspices of the "Yedidut Zahala" project, serving 1,300 at-risk Israeli youths in approximately 100 groups, spread from Eilat in the south to Akko in the north.

For three consecutive years, our volunteers meet on a weekly basis with the youth groups they accompany and guide. Together, they take part in diverse activities, including discussions about values, such as tolerance, friendship and leadership, learn about Israeli history, deliberate about current events, and participate in community service.

Furthermore, the groups enjoy team-bonding and entertainment events, as well as visit IDF bases, heritage sites, museums and attend plays. Every year, all the groups come together for a special Activity Day, marking the apex of our annual program.

Additionally, every year, a delegation of Yedidut Zahala members travels to Poland to grasp the extermination camps first-hand, in a journey that strengthens both their Israeli and moral identities.

In this report, you will find pictures and impressions from the activities of Yedidut Zahala groups over the past few years. The programs are quite extensive – we had no choice to display it all "in a nutshell"…

Thank you to the partners and contributors who help us achieve our dreams.

In appreciation and in friendship,

Ran Ronen (Pekker),
Founder and Chairperson, Yedidut Zahala
Recipients
Minister of Education
CEO, Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services
President, International Fellowship of Christians and Jews
CEO, International Fellowship of Christians and Jews
Chief of the General Staff
Chief of Staff, Manpower Directorate
Commander, National Security College
Commander, Air Force
Chief Education Officer
Acting Director General, Defense Social Branch
Chairperson, "Tzevet" – IDF Veterans Association
President, Air Force Association
CEO, Air Force Association
CEO, Amal Educational Network
CEO, Ort Israel Schools
Ness Technologies – Community Outreach
CEO, Beit Lessin Theater
CEO, Habima National Theater
CEO, JDC Israel
Director, Zur Shalem IDF Preparatory Program
CEO, Aluma
80 Mayors in Israel

Donors: Gifts of 10,000 NIS and Above (in descending order)
The International Fellowship of Christians and Jews, directed by Rabbi Yechiel Eckstein
Cheryl Saban (Los Angeles)
Haim Saban (Los Angeles)
Jacob Shaham (Miami)
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The Boxenbaum-Neta Charity Foundation
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Giora Ackerstein
Daniel Goldman
Tamar and Yeshayahu Shai
Eli Balas (Los Angeles)
Ami Adini (Los Angeles)
Mike Shapow (Los Angeles)
Peter Sela
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Success Stories
Lieutenant Adi Chakula, an officer at Michve Alon, at her promotion ceremony. On her right is her mother, and on her left, Motti Vagner, a Yedidut Zahala volunteer who has accompanied and guided Adi for six years. When asked during Officers Training Course to name an outstanding person who had influenced her life, Adi answered, without hesitating, Motti Vagner. Good luck!

I went to school in the youth village in Hodayot, and participated in Zahala activity for three years, in Albert Maman’s group. I received tremendous inspiration from Zahala – today I understand that determination and resolve can be so strong and bounds-shattering.

I am currently completing basic training in Magav, and am a certified combat soldier. My goal is to become an officer.
Chen Drazel, Yedidut Zahala graduate in Kfar HaYarok, enlisted in the IDF as a combat soldier in Magav (Israeli Border Police). One weekend, Avi Lazar, who accompanied Chen in Zahala, visited her; afterwards, he reported:

"I was glad to see that she was purely happy and even rabidly enthusiastic. Chen has already begun to “pester” her commanders, trying to convince them to advance her for military command. Last week, Chen was the first to volunteer to deliver a lecture for the fellow soldiers in her course. She chose to speak about "leadership", and selected Ran Pekker as an example of a leader. Chen related the process of Ran's founding of Zahala, outlined how Ran heads this entire wonderful organization – and offered herself as an illustration of a Zahala graduate. Chen described the learning process she experienced, and emphasized that had it not been for Zahala, she would not be standing before them at the present time. Chen also told me, that later, at her unit's weekly summary, both her fellow soldiers and her commanders praised her speech. When I spoke with her over the weekend, that was the first thing she told me. This gives a tremendous sense of satisfaction to all of us, and I am happy to share with you my joy over Chen's success."
I spent three years with Ami Sar-El, who voluntarily organizes the Yedidut Zahala program in our school. During that period, we had meetings and experiences that opened my eyes to a number of values I never had deemed important before.

For example, the significance of meaningful service in the IDF: In another month, I will be enlisting to the Armored Corps. Whenever we would speak about service in the IDF, Ami would stress how important it is to contribute three years of your life to the continuing existence of our country. Ami also invited soldiers to speak to us about meaningful service, and even took us to watch the Bok’im regiment of the Armored Corps in action.

Another value is promptness: Ami taught us that punctuality is one of the most important assets for life, as the first impression one makes when he or she has a meeting or an appointment, and explained to us how essential it is to be on time.

For myself, Ami helped me with a number of problems I had at school – and in my personal life. Sometimes, he would stay with me after meetings, and devote as much time as needed until we came to a solution for whatever problem had arisen.

Ami treated each of the students in his group as a father would, for all means and purposes. We always knew that if we ever wanted to talk about things we were dealing with or consult with someone – there was a person who would sit with every student, and dedicate the required time to listen and advise. Even during the week, Ami would make phone calls to the students, and if necessary, meet with us outside of school hours.
I was part of a Zahala group for three years, directed by Ami Sar-El – man and legend.

The Zahala project and Ami helped me in various aspects of my life, such as my ability to speak and express myself, to deal with different difficulties, to communicate in societies I am not familiar with, and to build my own value system.

Thanks to the project and Ami’s guidance, I intend on serving in the IDF in a beneficial and meaningful capacity.

Firstly, I would like to thank Ami for not giving up on any of the participants in the project, and who served as a model for all of us, in his values and conduct. I would also like to thank the school staff, which took on an important role in the project, and finally, the school administration, for their significant investment in this project which provided us with so much.

I, Shaked Sabban, am finishing three meaningful and value-laden years – years I will remember for the rest of my life – with Zahala.
Certificates of appreciation to volunteers

Dear Yonatan (Meidan) and Tamir (Gal),
In tenth grade, we got to know the Zahala project – you came and introduced yourselves as friends and not as teachers, you opened our eyes through lectures and various adventures. At first, we couldn't sit and concentrate for more than ten minutes, but two years later, we found ourselves fascinated for over an hour. You always came – whether to Poland or to our school trip in the south… you didn't miss a single moment! You changed us, no doubt about it. We spent three wonderful years with you, filled with trips, interesting and important people, stories from the army, and enhanced knowledge regarding the military. We thank you for every meeting and for all the effort you dedicated to us, we have but to acknowledge that you contributed a great deal to us – we have no way to express just how much. We love you without end, Class 2, twelfth grade.

