

MEET WADIA, AN 'EQUAL IN UNIFORM' FROM KAFR YASIF

Twenty-five-year-old Wadia Shkhada has become a beloved figure at the Misgav base in Karmiel. Hailing from Kafr Yasif, a small town in northern Israel, Wadia's journey with the IDF's "Equal in Uniform" program is a testament to his dedication and the power of inclusion.

Initially starting as a volunteer, Wadia quickly impressed his superiors with his strong work ethic and positive attitude. This led to his enlistment as a full-fledged soldier, where he has served diligently as a storekeeper in the Logistics Department.

As Wadia prepares to complete his four-year term of service in November 2024, his impact on the base and his community will continue to be felt. His story serves as an inspiration to others, demonstrating that with determination and support, individuals with disabilities can overcome challenges and achieve their full potential.

Hisham, Commander of the Misgav Base, speaks highly of Wadia: "Wadia is undoubtedly the most beloved soldier on our base. His willingness to help others and his warm personality have made him a cherished member of our unit. Over the past five years, Wadia has forged strong friendships with his colleagues. In fact, it's become a tradition for soldiers to seek out Wadia for a farewell blessing and hug before leaving the base. His positive impact is undeniable, and he will be greatly missed."



Wadia with his Commander, Hisham

Wadia's parents, Safi and Jumana, express their gratitude for the support and opportunities provided to their son: "Wadia's time in the IDF has significantly boosted his self-confidence. The support and encouragement he received from his commanders, fellow soldiers, and the AKIM staff have been invaluable. We are deeply grateful to the IDF and AKIM for the 'Equal in Uniform' program. This program has empowered Wadia and countless others, allowing them to contribute meaningfully to society as equal citizens."



Wadia receiving a Certificate of Recognition of Excellent Service

Wadia has left a lasting impression on the Equal in Uniform staff in the north. His dedication, growth, and maturity have made him a role model. We are incredibly proud of his accomplishments and wish him continued success in the future.