Dear Jaffa Institute Family,

My late friend, Zonik Shaham, and I founded the Jaffa Institute together in 1982 with a simple goal— to help Israel’s severely disadvantaged children escape poverty.

As the Jaffa Institute concludes its 36th year of service, we have grown from one after-school center to more than 35 holistic programs. Each year, these programs assist over 4,000 children, families, and elderly individuals to break out of the cycle of intergenerational poverty. Our tremendous success has been made possible by the support of our caring staff, generous donors, and thousands of dedicated volunteers from around the world.

As we celebrate our progress, we also recognize that our work is not done. In fact, this year, Israel remained the poorest country in the developed world! Beyond economic hardships, the youth in our community often face severe social and emotional challenges.

In 2018, we witnessed a pertinent example of what can happen when these types of struggles remain unaddressed. Unfortunately, last year, a group of at-risk teenage boys from the severely impoverished neighborhood of Jaffa Daled vandalized our After-School Educational Enrichment Center for at-risk children. Though disappointed, the Center’s social workers understood that the teenagers’ actions demonstrated a critical need for immediate help. To provide these boys with ongoing support to redirect their lives, we launched a new evening group at the Center for teenage boys. Based on the success of this program, we plan to add a second floor to the Center so that we can assist more at-risk youth and their families.

With your ongoing support, the Jaffa Institute looks forward to having the privilege and honor of serving our community for many years to come. I now invite you to review our Annual Report and learn about all of the wonderful successes we have experienced in 2018, and the important initiatives that we intend to accomplish together in 2019.

With Gratitude,

Dr. David J. Portowicz, Founder and Director
BREAKING THE CYCLE OF INTERGENERATIONAL POVERTY: AT-RISK YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Israel is the most impoverished country in the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). According to a recent report published by the National Insurance Institute of Israel, a staggering 22% of citizens live in poverty, including over 800,000 children. Albeit staggering on their own, these figures notably do not include the large population of severely impoverished foreign worker and asylum seeker families who reside in our service area.

To serve those who are most in need of our assistance, the Jaffa Institute operates in underprivileged areas, including Jaffa, South Tel Aviv, Yehud, Bat Yam, and Bet Shemesh. As a result of socioeconomic distress, these communities are particularly vulnerable to crime, substance abuse, and nutritional insecurity. These circumstances prevent many parents from providing their children with the support they need to graduate from high-school, thereby perpetuating the cycle of intergenerational poverty.

Together, we are working to change this situation. Based on the notion that education is the key to breaking out of poverty, the Jaffa Institute operates over a dozen After-School Educational Enrichment Centers, including three centers for children with special needs. In total, all of our centers serve approximately 300 disadvantaged youth from diverse backgrounds, ages 3-12.

To maximize the centers’ positive impact, the Jaffa Institute collaborates extensively with the municipal social welfare authorities, which refer all participants to our after-school centers as a result of their “at risk” status. Beyond poverty, the children face various additional barriers to success, including coming from single-parent households. Providing the children with a safe and nurturing environment, the centers are open after-school daily during the school year, and operate a full-day Summer Camp.
In addition to educational support, the after-school centers offer our program participants nutritional, therapeutic, and enrichment programming.

As a part of the Jaffa Institute’s commitment to providing equal opportunities to the children in our care, we offer an array of enrichment activities, including tennis, yoga, dance, music, art, equestrian, cycling, computers, and field trips. This programming is offered in part through the Jaffa Institute’s Musical Minds: Arts Education Program, as well as in collaboration with Beit Sefer L’Musica B’Yafo, Maslul, the Israel Tennis Centers, and our other valued program partners.

In March, our Musical Minds’ program participants sang beautifully at a national concert, Kenes Machalot, with youth from around Israel. This is an immense accomplishment as many of the children suffer from frequent colds as a result of inadequate living conditions, which hinder their ability to sing.

Furthermore, the Jaffa Institute began building a safe recreational space, including a playground, for the children at our new After-School Educational Enrichment Center in the city of Yehud. Given the children’s behavioral and emotional challenges, playing outside provides the children with essential recreational and therapeutic benefits.