From: Mevo'ot Yam Yearbook, 2014

Dear Ami (Sar-El),
We’re in eleventh grade moving up to twelfth, and wanted to thank you for two wonderful and exciting years – for helping us with problems at school, for taking us on exciting trips and to captivating lectures we likely would not have gone to, had it not been for Zahala.
Thank you for who you are. A teacher of life, of values, of meaning, of commitment, of vision and success.

We want to wish you all the best, that you continue to be an amazing and fascinating person. Thank you for unforgettable experiences. We're excited – and can't wait – for next year with you. We love and appreciate you very much.

With love,
Eleventh grade,
Ort HaShomron, Binyamina
Dear Yigal Shani,

We wanted to thank you for two years full of enjoyment, experiences, for activities outside of town, such as Shfayim, Magav bases, Tel Aviv, and others…

We learned a lot from you – about the army, about different periods in history, and mainly, about being better people. You broadened our knowledge, and had an answer for every question! We wanted to thank you for your patience when we were difficult, to thank you for not giving up on us even when we were problematic.

Thank you so much, we appreciate you a great deal and will always remember you –

Shaked group, Naveh Hadassah

Dear Yigal!

Volunteering means giving your soul and your heart without expecting anything in return.
Volunteering means investing every minute and second without waiting for thanks.
Volunteering means thinking less about yourself and more about others.
Volunteering means using your strength to light dark places.

Having a volunteer like you is simply a gift from above.

At the end of a wonderful year –

We just wanted to say thank you for the endless giving;
for expanding our knowledge in every field, in our eyes, you are a renaissance man;
for offering of your time without despairing;
for pouring out your heart and soul;
for devoting every minute and every second;
for thinking of us and brightening our lives.

Thank you very much from the bottom of our hearts,
Zahala group and staff of Naveh Hadassah

"Man, what does he provide his friend?
He gives of himself,
He gives of his life,
He does not give in order to receive,
Through his giving, he creates
Dear Zahala volunteers,

We, the class 2, want to thank you for three wonderful years,
three years of fun, three years of activities, fascinating lectures and summit events.
Thank you not just for organizing this program,
but for doing so while endowing us with values of love of the land, the other, and the human being.
For teaching us what it means to receive and to give.
Thank you for being an integral part of our daily lives,
Many times, we conducted our daily routines based on the values you instilled in us through the years,
and many times, these values were a significant part of our decision-making.
We are leaving very soon. Perhaps this is only a physical goodbye,
but it isn't a true and emotional farewell, because we are sure we will keep in touch,
and come to visit on Zahala's upcoming birthday celebrations.
We are sure our volunteers will continue to be there for us through the army, and likewise,
this project will always have a place in our hearts.
A special thank you to Ran Pekker, the initiator of the project and the CEO of Zahala.
Thank you to all of the project's volunteers, for all their time they devote to us,
and of course, thank you to our counselors, Avi, Shlomo and Ayeli!
Dear Ami,

We’ve reached the end of three years together, and we want to thank you for every moment.

We want to thank you for all your help, support, attention and thoughtfulness.

You are a wonderful person, and someone we definitely will not forget.

We learned a lot from you; you introduced us to new topics and ideas, and motivated us to think a little differently sometimes.

You accompanied us for our three meaningful years in high school – and even though some dropped out along the way, we wanted to thank you on behalf of our entire grade, for the delightful journey you took us on through our years in high school. Whether it was through learning, activities, phone calls or trips – you always cared about us, and we truly appreciate it.

You were like a father to us, constantly supporting, listening and loving, and we are proud to have gotten to meet you!

Just before we part, we again want to thank you sincerely – for everything! And remind you how much we appreciate you.

Love,

Twelfth grade, 2011-2013
Dear Eyal Melion,
At the beginning of the year, we presented the project to the entire grade – the exposition went well, but I thought the students were asking themselves "why bother participate in this project…"

A small group came to the first meetings, but very quickly, the word spread among the students that being around you was worthwhile.

The group expanded, and even in the last month of school, more students wanted to join in.

In addition to the warm words the students shared with you at the last meeting, I wanted to say

**Thank you**
Thank you for the dozens of meetings you devoted to them.
Thank you for the atmosphere you created at the meetings.
Thank you for giving the students a place to develop through the meetings.
Thank you for the love and warmth you provided the students.
Thank you for the advance preparation, to ensure the meetings were interesting.
Thank you, thank you, and again, thank you.

I will not be with you next year, but the students cannot wait to begin their meetings with you. You gave them a great deal. I hope and believe you continue down your path.

We will be in touch,
Best regards,
Rudy Aryeh

---

19.06.2012
Dear Chana!
With the conclusion of this year's program, we want to thank you sincerely for your contribution to the educational activity we experienced together.

We established a meaningful relationship (it took time), and we came to await our shared weekly meetings with bated breath.

The meetings at school were both enjoyable and beneficial, and the activity outside of school provided us pleasure and fun, while also encountering other students, from different parts of Israel.

We are already looking forward to beginning our activity next year, and thank you for everything.
Zahala students, tenth grade,
Ye'adim Technical High School
Dear Ran Pekker – Chairperson and Founder of Zahala,

We are the tenth-grade students from Revivim High School in Rishon LeZion – and we wanted to express our full appreciation and say thank you to you and to all of the volunteers of the Zahala project!

This year we participated in many Zahala events, various tours as well as challenging yet entertaining activities. We became exposed to new things, and even managed to learn from them, enjoying every moment.

In numerous meetings with Kuti, our counselor, we acquired more knowledge regarding current events. We heard lectures from interesting people, such as Lior Tomstein – meeting him taught us that nothing can stand in the way of willpower and resolve.

Our final activity this year was "Zahala in the Sky". For some of us, it was our first flight – and this time, we viewed this “first” in a new light. During the flight, we spoke with the pilots, we asked questions, and we learned about another field 😊. It was a unique and pleasurable experience.

Thank you and the entire staff for the volunteering, for the desire to invest in us and nurture a future generation, towards Zionism and love of the land, through dedication and without recompense, during your personal time. We truly appreciate it!

Thank you!!

Tenth grade students, Revivim High School, Rishon LeZiyon.
Dear Gabi and Shaul,

I want to thank you for a year of activity and education with the advanced Zahala group. The group is now entering its third year.

Last year, the students traveled and enjoyed new experiences, such as the graduation ceremony of the IAF flight academy, excursions, lectures, performances, movies, and especially your workshops – all of which enriched their life skills and provided them with excellent tips for life.

Together with you, the students created a narrative, and now plan their futures holding to the belief that they are able, due to the motivation you offered them.

Three students are travelling to Poland in August – thanks to you.

The group consisted of the eleventh and twelfth grades: the twelfth-graders joined in order to become closely acquainted with the Zahala project, and became enchanted with its charm – and are sorry they could not start over in tenth grade, with their own group.

Shaul, thank you for two consecutive years of partnership and constant assistance with every student.

