Wheelchair-Bound Ethiopian Immigrant, Kiryat Gat

**Personal background:** An elderly couple living in Kiryat Gat was in dire need of assistance. The wife is disabled and has been in a wheelchair for the past 24 years, and her husband had to leave his job in order to take care of his wife. They live in an old apartment, which is not fit for the wife’s needs. The hallways and doorways are narrow, making it especially difficult to enter the bathroom. The husband and their 24-year-old daughter needed to lift the mother up in order to help her into the restroom and the bathtub. The husband is elderly, thus making the lifting particularly risky.

**Thanks to Matanel Foundation’s donation,** Tenufa Bakehila arrived and immediately set out to make the following necessary changes:

- The doors and entrances were changed and made to fit the width of the wheelchair
- The bathtub was replaced by a handicap-accessible shower as well as faucet and sink
- Renewed floor drain system
- Renovated floor and walls
- New plumbing for hot and cold water
- Mold and dampness treatment
- Spackling and painting

Now the wife can move around the house safely and comfortably, and the daughter is free to develop her personal life and career instead of staying at her parents’ house to make sure her mother can function properly. The ‘Hineni’ organization assigned a social worker, Sapir Abutbul, to take care of the family’s needs and assist the daughter in developing a career.
Disabled Elderly Ethiopian Immigrant, Kiryat Gat

Personal background: An elderly widow whose seven children live far away from her started using a walking stick six months ago. Since then, it’s been hard for her to function around the house. In order to bathe in her bathtub she would throw herself onto a wooden chair in the bathtub, and when she was done, she would pull herself out. It was very dangerous because if she fell, there was no one to help her. There were other problems around the house, making it hardly livable.

Thanks to Matanel Foundation’s donation, Tenufa Bakehila went to work:

- A severe leak was fixed
- The kitchen was repainted
- Blockages in the sink were fixed
- Widen entrance and install new door
- The bathroom was renovated: A new seat was installed on the toilet, the bathtub was replaced by a shower, giving her more accessibility
- The drain system was renovated
- The floor and walls were renovated
- General plaster work and painting, including mold and dampness treatment
Single mother, Kiryat Gat

Personal background: An Ethiopian immigrant mother was left in a severe debilitating depression after her son died six months ago. Her home fell apart and she had broken and missing windows, missing light fixtures, and crumbling walls.

Thanks to Matanel Foundation's donation, Tenufa's repairmen made the following changes to her home:

- Replaced windows
- Installed lighting
- Painted her home

Within days of work being done, the repairman noted that the mother started being more social and taking better care of herself and the home, a small lift of her depression. A social worker is entering the scene to see how we can best help this mother further.
We would like to share with you another life changing project from the past few weeks:

**Poverty stricken family, Ashkelon**

**Personal background:** A woman, married to a mentally-disabled unemployed man, is solely taking care of and supporting their four children. The apartment they live in was severely run-down and required urgent repairs.

Tenufa Bakehila’s team arrived and immediately went to work:

- Widespread mold treatment
- Walls and ceilings painted in entire house
- Bathroom was renovated – plumbing fixed, sink and closet replaced, ceramic fixed
- 5 Broken doors and door frames were replaced
- Infested with cockroaches and moldy kitchen cabinets were replaced with new
- Cockroaches exterminated in house, sewage and garden
- A wall was built to create a private sleeping area for the parents, who were sleeping in the living room until then
- Installed shutters in bed rooms