

*MATANEL FOUNDATION
ACTIVITY REPORT*

Program: *Safety Net for Seniors*
Year: 2025

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

Name of the Program: " Mobile repair work for senior citizens'

Year of activity: 2025

Name of the report's writer: Gila Staum-Seeman

Function of the report's writer: Resource Development Manager

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Number of active participants in the program: 50 households

Estimated number of impacted participants: 100

Give the actual state of the program (where the program stands at the date of the activity report, no more than ten lines): The main achievements during the last year of activity (main achievements, number of events, number of participants, etc.):

In 2025, Tenufa Bakehila exceeded its projected goals and completed 325 home renovations for vulnerable older adults throughout Israel during 2025, including 127 Holocaust survivor homes. Repairs addressed hazardous electrical and plumbing systems, deteriorated bathrooms and kitchens, mold and water damage, structural hazards, and accessibility needs. In addition, our Emergency Repair Mobile completed 109 urgent repair projects for elderly individuals requiring immediate intervention. During the war period, Tenufa Bakehila also mobilized emergency teams to repair hundreds of life-saving bomb shelters in impoverished communities under missile attack. Despite wartime challenges, Tenufa Bakehila expanded its activities to 22 cities, with 714 home repairs in total, helping vulnerable people live in safer, healthier, and more dignified conditions.



Evaluation Report

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

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

Methodology:

Projects were carried out in coordination with municipal welfare departments, which referred vulnerable older adults and Holocaust survivors living in severe housing poverty. Professional repair teams and social workers jointly assessed needs, implemented repairs, and monitored participant progress throughout the intervention process. Success was measured through practical improvements in safety, accessibility, mobility, and quality of life, as well as feedback from beneficiaries and municipal social workers.

Results:

During 2025, Tenufa Bakehila completed 325 large-scale home renovations for older adults, including 127 Holocaust survivor homes, as well as 109 emergency repair interventions. Repairs addressed hazardous electrical and plumbing systems, structural dangers, mold and water damage, and accessibility barriers. During the war period, the organization also mobilized emergency teams to repair hundreds of life-saving bomb shelters nationwide.

Comparison with Previous Period:

In 2024–2025, the program exceeded its projected target of 600 renovations and represented an increase of 46 repair projects for older adults compared to the previous two-year period (2022–2023).

Conclusions:

The program demonstrated that combining professional home repairs with close municipal welfare coordination creates significant and lasting improvements in safety, dignity, accessibility, independence, and overall wellbeing for vulnerable elderly populations.

Guidelines for Advancement:

In the coming year, Tenufa Bakehila plans to continue expanding its work with vulnerable older adults, strengthen municipal partnerships, increase emergency response capacity, and extend services to additional municipalities requesting assistance.

Please see the attached detailed list of repairs for elderly participants.

Please watch: (short videos representing Tenufa's work for the elderly, a project supported by the Matanel Foundation:

-Elderly Man living without hot water: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_w4JQr3IzXU

- Caring for Elderly and Holocaust survivors: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3SZhHXdcgbA>

Please see attached photos

Thank you for partnering with us to effect real change, by creating a safe, functional and dignified home environment and improving the quality of life for every individual in need.

Other organizational Achievements and Strategic Partnerships

In addition to the direct repair work during the reported period, Tenufa Bakehila strengthened its organizational capacity and expanded strategic partnerships:

- **Received support from the Ministry of Welfare** for a project assisting families with special needs
- **Launched a strategic partnership with the Municipality of Jerusalem**, together with the mayor's office, to increase the number of families served in Israel's capital to **300 households annually**
- **Initiated a new partnership with the Tel Aviv Municipality**, in collaboration with **Israel's Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure**, to serve **200 families annually** through a new **Home Acclimatization Project**

This initiative aims to protect vulnerable households from extreme temperatures by implementing several key improvements, including: installing **energy-efficient air conditioning units**, sealing window frames, treating windows to block excessive sunlight, and properly insulating walls. In addition to reducing energy consumption and high utility costs, these measures help older adults and other vulnerable residents remain **safe, comfortable, and healthy in their homes**.

- **Expanded municipal collaboration to 22 cities**
- **Collaborated with the Emergency Office of the President of Israel** and municipal **emergency command centers** to repair bomb shelters during the war

Emergency Bomb Shelter Response During the War

During the war, Tenufa Bakehila provided critical assistance to older adults living in apartment buildings that lacked functional bomb shelters.

In many residential buildings across Israel, bomb shelters are shared by all residents—many of whom are older adults and low-income families. Over the years, these shelters often received little or no maintenance and had fallen into severe disrepair. Many were unusable, lacking electricity, lighting, or basic safety infrastructure.

As the range of terrorist missile attacks expanded, cities that had previously not been targeted suddenly came under threat. In numerous communities, shelters were found flooded, damaged, and unsafe. Tragically, **more than half of the civilians killed by enemy missiles during the war were older adults who were unable to reach shelters in time**—often due to broken staircases or the lack of handrails and other safety features needed to descend quickly during an attack.



In response, Tenufa Bakehila immediately mobilized its professional repair teams as **Emergency Work Teams**, repairing and restoring shelters in cities within missile range.

By the end of **December 31, 2025**, Tenufa Bakehila's teams repaired **more than 750 bomb shelters across Israel**, making them safe and accessible for residents during missile attacks.

Please watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3pYqA72ck1E>

Our work during this period was truly **life-saving**. Israel's President Isaac Herzog called Tenufa *"a beacon of light in the midst of total darkness."*

Tenufa Bakehila's work was also recognized by the **Mayor of Jerusalem**, who honored the organization with the **Jerusalem Mayor's Award** and described our organization as *"an outstanding aid organization."*