Gaby, you joined this year – and left your mark on the program. You fit right in, as if it were your second year in the program.

To the directors of the Zahala project – the project provided educational energy for the entire town, and aided us in guiding our youth to a brighter future, and you deserve our thanks for that as well.

Best regards,
Yossi Michael,
Grade Coordinator
National Circulation

North
Nahariya
Krayot
Haifa
Kfar Galim
Hodayot
Karmiel
Tiberiya

Center
Binyamina
Raanana
Natanya
Hadere
Herzliya
Tel Aviv
Kfar HaYarok
Emek Hefer
Mevo'ot Yam
Modi'in
Rosh HaAyin
Holon

South
Rishon LeZion
Yavne
Rehovot
Gedera
Ashkelon
Eilat
Summit Events
Twentieth Anniversary Celebrations – Yedidut Zahala

On May 1st, 2013, over 4,000 people – among them, partners of the program, donors, public figures, volunteers past and present, and chiefly, hundreds of Zahala participants and graduates from over the years – gathered together at the amphitheater of Raanana Park for a special event marking the twentieth anniversary of the founding of the Yedidut Zahala project.

The event began with a general assembly, dotted with emotional reunions between the program's graduates and the volunteers who guided them through high school.

The artistic portion of the evening commenced with the singing of the Tikva, by Yedidut Zahala graduate from Kiryat Ata and 2012 Israel Beauty Queen, Shani Chazan. Afterwards, a number of Zahala participants and graduates, who emceed the event, took the stage, alongside the Yedidut Zahala band, which graced the evening with song.

During the evening, we were honored to receive the good wishes of the host city's mayor, Mr. Nahum Hofri; of the CEO of The International Fellowship of Christians and Jews, Mr. Ziyon Gabbai; of the Director General of Youth and Society Administration, Mr. Erez Eshel; and of the Commanding Officer of the Army Headquarters Manpower Division, Brig. Gen. Yigal Slovik. We also received written and taped messages from Prime Minister, Mr. Benjamin Netanyahu; from Minister of Defense, Moshe (Bogie) Ya'alon; from Chief of the General Staff, Lieut. Gen. Benjamin (Benny) Gantz; from President of The International Fellowship of Christians and Jews, Rabbi Yechiel Eckstein; and from representatives of donors who have accompanied us for many years, Haim and Cheryl Sabban.

The event reached its highpoint with the debut performance of the stirring Yedidut Zahala anthem, which was specifically written for the anniversary celebrations by leading artists in the Israeli music industry: lyrics by Amos Ettinger, and composed by Kobi Oshrat.

The evening concluded with the one and only Eyal Golan, in an especially rousing concert – who volunteered to contribute a performance from the moment he heard about the project.
Zahala Day 2014

Towards the end of April, eleventh- and twelfth-grade Zahala members traveled south, to an infantry base.

The Zahala members took part in an activity day which was devoted in its entirety to raising their motivation to serve, and featured a weaponry exhibition, a military simulator, and a panel discussion with soldiers who explained at length about their positions in various branches of the infantry.

The entire day was planned and organized by the Department for Encouraging Recruitment in the Ground Forces, led by Brig. Gen. Yigal Slovik, Commanding Officer of the Army Headquarters Manpower Division, and his staff – Col. Sammy Holzkin, Maj. Shaul Sarusi, Maj. Meital Mazal Tarim and Second Lieut. Omer Avisarur, who made every effort to ensure the whole "operation" would be incredibly successful in all respects.

Many greetings!
First, thank you for your effort in organizing the visit to the infantry-training base. It was excellent, and the students came home full of positive experiences and impressions.

Michael Lev, Eilat

Thank you very much, we enjoyed the visit and learned a great deal about the IDF’s ground forces. Once again, thank you.

Benny Peled’s group, Zahala project Ashkelon, Mekif Ironi D School

My group wanted to say they found yesterday very enjoyable and interesting. They also mentioned it was the best Zahala activity they had yet experienced!

Ziv Levavi, HaKfar HaYarok, Na’ala group

To Ran, Shaul, Orit, and all those involved –
Accept our deep appreciation and enormous thanks for planning and organizing Zahala Day on the infantry-training base. We have already become used to the perfect coordination, the management, the concern for every detail, and the side-by-side guidance throughout the day – yet every time anew, it is extremely impressive.

Zahala students, Branco Weiss School, Modi’in and Duki Ben-Chayil
IDF Preparation Day 2013

On a wintry day, over 1,000 participants of Yedidut Zahala gathered at the Smolarz Auditorium in Tel Aviv University for a convention on the topic of preparation for service in the IDF.

Thirty buses, provided by the Ministry of Education, brought the young men and women to the university, where IDF representatives who explained about the military positions awaiting them, as well as Meitav representatives who answered personal questions pertaining to recruitment, greeted them. Additionally, representatives of Mechinot (military preparatory programs) displayed their "wares" to the Zahala members.

When a sign was given, all the participants entered the auditorium (filling it up to the balcony), where a ceremony was conducted marking the 40th anniversary of the Yom Kippur War. The Air Force band, which amazed with its musical executions, accompanied the ceremony, and videos about the war were screened. The focal point of the ceremony was the screening of a movie incorporating the personal stories of Yedidut Zahala volunteers who fought in the Yom Kippur War.

The Yedidut Zahala band wrapped up the central part of the event, complemented by program graduate, Corporal Haili Etin, who recently finished a military course to become a squad commander, singing the rousing Zahala anthem, written by Amos Ettinger and composed by Kobi Oshrat.

The event concluded with the wonderful singer Omer Adam, who volunteered to perform on this special occasion, in a stirring and moving concert. Omer had the young men and women up on their feet, having fun, singing and dancing together with him.
More pictures from IDF Preparation Day
Zahala Day 2012

A national activity day for 1,000 members of the Zahala project from all Israel was held in March 2012.

The activity day began in two places – Hadera Forest and Ben Shemen Forest. In each one, 500 members gathered for group sessions in several stations, involving partnership, communication, creativity, bonding and listening within the group.

After a tasty outdoor lunch, everybody assembled at the Air Force Center in Herzliya for a joint convention. The convention was honored by the presence of the CEO of The International Fellowship of Christians and Jews, Ziyon Gabbai, and of the National Supervisor for the Advancement of Youth in the Ministry of Education, Noah Greenbaum. Teams of Zahala participants performed on stage, in song and dance – and at the conclusion of the good wishes and speeches, we all enjoyed the play "Scroll of Melodies", recounting the story of the state of Israel from its birth through the present day, based on popular songs, which have become inalienable assets of Israeli culture.