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**Itai’s Journey**

When Itai arrived at one of our After-School Educational Enrichment Centers, he struggled to focus as a result of a behavioral disorder and difficult home life.

As a component of Itai’s individualized development plan, he participated in keyboard lessons through our Musical Minds program. Although playing an instrument was new for Itai, his skills have rapidly improved, so much so that he is hoping to win the talent show this year! Moreover, Itai often practices during his free time and asks to play when he is upset.

Thanks to our supporters, Itai discovered his natural talent and a new method of relieving stress that he will continue to use throughout his life!
The children in our care reflect the community’s rich diversity.

Program participants include native-born Israelis from Jewish and Arab families, immigrants from Ethiopia and the former Soviet Union, foreign workers from East Asia and other regions, and asylum seekers who fled primarily African countries due to violence. To meet the unique needs of these children, the Jaffa Institute offers a range of programs, including four After-School Educational Enrichment Centers for the Children of Foreign Workers and Asylum Seekers, ages 3-6.

Due to severe poverty and a lack of access to social services, parents in this community primarily send their children to informal babysitters, where the ratio of children to caregivers is generally 30:1. Unable to properly attend to each child, the caregivers often leave the babies in cribs for long periods of time with little to no stimulation, thereby impeding their cognitive, social, and motor development, and causing significant academic gaps when they eventually enter Israeli elementary schools. Moreover, inadequate supervision increases the children’s risk of choking and other life-threatening hazards.

To address this crisis, the Jaffa Institute is partnering with the Tel Aviv-Jaffa Municipality to expand our successful programming for the foreign worker and asylum seeker community, which currently serves children 3-6, to include a new Daycare Program for babies between 3 months and 3 years old.

Scheduled to open in 2019, the Daycare will provide 170 babies with a safe environment and a stimulating educational framework in accordance with Israel’s national curriculum. To accommodate the parents’ long work days, the Daycare will operate from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. every weekday, and provide participants with three meals and a healthy snack. Ensuring the children receive ample attention, the Daycare will be implemented by 26 diverse staff members, overseen by the Jaffa Institute’s new Director of Early Educational Programming, who joined our team this year.
We are offering more opportunities to the impoverished youth and families in the diverse neighborhood of Jaffa Daled, home to a large Ethiopian-Israeli population.

Since 2008, our Jaffa Daled After-School Educational Enrichment Center has provided holistic support to 27 children, ages 6-12, approximately 70% of whom come from families who made Aliyah (immigrated) to Israel from Ethiopia. By facilitating programs that offer support to participants from diverse backgrounds, we are able to ensure that Ethiopian-Israeli children fully integrate into Israeli society.

This year, as described in Dr. Portowicz’s letter, the Jaffa Daled Center began offering support to address the unique needs of at-risk teenage boys during the evening hours. The program participants include 18 teenagers, ages 13-16, who have been involved in illegal and dangerous situations, such as vandalism and substance abuse that endanger their safety and future prospects. To provide these boys with the tools and support they need to redirect their lives, they receive targeted social-emotional, nutritional, educational, and recreational programming.

While the Center currently serves 45 participants, there remains a critical need within the community to assist additional disadvantaged children, teenagers, and their parents. As such, the Jaffa Institute plans to build a second floor to the Center, which will enable us to provide more families with the educational, therapeutic, and social enrichment they need to break out of the cycle of intergenerational poverty.

**Building Better Bridges between Jews and Arabs in Greater Jaffa**

The Jaffa Institute’s innovative Building Better Bridges program provides students, parents, and educators at four mixed public schools with curricular and extracurricular activities designed to create a more peaceful future.

For example, the “Growing Together” workshop brings students of different religions together to plant, nourish, and harvest their school’s garden, thereby forming a bridge between the multi-cultural children and the land.

This year, the students’ parents cooked traditional recipes using herbs that the children harvested, such as mint. The students were excited to try the food of the “other,” and many were surprised to learn that there were many similarities between the foods they loved most.
REACHING HIGHER: SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Despite difficult circumstances, the Jaffa Institute assists our program participants to overcome their significant barriers and graduate from high-school.

