

# ACTIVITY REPORT FOR THE MATANEL FOUNDATION Perach Zahav Bnei Bayit: Yeshiva Orot Shaul's Weekly Home Visits to the Elderly in South Tel Aviv 2024-2025

Name of the Program: Perach Zahav Bnei Bayit: Yeshiva Orot Shaul's Weekly Home Visits to the

Elderly in South Tel Aviv

**Year of activity:** 2024-2025 (program's 3<sup>rd</sup> year)

Name of the report's writer: Aviad Bezeq

Function of the report's writer: Educational Administrator of Orot Shaul yeshiva

Mail: yedidim@tzohar.org.il

Phone: Orit Schreiber Shetach, Yedidim Coordinator – 054-520-1144

Website/Facebook address of the organization: <a href="https://did.li/jlAx5">https://did.li/jlAx5</a>

Number of active participants in the program: 17

**Number of impacted participants: 75** 

Indicate the current status of the plan (where the plan stands on the date of the activity report, no more than ten lines):

• Home visits: Throughout the year, students visited their senior "partners" weekly in their homes, speaking with them, studying Talmud together, playing board games (e.g. backgammon) or simply "being there". Beyond the social connection, the students also provided practical help when needed, such as basic cleaning, changing light bulbs, unclogging drains and rearranging furniture. In one case, after identifying that the apartment was in a state of severe neglect, the volunteer initiated a renovation project.

In all cases, the students' relationships with the senior residents continued to grow over the course of the year, with some becoming deeply meaningful for both parties. Feedback from the volunteers indicated that they underwent an emotional transformation: from initial shyness to growing openness, and eventually to enthusiastic anticipation of the weekly visits. For residents who were lonely, ill or lacked support networks, the meetings became a joyful and reliable anchor of their week.

Group activities in day centers: In parallel with the home visits, ~30 group meetings
took place weekly on Thursdays throughout the year at the local Senior Activity Center.
A group of 18 students attended each of these meetings, helping the seniors prepare for
Shabbat with dancing, singing and story telling.

These joyful activities created a festive atmosphere and a sense of intergenerational community for the 30+ senior participants.

• **Training of volunteers:** At the start of the year, the program's Project Coordinator held several sessions to train the students in collaboration with Oshrat Cohen, a social worker from the Welfare Department.

Throughout the year, the students maintained ongoing contact with the trainers, who assisted them in addressing specific dilemmas, identifying seniors in need of support, and providing professional intervention when necessary.

# Achievements of the past year (goals attained, number of events, number of participants, etc.):

- 35 students participated in the initiative
- 17 elderly shut-ins were visited in their homes once each week
- 30+ seniors who attended the day center enjoyed the weekly group programs
- Training for the program and ongoing supervision was provided by a qualified social worker and a program coordinator.

#### **Assessment:**

Perach Zahav Bnei Bayit provided a needed service for the neighborhood's elderly residents while providing the yeshiva students with a unique opportunity to develop their personal compassion, generosity and ability to connect. Volunteers reported a deep sense of meaning and a personal experience that continued to resonate with them after the meetings ended.

### Guidelines for the advancement of the program in 2025-26:

During the coming year, we plan to continue the program in the same format.

## **Appendix A: Financial Report**

|  | Annual expenses<br>(NIS) | Annual expenses<br>(USD)<br>(USD 1=NIS 3.4) |
|--|--------------------------|---|
| Program coordinator  | NIS 17,500               | USD 5,1467                                  |
| Training program and ongoing supervision by a social worker            | NIS 10,000               | USD 2,941                                   |
| Insurance, office supplies, Internet connections, printing, accounting | NIS 7,045                | USD 2,072                                   |
| Overhead (10%)   | NIS 3,455                | <u>USD 1,106</u>                            |
| <u>Total</u>   | NIS 38,000               | <u>US 11,176</u>                            |

#### **Appendix B: Participant Lists**

#### Students who carried out home visits

Uri Sigal
 Eyal Lifshitz
 Matan Baruch Dayan
 Gilad Weinrav
 Peleg Schultz
 Yair Kauders
 Yagel Feuerstein
 Neriya Nussbaum
 Ido Beitner
 Aviya Shoshtri
 Yaom Feffer
 Oz Mashaan

7. Malachi Levavi 16. Adiel Shalit

8. Dror Guyat 17. Shibi Levy

**9.** Yaakov Adler

# Students who participated in group activities at the Senior Day Center

1. Maayan Kornitz 10. Hillel Golan 2. Roy Bashan 11. Gilad Gans 3. Yagel Feuerstein 12. Minyamin Pet 4. Roy Keller 13. Noam Jacobson 5. Aviad Feintuch 14. Elad Kaminsky 6. Yehuda Peer 15. Hagai Kaminsky 7. Yair Kauders 16. Uri Ron 8. Dor Yadin Fried 17. Dror Cohen 9. Hanan Katz 18. Amotz Davidi

### **Appendix C: Photos from the program**