The passionate feedback we received at the end of the event proved that this moving meeting between Zahala participants and volunteers from all over the country, the effort put into a meaningful and extensive activity day, and the high level of dedication expressed by all those involved – are all an integral part of the tapestry of annual activity experienced by every group in the Zahala project.
Article about the activity of Gedera's Zahala group on Zahala Day in local newspaper

Convention hall at the Air Force Center, filled to the brim

Yaakov Avidor, Zahala volunteer in Rehovot, with Ran Pekker, founder and chairperson of Zahala

Yedidut Zahala members from Rehovot

Yedidut Zahala members from Migdal HaEmek

Volunteer at activity in Ben Shemen Forest
IDF Preparation Day 2010

In October 2010, hundreds of Yedidut Zahala participants and volunteers from the entire country took part in a two-day tour encouraging enlistment to the IDF. On the first day, we visited the Air Force base in Hatzerim, and the Air Force Museum. The visit included a meeting with pilots, a guided tour of a squadron, explanations about the Skyhawk plane, and a viewing of a presentation about fighter aircrafts. Later, we assembled to observe takeoffs and landings, while an air traffic controller described his job and the process of directing aircrafts from the control tower.

The following day, after spending an unforgettable night camping out on the field of the soccer stadium in Eilat, we arrived at the Shizafon Army Base, as guests of the Commander of the Ground Forces, in order to attend a battle simulation. After a reception at the base, a combat soldier from the Armored Corps joined each Zahala bus, in order to provide background and explain about the drill. The simulation began as we took our seats in the stands, while listening to commentary about every stage of the drill, as well as the radio transmissions being used throughout. We watched, as the ground forces, aided by the air force, shot live fire towards a facility representing an enemy force. The tanks stormed forward as fire from the artillery and the air attacked enemy targets. Forces from the Engineering Corps breached several obstacles, thus allowing the access of ground troops, as the charging infantry demonstrated urban warfare. A simulation helicopter landing – dropping off troops and supply and picking up wounded soldiers – was carried out as well. The drill was very impressive – and it provided an opportunity for Zahala’s youth to see how warfare is conducted, and to note the roles performed by the various forces.

At the conclusion of the drill, Brig. Gen. Yigal, Commander of the Armored Corps, took a few minutes to meet with the Zahala groups.
Zahala Girls Night

A special evening – for women only – was devoted to the subject of "female empowerment," through exposure to related issues as well as unique and successful women, each in her own field of action, women who created precedents and are likely to serve as role models. All the young women in Zahala groups from all over the country left the comfort of their homes on the stormiest day of the winter, and came to the event on organized buses.

The evening began with a general assembly in the auditorium, and opening remarks and greetings from Ran Ronen Pekker, Zahala chairperson, Yifat Sela, Aluma CEO, and a video message from Ms. Cheryl Sabban of Los Angeles, our donor for "female empowerment."

Businesswoman Pnina Rosenblum spoke to the Zahala girls about "women's strength in business," with the main motif of her talk being: nothing can stand in the way of willpower and resolve. Pnina also incorporated tips about makeup and cosmetics into her speech.

Afterwards, members of Zahala groups performed: Miri Matityahu from Kiryat Ata sang Sarit Hadad's "Sh'ma Yisrael"; Chaviva Markowitz from Nahariya sang Miri Mesika's "Ba'ah Aleichem" ("Coming to You"); the group from Navah Hadassah staged a dance. To conclude the evening, artist Einat Saruf led public singing and dancing.

The event was entertaining, enjoyable and enriching. The girls explored the successes of women in numerous fields, and appreciated the laid-back atmosphere that created a supportive female environment.
National Activity
Good Deeds Day

Every year, Yedidut Zahala participants join in the "Good Deeds Day" initiative led by the Arison Foundation. We are proud of the participants and volunteers for whom giving to others is not immaterial, but rather, a meaningful part of their lives. Keep up the good work!

Today we took part in Good Deeds Day. The group was great, and received compliments and good wishes. We packed gift boxes for senior citizens in the safe society of the Binyamina community center. We also painted and cleaned the Lehava Club – a youth club in a Binyamina housing complex.

At the end of the day, we received the good wishes of the education department of the Binyamina local council. Well done – and be proud of our kids.

Yuval Halamish, Mevo’ot Yam

On Good Deeds Day, three Zahala groups in Nahariya took part in volunteer activity, true to the values of the Yedidut Zahala project. Two groups from the yeshiva-high school Avir Ya’akov enthusiastically painted and decorated the walls of the bomb shelter in the Remez School. The third group, from the Amal Psagot School, baked hamentashen and played social games with the students and staff of the Ilanot School in Nahariya.

The groups’ behavior was outstanding, and together, we celebrated in the spirit of giving and assisting the society and the community.

Rami Sharabi, Nahariya

To Aviva Polack and the Zahala group from Ruppin School,

On behalf of the ninth grade student in our school, I would like to thank you for the pleasant meeting our students had with your students last week. Our students eagerly anticipated the joint meeting, enjoyed it immensely, and even expressed their interest in maintaining the ties between the two groups. The students’ relaxed and friendly atmosphere and competitive spirit made the meeting entertaining and satisfying. Thank you, staff and students; we will be glad to continue working together in the future.

Best wishes, Nathan Guttman, Principal, Yakir School
Orienteering Race in Memory of Yoav Harshoshanim

The Nature Day and Orienteering Race in memory of Yoav Harshoshanim z”l takes place each year in the Neot Kedumim Reserve. The race commemorates Yoav Harshoshanim, who fell in the line of duty in Lebanon, and is organized by his family. Zahala groups participate in the race – getting to a beautiful part of the country, an important heritage of Israel's military history, and a wide range of Israeli who take part in the activity.

These are the impressions of Eran Rom, Zahala counselor from Rehovot, whose group participated in the race:

When Orit forwarded the e-mail about the race, I saw an opportunity to offer a new experience to many in my group. With the help of Kuti Lavi, I contacted Gadi Doron, a member of the Israel Orienteering Association, who agreed to help prepare the group for orienteering, and even participated in the race and guided the group through it.

Implementing the basics of orienteering requires time – and during the two weeks leading up to the race, Gadi and I tried to bring the group up to an elementary level of expertise, in which they could read a topographic map and find their way around the terrain. On the day of the event, the group split up into teams, received briefings, and started on their ways. Some of the teams reached the selected destinations, but others found themselves completely lost.

In my opinion, the entire group learned from its first encounter with the terrain – yet, in order to utilize the education process fully, continuity must be achieved, and similar orienteering opportunities should be exploited.

Once all the teams reassembled, we visited an exhibit commemorating Yoav, where we enjoyed a captivating meeting with a company commander from the local military sector, who provided a fascinating appraisal of the battle Yoav fell in, as well as the lessons, primarily the moral ones, to be gleaned from it.

Overall, the race had the characteristics of a mass event, in which we met many parts of Israeli society. The uniqueness of the location and the wonderful weather added a great deal to its success. The groups' feedback at the conclusion of the event attests to their tremendous enjoyment from this experience – as the pictures below illustrate.