Bright students who wish to continue their studies are eligible for the Jaffa Institute’s higher education Scholarship Program, which offers them critical financial support.

The Jaffa Institute’s scholarships range from $500 and $4,000, depending on the student’s situation, and vary from one year to a full four years. All of the donations that the Jaffa Institute receives for this program are used by students to support their cost of tuition, university fees, academic materials, and living expenses.

Thanks to your generosity, we are removing economic barriers to higher education, enabling promising students to earn their degrees, launch careers, and become strong contributors to Israel.

At a special ceremony in March, Tel Aviv-Jaffa Deputy Mayor Mehereta Baruch Ron (pictured below, on right) presented 130 students with scholarships to pursue bachelor’s or master’s degrees in education, medicine, law, technology, and other fields.

City Spotlight: Bat Yam

- South of Tel Aviv
- Home to a large population of Russian-speaking olim
- Fastest-growing Ethiopian community in Israel

For over a decade, the Jaffa Institute has implemented three After-School Educational Enrichment Centers in Bat Yam.

In 2017, the Municipality invited us to expand our successful programming to address the community’s unmet needs. Currently, we implement 12 programs for children, teenagers, adults, families, and elderly individuals, including:

- Hadas House – after-school support for teenage girls.
- Alma Day Center – full-day program for teenage girls who have dropped out of school.
- Beyond Housing – residential program for young women.
- Me’ahtephet Network – in-home support for teenage girls from licensed social workers.
- Afikim – employment training program for young adults.
- From Street to Safety – full-service homeless shelter.
- Therapeutic Center – counseling for individuals and couples.
- Coffee Clubs – social enrichment for the elderly, including Holocaust survivors.
- Protecting the Elderly – preventing and eliminating abuse of the elderly.
During the ceremony, an inspiring scholarship recipient delivered the following speech.

Shalom. My name is Eliezer, I’m 30 years old, and I grew up in Tel Aviv. Currently, I am a fourth year medical student at Tel Aviv University. The Jaffa Institute has accompanied me during these four years, and as someone who has attended this scholarship ceremony for each of those years, I have listened to other students tell their stories. Not thinking my life story was anywhere near as inspiring as those I have heard in the past, I first declined the offer to speak with you today. However, after a few seconds I regretted that decision and decided to give my story a chance – maybe my story will touch someone.

I was born and raised on Lod Road, which is now called Derech Chaim Bar Lev, right next to Park South, which is now called Menachem Begin Park. It’s not an easy neighborhood in which to grow up, but I did not look for trouble. Already as a young student I knew I wanted to study medicine, so I expanded my knowledge in every related field to the best of my ability: math, English, biology, chemistry, studying each subject at the highest level available in high school – level five.

When I reached the age of 18, I enlisted in the Israel Defense Forces and was determined to serve as a combat soldier, specifically, the 101st Battalion. Three years later, I was discharged as an officer and, though I briefly thought about resting a bit, I quickly began a new journey – attempting to get accepted to university as medical student.

I completed six psychometric tests until I received a high enough score to be accepted. The first was in 2005 and it doesn’t matter today what grade I received then, but in the end I received the score that I wanted. I also expanded my matriculation exams, taking two additional courses that I did not complete in high school, Bible and history, each at the highest level, all on my own as I already completed high school and had not yet been accepted to university. Finally, I was admitted to university as a medical student!

The studies have been intense to say the least, thick books, endless days and nights of memorization and calculations.

During this journey, I not only realized that being a student is academically rigorous, but also financially strenuous. I had to find a job to pay for my studies and during the same time, I also started looking for scholarships. Suddenly, I discovered that there were scholarships that were awarded based on nation of origin, on grades, on military service, and then I encountered a scholarship whose criterion was "a student who grew up in South Tel Aviv or Jaffa." I was overjoyed to see that criterion.

