

# *MATANEL FOUNDATION*

## *ACTIVITY REPORT*

**Program:** *Helping Youth At Risk Through Art & Work*  
**Year:** **2024**

Please present your activity report according to the following lines. The whole rapport will not exceed 2 or 3 pages (as word document).

Name of the Program: **Susan's House**

Year of activity: **2024**

Name of the report's writer: **Avital Goel**

Function of the report's writer: **CEO**

Mail: **avital@kys.org.il**

Phones:

Website / Facebook address of the organization: <https://susanshouse.org.il/>

Number of active participants in the program: **70**

Estimated number of impacted participants: **115**

Give the actually state of the program (where the program stands at the date of the activity report, no more than ten lines):

Currently, Susan's House operates with 67 youth participants across its Jerusalem and Beit Shemesh branches. In addition to local youth, we have welcomed evacuated teens from the southern region during the initial months of the war, and now also have youth from the northern region.

The youth are involved in a variety of activities, including producing handmade art products, marketing and sales, conducting workshops, cleaning duties, meal preparation, and life skills classes. These classes cover topics such as financial literacy, managing a bank account, physical health, digital skills, and social competencies.

The main achievements during the last year of activity (main achievements, number of events, number of participants, etc.):

- We successfully opened a new branch in Beit Shemesh (32 more teens, currently).
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- We overcame a major crisis at the start of the war when several staff members had to leave due to military service or their spouses' enlistment.
- At the request of the government, we welcomed dozens of youth from families evacuated to hotels in the Jerusalem area.
- Responding to social welfare authorities in the south, we initiated efforts to open a new branch in Ofakim. A city tender is currently open, and we aim to win it and establish a new Susan's House branch for southern youth.
- Three youth are preparing to begin military service in the next two months.
- Over 70 youth have undergone a transformative year-long process, breaking cycles of street life, violence, drugs, and prostitution. Despite the challenging

times, many are now looking forward to joining the military, national service, or pursuing higher education.

The evaluation (methodology, results, comparisons with the precedent year, conclusions for the future...):

A social worker manages an individual case file for every youth who joins Susan's House. Each youth also has a personal mentor who holds weekly follow-up meetings. Every shift begins with a group discussion and concludes with a summary meeting. Each youth creates a personal development plan alongside their responsibilities in the art workshop, selecting a personal goal to work on with the help of the group and their mentor.

Compared to last year, the number of youth participants has more than doubled. This year has been exceptionally difficult due to the war. Initially, we focused on stabilizing and supporting our staff, many of whom experienced personal trauma and loss. Nearly all of us know people affected by the conflict, and many have family members in the military. For example, the Jerusalem branch manager has four brothers in the army, and the social worker in Beit Shemesh lost two friends while her fiancé served in Gaza.

In the second phase, assisting local youth and evacuated families required immense patience, empathy, and emotional support to restore order and provide a sense of stability. We are still in the midst of the conflict but hope and pray for a swift and safe resolution for everyone.

Provisional guide lines for the advancement of the program in the next year:

- We aim to open a new branch in Ofakim to support youth affected by the traumatic events in the southern region.
- Strengthening the Beit Shemesh branch will be a priority, as we also learn how to operate as an interconnected network of branches, supporting and learning from each other interactively.
- We plan to develop a central headquarters for the organization to provide marketing, training, and administrative services to all branches.

Please join the Evaluation Report, the Financial Report and the list of the participants to the program (as **PDF documents**)

Please join photos – as **JPG files** – and any link or any other document connected to the program which will seem to you relevant – as **PDF document**.

Please join a 5 minutes movie which presents your institution and the particular project supported by the Matanel Foundation. The movie should be accessible to the philanthropic world and to other potential donors.