To finish, I would like to thank Orit and Ruti from Zahala, Efrat, the grade coordinator, and Gadi, whose contribution was truly special, for their help in making the event a success. And of course, to Nurit and Shilo Harshoshanim, for the exceptional enterprise they established for the commemoration of their son.
Sdot Israel

A unique partnership has developed between the Yedidut Zahala project and Zvi Livneh, director of "Sdot Israel" and his staff, who conduct annual empowerment and bonding workshops for hundreds of Yedidut Zahala participants. Each group travels once a year (sometimes, even more) to the Sdot Israel facilities in Kerem MaHaral, and take part in activities devoted to exposing the inner strength inherent in every individual, as well as the forces present in the entire group.

The importance of this program can be appreciated from the feedback – and the pictures – we receive at the end of the day with Sdot Israel.

The hours we spent with Sdot Israel were singular and enjoyable, and allowed us, as a group, to better understand our abilities – as well as learning about our personal skills and ourselves. There is no doubt that the visit made a meaningful contribution to the self-empowerment of each and every member of the group.

I would like thank all those who made this experience possible, and especially, the director and staff of Sdot Israel, who made every effort to make us feel at home – and come away enriched from their unique program.

Avi Ariav, Yedidut Zahala volunteer, Tora U'Mada

I am pleased to report that yesterday, March 4\textsuperscript{th}, we took part in Sdot Israel activities. Our counselor was Ravit, and the group had a wonderful time with her. On the one hand, we experienced three hours of empowerment… and on the other, release. This was our second time with Sdot Israel, and it was highly successful.

Roni Gur, Yedidut Zahala volunteer, Kiryat Yam

On Friday, May 30\textsuperscript{th}, we went on a tour, ending up at the Sdot Israel site, and even met our good friend, Zvi Livneh. After a short explanation about the uniqueness of our group – composed of olim from the former Soviet Union, who came to Israel as part of the Na'ale program – Eran, our counselor, enthusiastically and expertly had the teens performing various drills and tasks through friendship and teamwork, producing a sense of pride, satisfaction and enjoyment.

I recommend that every Zahala group of eleventh- and twelfth-graders participate in the bonding experience at Sdot Israel.

Wishing you a pleasant summer vacation,

Ziv Levavi, Yedidut Zahala volunteer, HaKfar HaYarok
Mitchabrim March to Jerusalem

Over Sukkot vacation, members of Yedidut Zahala groups participated in a two-day march to Jerusalem, organized by the Mitchabrim – Building a Future Together Association and the Association of Regional Councils, in partnership with the Youth and Society Administration of the Ministry of Education. The project was conceived out of deep concern regarding the rifts, ignorance and lack of communication rife in Israeli society. The project is, in essence, a national renewal of the ancient tradition of pilgrimage on foot to Jerusalem, a journey of unification, of acquaintance, of joint experiences – of mutuality and the strengthening of the bonds between different segments of Israeli society. These objectives correspond to the values instilled in members of Yedidut Zahala – therefore, we found it imperative to integrate Zahala members into the march, as well as exhibit the Zahala project in a designated sukka erected along the path of the march.

The march began on trails in the forests surrounding Jerusalem, passing through Sho'eva, Ein Limor, Ein Rafa, Ein Hemed and Tzova, stopping in sukkot along the way and allowing for social encounters. That evening, a performance was enjoyed by all – and at night, everybody slept under the stars. The next day, everyone continued walking through the forests around Jerusalem, from Ein Karem to Mount Herzl, with a sense of satisfaction in meeting the required physical efforts.

The length of the march was 28 kilometers. As a joint experience, it contributed to strengthening the internal ties and the mutual awareness within Israeli society – and particularly, among the members of Zahala groups – and for that reason, our thanks is proffered to all who planned, organized and financed this welcome venture.
Circle the Kinneret

Over Sukkot vacation, the traditional Yedidut Zahala program on the trail circling the Kinneret took place. One hundred and fifty Zahala members participated in the activity day, which included challenging sporting events in a rope park, and a wild kayak ride in Yarden Park. After a nutritious lunch, they set out to blaze the trail circling the Kinneret, near Ginosar beach.

Over the years, Zahala members have managed to clear wide swaths of the trail, whose function is to provide access to the beaches of the Kinneret for the general population, allowing everyone to enjoy this beautiful trail, free of charge.

This activity has two main advantages. It offers the participants valuable opportunities to both meet new friends from other groups and become more familiar with the area around the Kinneret – thereby promoting love of the country, of giving and of social involvement, through senses of experience, bonding and partnership, within and between Yedidut Zahala groups from all over Israel.

Nir, from the "Trail around the Kinneret" movement, with Zahala members holding tools
IAF Flight Academy Graduation Ceremony

Every year, Zahala members attend the IAF Flight Academy graduation ceremony. The Zahala members enjoy a unique experience, comprised of three parts.

Aircraft and Missile Exhibition – In a designated part of Hatzerim Base, a wide range of aircraft and missiles were displayed. The exhibition began with a **Lockheed C-130 Hercules Aircraft**, used during the hostage rescue mission, **Operation Entebbe**, in Uganda (1976). Afterwards, **fighter jets, light aircraft, trainer aircraft and helicopters** were exhibited. In addition, we surveyed **surface-to-surface and surface-to-air missiles**, the Arrow and the Patriot, as well as **unmanned aerial vehicles** – the Silver Sparrow, produced by Elbit Systems, capable of gathering live intelligence; we even witnessed a demonstration of its photographic abilities.

Rank Unveiling Ceremony – The ceremony took place on the parade grounds. It began with the entrance of the IDF band to the strains of the IDF march. Behind them, marched the trainees of the IAF Flight Academy, followed by the graduates of the course, and bringing up the rear, soldiers bearing the insignia of every IAF unit. After the commanders spoke, the ranks of those who graduated with honors were unveiled, followed by the ranks of the rest of the graduates. Then, the academy trainees performed military parade drills – and afterwards, the graduates performed the traditional ritual of throwing their hats in the air.

Flyover and Aerial Demonstration – The flyover began with helicopters, bearing the flags of the State of Israel, the IDF and the Air Force. Next, an aerial demonstration of the famous black Spitfire 57 took place, followed by exhibitions of a surveillance aircraft, a tanker aircraft refueling a fighter jet, troops and vehicles landing from a Hercules cargo transport aircraft, and the parachuting of equipment. Afterwards, an aerial medical evacuation by helicopter was demonstrated, as well as an aerobatics display of the **Efroni** trainer aircraft. The demonstration concluded with helicopters and fighter jets performing a successful shooting practice, firing air missiles towards targets on the ground.
Pilot for a Day

At the height of summer vacation, Yedidut Zahala members from around the country gather for an exciting and moving event. Waiting for them at the civilian landing strip in Rishon LeZion were twelve light aircraft, accompanied by close to twenty volunteer pilots. The highlight of the event came when each member took a short flight over Israel, getting a birds-eye view of the coastline; the bolder ones even had a chance to briefly take the controls of the plane.