It is not easy to grow up in South Tel Aviv. The streets are rife with violence, alcohol, and drugs. The only way to grow up without being influenced by these things is by having a support network that will keep you from wandering the streets and being exposed. My parents, and especially my mother, made sure
that there was always someone to take care of me, a grandmother to help, a neighbor to watch me for a few hours. Sadly, most kids in the neighborhood do not grow up like that.

At a young age, I understood that when you were told, "come on, kid, come for a second," that you better turn and run away. I remember a case that started just like this when a group of children called out to me and two of my friends. Suddenly, we found ourselves running away from a group of kids chasing us with a broken beer bottle. Not in a dark alley but on a main street, and it seemed so natural and normal. No one came to help, no one came to separate them from us as the people that saw this viewed it as a normal sight, even as we were badly injured. Ironically, this all took place a street named “Derech HaHaganah” (The Path to Protection).

Many children with great potential grow up here, and all they need is a network of support and assistance, which is exactly what the Jaffa Institute provides the people it helps. The organization’s centers provide children with meals, activities, and a warm atmosphere. More than that, at these centers, the children receive academic support, which enables smart and talented children to fulfill their aspirations.

One of the most challenging transitions as a child who grew up in the local schools in southern Tel Aviv is the move from elementary school to middle school, where after being a leading student in my class I suddenly found myself in a new school and where I had to catch up as I had a significant gap in mathematics and English as compared with children from other parts of the city. I was, therefore, very happy to discover that the Jaffa Institute now has a project called Jump Start that helps solve this problem. In this program, about 100 children in sixth to tenth grade receive lessons in Hebrew, mathematics, English, and other core subjects, to help close these gaps.

So, back to my story. Four years ago, I sat at this ceremony, a single man starting my medical studies. Last year, I married the love of my life, Terry, and today I am here as the father of our 3-month old daughter, Avital. I cannot describe in words the huge gratitude I owe to the Jaffa Institute. I believe that people who help students to learn deserve great support and appreciation, since their work is not measured solely by money. Contributing to students is, in my opinion, a contribution to the future generation. Thank you!
BUILDING LOVING HOMES: RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

For some children, after-school support alone is not enough. To address these children’s critical needs, the Jaffa Institute operates two comprehensive residential programs.

The Neve Ofer House is an emergency residential facility that provides immediate refuge and long-term support to 13 children who have been removed from their homes by the social welfare authorities.

Supported by a professional staff and two loving “house parents,” the program provides the children with therapy, healthcare, nourishment, tutoring, and enrichment, while allowing them to continue attending their local school. Creative and recreational activities, such as art, cycling, equestrian, tennis, and photography improve the children’s physical and emotional wellbeing. This year, based on the children’s interests, the program also offered dance and vocal lessons. Furthermore, the staff assist the children’s parents to improve their parenting skills and repair their relationships with their children.

Avigail’s Journey

This year, Avigail was referred to the Neve Ofer House as a result of her single mother’s inability to financially and emotionally support her. After joining the Neve Ofer “family,” Avigail closely bonded with the house parents as they helped her overcome barriers to success and provided her mother with skills to become a better caregiver. Toward the end of the school year, Avigail’s mother found work outside of Tel Aviv, which required her to relocate to another city. She expressed a strong desire to bring her daughter with her. A panel of child welfare professionals considered her request and decided that, indeed, Avigail should be reunited with her mother given the immense amount of progress they both had made over the year. Although no longer at the house, our dedicated staff members maintain regular contact with Avigail and her mother to ensure her continued safety and wellbeing.
The Bet Shemesh Educational Center (BSEC) is an award-winning residential facility that provides 300 disadvantaged boys, ages 12-19, from diverse backgrounds educational, social-emotional, and nutritional support to help them achieve their full potential.

Uniquely, the BSEC curriculum combines academic subjects with Jewish education that is complemented by therapy, art, recreation, and cultural enrichment.

Notably, approximately 70% of students participate in either the Ethiopian Integration Program or the Haredi Integration Program, which supports students who are transitioning from Haredi (ultra-orthodox) elementary schools.

