

ד אלול , התשפ"א
 12/08/2021

Legal Aid to Needy Israelis Program: 2021 Project Summary

1. Program status:

- a. Following our previous report from 07/2021, the program took in another 8 new legal aid recipients, after passing our clearance process and board approval regarding compliance with the guidelines of the legal aid program.
- b. With these additional 8 legal aid recipients, we took in a total 16 new legal aid clients between 01/2021-07/2022 and met 106% of our project goal.
- c. As outlined in the case progress report below:
 - 10 of the program's aid recipients taken in required legal representation if family law (3 of which in the Family Courts for post-divorce litigation for alimony, child support and likewise);
 - 5 recipients required representation for national insurance claims (unemployment, workman's comp, disability benefits, etc.);
 - 3 recipients required aid regarding bankruptcy issues;
 - 6 recipients required aid regarding property division issues;
 - 1 recipient required aid for labor law issues;
 - 6 of the program's aid recipients required legal aid in more than one legal issue.
- d. Attached are details regarding the above-mentioned legal aid recipients, within the limits of information that we can disclose at this time according to the Israel Bar Association's professional ethics by-laws regarding lawyer-client confidentiality.

2. Program evaluation:

- a. After the lifting of restrictions in Israel in 06/2020, we saw a sharp increase in requests for legal aid. This increase was a result of the mix of economic hardships caused by rampant unemployment in Israel and the increase in divorce rates due to the emotional stresses of the lockdowns, quarantines and so forth.
- b. In our mid-project report we projected that we would meet our goal of 15 new legal aid recipients during the second half of 2020, if the Covid-19 situation in Israel remained stable.

- c. Despite our estimates, our intake rate of new cases was slower than expected due to the second and third waves of Covid-19 at the end of 2020 and spring 2021, the prolonged political turmoil in Israel up until 05/2021 and operation "Shomer Homot".
- d. All things considered, we view the intake of 16 new aid recipients a success given the numerous extenuating circumstances which beset Israel during the project, as mentioned above.
- e. The award of the Matanel Foundation has aided us considerably in taking in new legal aid recipients and providing them legal services, particularly during such complicated times.
- f. We are confident that the legal aid provided via the project, with the help of the Matanel Foundation, has significantly contributed to rehabilitating the recipients legally, personally, and financially, enabling them to return to a productive and healthy life and to successfully reintegrate into Israeli society.
- g. We are hopeful that the Foundation will choose to renew the project for an additional 15 aid recipients or more.

3. Financial report:

- a. Due to the Covid-19 crisis, the non-profit suffered a decrease in income. This forced us to cut costs by minimizing non-critical expenditures like advertising and support staff, and negotiate temporary reduced fees with our partner lawyers.
- b. These temporary measures will be not sustainable for the long term, and therefore we expect our operating costs to return to our original estimates in the coming year.
- c. Financial details:

Item	Expenditures 01/2020-07/2021	Planned project budget
Legal fees for legal services provided	438,000 NIS	750,000 NIS
Advertising/social media	10,000 NIS	78,000 NIS
Support staff (aid request processing, coordinating aid recipient meetings with lawyers, case progress tracking)	15,000 NIS	60,000 NIS
Book keeping/accounting	8,000 NIS	15,000 NIS
Regulatory fees	-	5,000 NIS
Total	471,000 NIS*	908,000 NIS