At the end of the day, "Pilot for a Day" certificates were awarded to the Zahala members, and certificates of appreciation were presented to the volunteer pilots.

Many thanks to Oded Reisman, landing strip supervisor, for recruiting the volunteer pilots, and to all the pilots, who dedicated their time – and planes – to the members of Zahala.

Feedback from the activity:

Some telling responses from my Julis group:
"I was so excited before the flight, I couldn't sleep all night..."
"This was my first time flying, and I had no idea it was so interesting..."
"The pilot explained everything and let me take the controls, I felt just like a pilot..."
"This was one the most special experiences I ever had – it was truly fun..."
Sincerely,
Dina Lahav

In Picture: Ran Pekker with Zahala members from Kiryat Yam and volunteer Ayala Bar preparing to board the plane

I'm adding to the thank-you's and words of appreciation. The "threesome" from Kadima had a unique and meaningful experience, not just during the flight itself, but also through the encounter with the organizers and the volunteer pilots, representing Israel at its finest, who united to give of themselves to this impressive enterprise.

On behalf of all of us, well done, and thank you from the bottom of our hearts!
Yizhar Shai,
Kadima

Dina, You deserve many thanks – there are no other words to describe how much you have given to our youth, and especially, to the Zahala students at our school.
Yosef and I highly appreciate all that you do for our school. You have brought our students back on track. The students immensely enjoyed the last activity, and will never forget the experience of flying.
On behalf of the administration and myself, thank you for your magnificent work. Well done!
Eli Iyov, Principal, Julis High School

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Eli Iyov, Principal, Julis High School
Visits to IDF Bases

During this period, many Zahala groups visited IDF bases of Air Force, Navy and Infantry units. In each visit, Zahala members meet with commanders and soldiers serving in various capacities, and are able to become acquainted with the service options awaiting them.

These visits help us raise the motivation for service among Zahala members.

We are pleased to describe two such visits:

The first was held for 200 Zahala members at the Adam Facility army base. The members divided into four groups, and took turns at four stations:

1. Camouflage – Display of advanced means of camouflage, and practical training in military face painting.
2. Firing Exhibition – Display of sniper weapons and elite shooting practice.
3. Oketz – Explanations about the canine special forces and exhibition of the unit’s abilities.

The stations were all engaging and fascinating.

Another special visit was held for the Zahala group from Mevo’ot Yam, directed by volunteer Eyal Melion, at Officers Training School (pictured left). We hope that members of the group will one day stand on the base’s parade grounds, proudly wearing officer's stripes on their shoulders…

Pictured:
Zahala member in camouflage outfit
Zahala member being painted in camouflage colors
Zahala members listening to explanations at a station
Zahala members outside Officers Training School
Social Involvement

Throughout the year, every Zahala group takes part in activities of contributing to the community. Zahala members provide food to those in need, renovate public spaces, plant trees, clean beaches, and entertain children in hospitals as well as elderly in old-age homes.

These pictures illustrate a number of exemplary stories of giving:

Renovating homes before Pesach

Every year prior to Pesach, the Ort Binyamina group, together with counselor Ami Sar-El, clean and renovate the homes of people in their community in need of their help.

The group worked hard for some hours – whitewashing, weeding, cleaning, and brightening forgotten corners in their neighborhood.

Mishloach Manot to the old-age home

On Purim, the Zahala group from Kiryat Yam visited the local old-age home in order to hand out mishlochei manot. The visit was not prearranged – but the directors of the old-age home were very excited the group came, and greeted the Zahala members warmly. The members behaved in an exemplary fashion, and even spoke to the residents of the old-age home about the army and other issues.

Together with Chana's sister (Chana is the group's counselor) the group put on a mock yoga session for Neshama. It was lovely and hilarious, the group played along tremendously – and at the end, Neshama thanked the group for their complete participation. The satisfaction the group received from the act of giving, their sense that "the giver gets more" – made the entire event worthwhile.
Volunteering with Golani

A Zahala group of girls participated in two days of volunteer work at the Gadsar Golani base in Camp Shraga. Gadsar Golani is the Special Forces unit of the Golani brigade, and includes reconnaissance units, the Orev heavy weaponry company, and engineering units.

Upon arriving at the base, the group attended a briefing outlining the plan of action, along with general background about the Golani brigade as well as an impressive film about Gadsar Golani. The girls expressed their interest, asking questions about army service and the Golani brigade. Afterwards, they proudly changed into army uniforms.

Later, the group gathered in the armory, where they viewed the diverse weapons used by the unit. After lunch, the group divided into work forces, joining the logistics department, the armory, the guard posts – and to the surprise and gratitude of the Gadsar soldiers, three girls insisted on working in the kitchen and mess hall. The soldiers happily and expertly took in the girls’ helping hands.

At the summary meeting concluding the "operation", led by the Deputy Commander of the Gadsar Training School, Gadsar soldiers expressed their great appreciation to the Yedidut Zahala girls. For their part, the girls thanked the soldiers for the wonderful experience. There can be no doubt that this event reinforced their motivation for meaningful service in the IDF. Gadsar commanders and soldiers also commented on their satisfaction from working with Yedidut Zahala – and will be glad to expand this activity, incorporating other groups.
Happy Chanukah for hospitalized children

Last Chanukah, the Yedidut Zahala group from Gederah brought sweet and delicious sufganiyot to the children's ward at Kaplan Hospital. Each sufganiya was handed out along with a coloring book, in order to make the children's stay in the hospital more enjoyable.

The project was very touching – and the Zahala participants continue to receive positive feedback about it.

Wheelchair Donation

As part of encouraging giving back to the community, a group volunteer takes a number of Zahala members every week to visit and assist disabled children at a House of Wheels.

The Zahala members, aided by the group counselor, rehabilitated a surplus wheelchair from their town, in order to donate it to the House of Wheels.

This afternoon, we presented the wheelchair to Eli, director of the House of Wheels Herzliya branch, who was glad to receive it, and sincerely thanked the group and its members.

A beautiful initiative from a special group.
Gadna (Youth Battalions)

Over Pesach vacation, members of Yedidut Zahala traveled to the Gadna base in Tzalmon for three days of activity. The program, whose goal was to enhance familiarity with the IDF, especially with basic training, began by dividing into squads, platoons and companies, as well as adhering to tight schedules and discipline, athletic training, teamwork, a march on foot, and shooting with live fire. Additionally, the Zahala members were instructed in important chapters in Israel’s military heritage and history, dilemma facing soldiers during their service, and values such as love of the country and significant service in the IDF.