Implemented within a religious framework, the BSEC’s comprehensive approach ensures that all students receive equal opportunities to develop spiritually and intellectually regardless of their socioeconomic circumstances.

During 2018, the Jaffa Institute outfitted and furnished the BSEC’s new dormitory floor. In 2019, the BSEC plans to begin construction on a new educational building to accommodate the growing student body. Ensuring the safety of the students and their teachers, one classroom on each of the three floors in the new building will also serve as a fortified bomb shelter.

The BSEC offers small classes and individualized tutoring to close the significant academic gaps between the at-risk students and their more advantaged peers.

The BSEC’s Ethiopian Integration Program provides linguistic support, career preparation, and cultural enrichment, including a special Bar Mitzvah ceremony.
NOURISHING THE MIND, BODY, AND SOUL: FOOD SECURITY INITIATIVES

Hunger is an inseparable element of intergenerational poverty.

When parents are unable to purchase healthy food for their families, their children are more likely to suffer from illnesses and developmental delays. As a result of their malnourishment, the children’s likelihood of succeeding academically is substantially reduced. Unable to acquire the educational skills they need to obtain gainful employment as adults, these youth remain trapped within the cycle of intergenerational poverty into which they were born.

The Jaffa Institute fights against hunger as an impediment to breaking out of poverty by providing disadvantaged children and families with nutritious food packages and daily hot meals.

The Hot Meals Program provides all of the children participating in the Jaffa Institute’s programs with daily hot meals and snacks. Sadly, for many of them, this hot meal is their only guaranteed full meal of the day, and is therefore vital to their physical health and ability to focus on the program’s activities.

In tandem, the award-winning Food Distribution Center (FDC) tackles hunger directly in the home by delivering bimonthly food packages, which contain essential nonperishable food items. In 2018, thanks to your support, the FDC served 500 households, including 200 families and 300 elderly individuals, primarily Holocaust survivors.

Moshe’s Journey

Moshe is a single father raising nine children, including a daughter with a genetic intestinal disorder, which causes increased appetite and necessitates regular surgeries. Twice a month, Moshe receives a food package from the FDC. One time, he decided to hide the package in case of an emergency. Later, his daughter wanted an omelet, but Moshe didn’t have any oil or money. Then, he remembered the “hidden” package and found a bottle of oil inside, which he referred to as the “miracle of Hanukkah!”
The Food Distribution Center (FDC) is operated by local and international volunteers.

French Ambassador to Israel, Hélène Le Gal (left), at the FDC.

Meaningfully, Taglit-Birthright participants from the Netherlands and Israeli soldiers volunteered time from their trip to give back to Israelis in need.

The Greater Miami Jewish Federation’s “Israel at 70” delegation assembled and delivered food packages to Holocaust survivors.
Sadly, some of those most affected by nutritional insecurity in Israel are the elderly.

One third of Israel’s 189,000 Holocaust survivors live below the poverty line. As these individuals age, their needs are exacerbated by their limited mobility and other health issues. Given that most of our elderly program participants live in inaccessible homes, it is not surprising that 55% of them report often feeling lonely.

To address their needs, our Accompanying the Elderly: A Food Security and Social Connectedness Program provides impoverished elderly individuals in our service area, the majority of whom are Holocaust survivors, with nonperishable and fresh food, social events, and home visits. Conducted by social workers and trained volunteers, the visits enable us to address additional issues that the participants may face, such as accessing benefits or completing home repairs.

This year, based on our elderly program participants’ needs, Accompanying the Elderly completed 50 pressing home improvement projects. Additionally, thanks to one of our creative volunteers, we launched the “Comfort Foods” initiative, through which volunteers cook the elderly individual’s favorite childhood recipe. To further address the ongoing needs of impoverished elderly individuals in Jaffa and South Tel Aviv, Accompanying the Elderly expanded from 250 to 300 participants in 2018.

“We renovated a very old Holocaust survivor’s home, and to be honest, I was shocked by his living conditions! We raised the toilet and bathroom to the ground, replaced all the plumbing, and made everything nice and new.”