The program was highly successful, and the Zahala members returned home bursting with new experiences.
The Horse Path

The Yedidut Zahala group from Rehovot, directed by volunteer Eran Rom, participated in a pilot project, devoted to self-empowerment through direct communication with horses. The workshop consisted of a preparatory classroom session, three sessions at the horse farm in Kfar Bilu, and a final summary in class. Processes of research and evaluation were carried out through the entire pilot project, conducted by The Horse Path organization in partnership with the international EAGALA association.

During the first session at the horse farm, the Zahala group made the acquaintance of the horses – and of themselves – and performed a number of horse-leading maneuvers. During the meeting, the participants were requested to express and present their feelings and actions in light of the drills they were assigned; aside from a few individuals (mostly girls), the participants encountered difficulty in openly speaking about their emotions.

The second session was dedicated to the development of guidance and leadership skills. The group participated in a fundamental discussion about the term "leadership", in which they deliberated over the characteristics required of a leader – some of which were unconventional yet interesting, such as fear. Afterwards, the group was asked to perform horse-leading maneuvers of varying levels of difficulty.

Naturally, the participants coped with the assignments with various degrees of success; however, it was evident that their familiarity with their surroundings and with the horses, as well as the experience garnered from the first session, contributed to their growing sense of openness, and advanced their internal cooperation.

The third session, on the topics of planning and teamwork, was more difficult than the two previous ones – and managed to derive the utmost from the majority of the group. Moreover, participants who had previously sat off to the side and hardly spoke during the sessions, made themselves heard and even took the initiative, guiding the group – whether on its own, or with the horses.

Overall, the workshop was quite successful. Certainly, not all of the participants were able to assimilate the experience and express their feeling the same way. Even so, each participant acquired – or fortified – his or her personal tools for dealing with social situations demanding decision-making and collaboration, thereby achieving the workshop's objective.
Journeys to Poland
Zahala Delegation to Poland – 2013

After a long year of preparations, the representatives of Zahala groups traveled to Poland.

The preparations included visits to Holocaust memorial sites spread throughout Israel – among them, Yad VaShem, Kibbutz Lochamei HaGetaot and Yad Mordechai – and at their peak, the Zahala delegates gathered for a two-day seminar at the Massuah Institute.

The preparations were not simple. The delegates were required to demonstrate abilities of attention, internalization, and higher order thought. The exposure to difficult subjects, either through personal stories and testimonies or through movies and pictures, was both challenging and complicated.

A devoted staff of volunteers accompanied the Zahala delegates throughout the entire year, led by the three volunteers who were chosen to escort the journey itself – Efi Ben Simon from Gedera, Dror Yitzchaki from Kfar HaYarok, and Yehudit Eisenberg from Haifa. Alongside the volunteers, Dr. Yoel Goren joined the delegation as a doctor, Yoni Noi as a guide, and Shaul Kramer as its director.
There is no doubt that this strengthening journey remains engraved on the hearts of its participants, who returned to Israel with a strong feeling of "Am Yisrael Chai!"

In August 2014, the 12th Zahala delegation traveled to Poland.

Over 400 young men and women have already participated in Zahala delegations to Poland. The delegations are intended for youth unable to join their school delegations, due to financial constraints or behavioral issues.

Representatives from approximately twenty Yedidut Zahala groups participate in each delegation.

The delegates prepare in Israel for the journey, and after returning, they share their experiences with the other members of their groups.
Prizes and Awards
The Deputy Minister for Senior Citizens' Award for Outstanding Volunteers

Ran Ronen (Pekker)

Ran Ronen (Pekker), 74, resident of Herzliya, was born in Kfar Vitkin, and has been volunteering since 1993, with the purpose of educating young men and women towards upstanding citizenship, loyalty and contribution to the country, values and excellence.

Throughout his 27 years of service in the Air Force, Brig. Gen. (res.) Ran Ronen (Pekker) executed a long list of combat and command positions, piloted almost every type of aircraft in the force, and participated as a soldier and a commander in every Israeli war between Operation Kadesh and the Yom Kippur War. Among his many roles, he served as the Mirage Squadron Commander, the Phantom Squadron Commander, Commander of the IAF Flight Academy, Commander of Tel Nof Airbase, and instructor at the National Security College.

After his release from the army, and following three years of service as the Israeli Consul General in the United States, Ran Ronen diverted his energies and his abundant experience in teaching, command and elite military education to value-based youth instruction. With the assistance of the Tel Aviv Municipality, he formed a group of twelve at-risk youths, none of whom likely to graduate from high school. Four years later, all twelve passed the matriculation exams, and enlisted to combat units in the IDF. Ran Ronen saw this success as the beginning of a much larger undertaking.

While recruiting dozens of volunteers to the project, some of whom, his former subordinates, Ran Ronen (Pekker) founded – and continues to direct – the Yedidut Zahala program, having established its goal of education young men and women towards values, as well as encouraging social involvement and upstanding citizenship. The young men and women benefit from personal guidance and devoted instruction, implementing in them love of the country and of fellow humans, and raises their confidence in their ability to obtain success and achievements. Today, the project numbers close to one hundred groups, spread throughout the country, over one thousand active young men and women, and more than five thousand graduates, who enjoy the outstanding personal examples set by volunteer counselors. The project is characterized by its instruction and guidance promoting excellence, as well as educational partnerships through volunteer activity for others and for society.

"The Deputy Minister for Senior Citizens' Award for Outstanding Volunteers" is hereby conferred upon Ran Ronen (Pekker) in recognition of his initiative and many years of action for the education and advancement of thousands of young men and women throughout the country, promoting upstanding citizenship and social involvement, as well as for recruiting dozens of volunteers to participate in this educational endeavor.
Certificate of Appreciation

awarded

to the "Zahala" Organization

In honor of its activity for the advancement youth in the periphery, through education, introduction to values, and encouraging their enlistment in the IDF, strengthening Israeli society.

Dr. Baruch Levi, Naftali Sagi Dan Nadiv,
Chairperson, "Tzevet" Chairperson, CEO, "Tzevet"
Volunteering Committee

Sivan 5771 / June 2011

"The people rejoiced for that they offered willingly, because with a whole heart they offered willingly…"

(1 Chronicles 29)
"Ore to Excellence" Award for Excellence – 2011

Brig. Gen. (res.)

Ran Ronen Pekker

In honor of your many years of contribution, in the IDF and in civilian society,
In honor of your life-saving action – as a soldier and as an education,
In honor of being a model of excellence and quality.

Ore to Excellence
the Organization for the Promotion of Excellence
Letters of Appreciation
Jerusalem, 19 Iyar 5773

April 29, 2013

Blessing of the Prime Minister in honor of Twenty Years of "Yedidut Zahala"

Activity

Dear members, volunteers and management of the "Yedidut Zahala" project,

You are currently celebrating twenty years of activity, a period in which you have successfully influenced the lives of hundreds of young men and women.