– Navi, Contractor
EMPOWERING DISADVANTAGED GIRLS AND WOMEN

Many of the teenage girls in our care come from single-parent households whose unemployed mothers struggle to provide them with financial and emotional support. Lacking guidance and vulnerable to peer pressure and negative influences, they often find themselves on the streets involved in dangerous situations.

To support at-risk teenage girls in South Tel Aviv and Yehud, the Stepping Stone Program for At-Risk Teenage Girls provides after-school nutritional, academic, and therapeutic support within a home-like environment. Additionally, the girls participate in recreational activities and empowerment workshops to build their self-esteem and prevent them from engaging in self-destructive behavior. This therapeutic framework enables the girls to address the challenges of adolescence in a healthy way.

To assist mothers and fathers in our service area, the comprehensive Parent-Child Center program improves the lives of at-risk parents, and their babies, through counseling, enrichment, and therapeutic programming. Based on the notion that early childhood experiences are formative, the Center serves approximately 400 diverse families with children ages six and under annually. This year, the Center provided 800 hours of counseling to approximately 50 families through individual sessions as well as weekly group meetings in topics such as Transition to Motherhood, Psychodrama for Mothers, and Babies Discovering the World. To provide additional families in need with our holistic support, the program expanded to include an additional site in 2018.

Meanwhile, the Welfare to Wellbeing: Comprehensive Vocational Training Program for Disadvantaged Women provides long-term unemployed women – primarily single mothers – with vocational training, therapy, empowerment workshops, and assistance to find and maintain gainful employment. This year, the staff partnered with the Women’s International Zionist Organization (WIZO) and the municipalities of Bat Yam, Holon, and Yehud, which referred participants to our program.

Today, thanks to Welfare to Wellbeing, approximately 75% of alumnae have stable jobs.
Welfare to Wellbeing Program Graduates’ Personal Stories

“I felt worthless. My only jobs were cleaning houses or caring for the elderly. With two children and debt, I could barely make ends meet. Coming to Welfare to Wellbeing showed me a new path. I’m learning that I am capable. I can work with dignity and provide for my family without depending on anyone else. Now I have many options that before starting this class, I didn’t even know existed. This year, I began studying at The Open University to become a teacher. I’m taking my first class in psychology. I’m going to succeed! I decided to take my life in my own hands because no one makes decisions for me, only me, and the only way for me is up.”

-Hiyam

Sagit’s Journey

When 50-year-old Sagit arrived at the Jaffa Institute, she was coping with the devastating loss of her daughter to cancer. After graduating from Welfare to Wellbeing this past year, Sagit utilized her new skills to obtain employment at Ramat Aviv Medical Center, achieving her goal of honoring her beloved daughter by working in healthcare. Impressed by her passion and work ethic, Sagit’s manager recently recommended that she complete a course that will allow her to advance within her job.

“I became a widow at a very young age; my daughters were still in diapers! It was a hard journey. I was barely surviving. The program gave me so much more than what I could have ever imagined. This is a place of giving, love, and empowerment. Single mothers rarely get the chance to stop and do something just for ourselves. The Jaffa Institute is a gift for every woman here. No matter her age, she leaves with a set of skills - not just work-related - it’s a set of skills for life. My dream is to be meaningful. They showed me the way. Life will show me the results.”

-Chava
**2018 Highlights**

Below are just a few of the impressive results that we achieved together this year.

- Served over 4,000 individuals in Jaffa, South Tel Aviv, Bat Yam, Yehud, and Bet Shemesh, in Israel.
- Exposed 300 children to the joys of music and art.
- Engaged over 1,000 Jewish and Arab students, parents, and teachers in collaborative activities at four schools.
- Built a playground, ensuring recreational stimulation.
- Enabled 130 students, including six medical students, to pursue degrees.
- Fed 500 households monthly, in addition to several thousand more during Rosh Hashanah and Passover.
- Renovated the homes of 50 elderly individuals.
- Empowered 60 disadvantaged women.
- Transformed the lives of 400 babies and their parents.
- Celebrated the success of a BSEC graduate who became the first Ethiopian-Israeli in the elite Special Forces unit.
- Maintained our “Seal of Effectiveness” rating from Israeli non-profit monitoring organization, Midot.