The initiative for founding the "Yedidut Zahala" project stemmed from a small group of individuals who wished to contribute to our society and our future generations. On this occasion, I acknowledge my friend Ran Pekker, who founded, supported and directed the project from its start. Thanks to his persistence, his belief and his character, he convinced many good citizens to volunteer and to help promote the project.

Today, you may proudly look back over your handiwork with a sense of satisfaction for having succeeded in fulfilling the vision you established from the outset – connecting young men and women to our country, state and heritage. Your Zionistic activity has caused many young men and women, who otherwise, would not have enlisted in the IDF, to serve in the army, and even volunteer to elite units – to contribute and become a part of our society and country.

On behalf of the project's members and graduates, on behalf of their families, and on behalf of the entire Israeli population, I thank you and wish you many more years of fertile social and public action.

May you be successful.

Best wishes,

Binyamin Netanyahu
ברכת ראש הממשלה לizziness אשרים שנה פעילות של פרויקט ידידות

הרמטכ"ל

נוכנה, מחנכה ענבל פרויקט ידידות צהליו הקורין,
בכימית את האהל מחנוכי דרך פעילות גלויה. התוכנית של הצהלה שלש פעמים של
מאמה בין שנה.

חת我が家 פעיל פרויקט ידידות צהליו: נהל בקורות קולנוע את אנוש שיקוף
לתופס את חובתו לכל רוחה. ב(SS נוידה, אומנם אודתי הלכה לאותו רבע ותובע
לחתซ้าย בידוי בידיות הפרויקט.

כוס המשותף עם ידידות ביבשת עם שניים ל cocos: העשוי עם ידידות ביבשת
את החזון שברבים בערבית – רוחב כל מה שכריך, המדריך והップטראש שול.
בנוסף
ועשיה חינוך ותרמו לעיר פניקס בליאגוי, ולהحياء לזרב אולף
ולחתנש ליחודם מרובית. ל المشروع dto בראשית הלכה
בכים של החינוך וה yan, בשני משפחות שונות ביבשת העיר שארית
ולמד על המראות הלכים עד שים בברית עם שושיהกระจית בין
על התפילה.

Jerusalem, Israel

בברך

גומני ציגנורה
To
Brig. Gen. (res.) Ran Pekker

Dear Ran,

Thank you for the copy of your book "Operations Log" you sent me.

Through the pages of the book, one is able to observe the nature of the Air Force from a personal point of view, and at the same time, from a broader perspective, integrated with major events in the history of the IDF and of the State of Israel.

It is important to reexamine our actions, as an army, through the lens of time, our growth through Israel's campaigns, and the lessons we have learned as a military organization. In light of this, and upon reaching the fortieth anniversary of the Yom Kippur War, the chapter in your book touching on the war becomes more significant than ever.

On this occasion, I would like to express my appreciation for your leadership of the Yedidut Zahala project. For many years, the project is an exemplary model of volunteer work, strengthening the roots of young men and women through Israeli heritage, and performing as a critical, value-based preparation for service in the IDF.

Once again, I would like to thank you for your book and wish you all the best.

Best wishes and deep appreciation,

Binyamin (Benny) Gantz, Lieutenant General
Chief of the General Staff

April 2013
捭-אלפר בניין (בנין) גנד
ראשת המשלחת הכללית
Lieutenant General Benjamin (Benny) Gantz
Chief of the General Staff

לחבד

תחילה (במלים) טוב שבר

ור שולום.

אם מודה על העיתון המספר "וורן מבעיימ" שלצאת:

נגיש עימד הספר משקף דברי של חל חくん וכרים רואים Rae אוwise הבט

מגניב הספנות של תרבות שלמה בארוחי חסרייה בבריתום של רוחי של

מדינת ישראל.

∅ושב לשבט נוהג הבט פלוני בברך, את החפירת רכיב כך

ישראל את הלךתי שלמדנוutra אחר לחם, אולא את, בברך 40 השהי הלכתת

ויס יוכרי, חפירת בברך שושי בברך מקולב שדובך מושדנה.

ויבדניטנו ובויבי את השכרתי לעתכל בובצל פוריק "הרודה רצל".ADOW

ב�� נוהי הויי התפרת מופת לולдолות,设计器יה את שרתיי של הנער בברך

ישראל יחפשו חכמה ערכו חשבה מיאני חכית לחיית בברכה.

שב ומודה על שלוחת הספר ומא晗 כל טוב.

ברכה,

בוגרי (בORIZED מים, בברך)
ראשת המשלחת הכללית

אפריל 2013

אורי הכהני
Ministry of Education
Youth and Society Administration
Department for the Advancement of Youth

"No giving up on anybody, no giving in to anybody"

February 21, 2012

To Mr. Ran Ronen (Pekker)
Founder of "Zahala"

Greetings,
I was very pleased to receive and analyze the periodic report of the Yedidut Zahala project (which arrived on 5.1.2012). I was glad to see and read that you achieved the objective we set for ourselves in the joint programs you conduct for at-risk youth, on their path to meaningful army service.
Aside from the statistics, from studying the descriptions of the project's activity, the unique and significant contribution of Zahala volunteers – working with approximately 1,300 at-risk youth throughout the country – is evident.
Congratulations, to yourself, to the administrative staff – and a (large) word of thanks to the volunteers.
In friendship,
Chaim Lahav
Director, Department for the Advancement of Youth

Cc: Ms. Dalit Strauber, CEO, Ministry of Education
Mr. Yossi Levi, Director General, Youth and Society Administration, Ministry of Education
Mr. Noah Greenbaum, National Supervisor for the Advancement of Youth, Ministry of Education
Ms. Yifat Sela, CEO, Aluma
Ms. Orit Rappel, Zahala Project Coordinator
Department for the Advancement of Youth / Regional Staff
Want to contribute to the "Yedidut Zahala" project?

**ISRAEL:**

| Credit Card | Contributions through the "IsraelGives" secure website: http://www.israeltoremet.org/amuta/580025765 |
| Check | Donation may be made out to: "Aluma-Zahala", and can be sent to the following address: 22 Guatamala st., Jerusalem 9670539 Israel |
| Bank Transfer | Account name: Aluma-Zahala  
Bank: Mizrachi (20), Branch: 401  
Account number: 676466 |

Once the donation has been received, tax-deductible receipts will be sent back. The bank account is registered under the name of "Aluma for Social Involvement and Jewish Identity- Zahala Project" organization (NPO 580025765), which operates the Yedidut Zahala project, education young boys and girls towards values, social involvement and upstanding citizenship.

**USA:**

| Donation from U.S.A through P.E.F | Payable to: PEF Israel Endowment Fund Inc (PEF is a tax exempt "public charity" (not a private foundation) that transfer 100% of any donation to the donor chosen project.)  
Address: 630 Third Avenue Suite 1501 New York, NY 10017 USA.  
For the use of: Aluma – Zahala project (580025765) |

For more information contact Orit  
orit@aluma.org.il  
972-52-4767249 / 972-2-5411351