**CELEBRATING 2018: ACHIEVEMENTS AND APPRECIATION**

Our friends and supporters enable the Jaffa Institute to continuously develop and enhance our programs to better meet the unique needs of the diverse individuals who we serve.

In 2018, we expanded our Jaffa Daled After-School Educational Enrichment Center to serve at-risk teenage boys who come from difficult backgrounds. Additionally, we began building a safe recreational space at our newest after-school center in Yehud.

At our Bet Shemesh Educational Center, we completely outfitted and furnished the new dormitory floor that you helped us to build last year, enabling the first class to move in this school year.

Additionally, our Food Distribution Center and Accompanying the Elderly program increased the number of elderly recipients, the majority of whom are Holocaust survivors, from 250 to 300 individuals. Enthusiastic to offer our participants meaningful nutritional and social-emotional support, our dedicated volunteers developed “Comfort Foods,” which involves them regularly cooking our recipients’ favorite childhood meals. The elderly individuals’ feedback has been incredibly positive, with our participants reporting that the project has brought them immense happiness!

Based on the ongoing unmet needs of new parents in Greater Jaffa, our Parent-Child Center opened a new program site in the Kfar Shalem neighborhood.

Across all of our programs, the Jaffa Institute’s dedicated staff continued to initiate and cultivate our critical relationships with local partners, including governmental agencies, corporations, and other nonprofit organizations, allowing us to better support those most in need of our help.
The Jaffa Institute’s 6,500 volunteers are integral to our programs’ success.

Throughout the year, our remarkable volunteers generously donated their time and energy to help the Jaffa Institute serve our community. Volunteers included students, campers, soldiers, families, professionals, diplomats, and other visitors from every habitable continent in the world.

From cooking couscous with an elderly individual to leading job interview simulations for long-term unemployed women, your actions positively changed the life of a severely disadvantaged individual in Israel. Whether you came from South Africa or South Carolina, volunteered for one day or one year, painted a mural at an after-school center or painted the walls of a Holocaust survivor’s apartment, we can’t thank you enough for your time, your energy, and, above all, your kindness!
LOOKING FORWARD: NEXT YEAR AT THE JAFFA INSTITUTE

Throughout the last 36 years, your generosity has enabled the Jaffa Institute to expand its reach. Though our programs have evolved, our shared mission remains the same – to help Israel’s severely disadvantaged children escape poverty.

In the coming year, we will continue working together towards this critical goal as we further expand and develop our high-quality programs.

In particular, we plan to add a new floor to the Jaffa Daled After-School Educational Enrichment Center, enabling us to reach even more at-risk children, teenagers, and their parents. To ensure that our programming best serves the community’s most disadvantaged members, the new activities will be developed according to a “needs and resources assessment” conducted in collaboration with the local municipality.

In response to the urgent childcare crisis involving the children of asylum seekers and foreign workers in South Tel Aviv, the Jaffa Institute will open a new Daycare Center Program in collaboration with the Municipality in 2019, serving children aged 3 months to 3 years.

Furthermore, to accommodate the Bet Shemesh Educational Center’s growing student body, we plan to construct a new educational building to provide the children there with critical academic support. Reflecting the BSEC’s well-rounded curriculum, the new building will house a range of classes, including science, mathematics, Hebrew, English, Judaism, and other courses on the national matriculation examinations, as well as electives in art, music, and technology.

With your help, the Jaffa Institute continues to grow and serve a greater number of severely disadvantaged residents in our expanding service area because Israel’s children deserve the best.

In 2019, we invite you to visit the Jaffa Institute, and stay in touch throughout the year!

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INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS OF THE JAFFA INSTITUTE

The Jaffa Institute is a private, non-profit organization registered in Israel, Canada, France, the Netherlands, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

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To obtain a copy of the Jaffa Institute’s audited financial statements, please visit www.jaffainstitute.org.
Fighting poverty since 1982