



THE JAFFA INSTITUTE

2023 IMPACT REPORT

2023

Table of Contents

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Welcome | 3 |
| Our Vision | 4 |
| Our Mission | 4 |
| Our Activities | 4 |
| Your Support in Numbers | 5 |
| 2023 Impact Report Summary | 6 |
| Education | 8 |
| Emotional Wellbeing | 16 |
| Nutritional Security | 22 |
| Economic Independence | 25 |
| Plans for 2024 | 28 |
| How Can You Help? | 29 |
| Board of Directors | 30 |
| Friends of The Jaffa Institute - Contact Details | 31 |

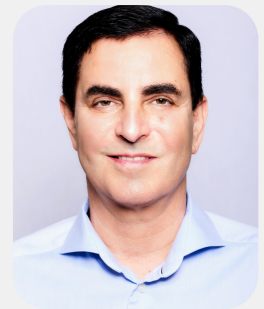
welcome to our 2023 impact report!



It is with immense pride and deep gratitude that I present you with our 2023 impact report. In these dark times, your generosity has generated a beacon of light for thousands of children, young adults, disadvantaged women and elderly citizens. Operation 'Swords of Iron', which continues even as I write these words, has created so many new challenges in our already challenged society. I am proud of the way in which you, our donors, and we, the organization on the ground, have handled ourselves in these testing times, swiftly adapting to changing needs while steadfastly intensifying our commitment towards serving the underprivileged communities relying on us for help. I have no doubt that with your ongoing support, we will continue to go from strength to strength.

Dr. David Portowicz, Founder, The Jaffa Institute

I would like to begin by thanking our donors, leadership and staff for their remarkable achievements in 2023. It hasn't been an easy year, to say the least. From the splintering within Israeli society to the unspeakable horrors of October 7th and the war that has followed, there has been no lack of challenges. But through it all, I have seen nothing but resilience, courage and leadership from every member of the Jaffa Institute Family. The impact report before you contains a lot of impressive figures. While we read, it is important to remember that behind each figure is a person - a child, youth, woman or senior citizen - whose life and future have been significantly changed for the better, whether through educational opportunities, therapeutic intervention, vocational training or even something as basic as food. You did that. We did that. Well done to all and once again, thank you!



Mr. Chaim Hurvitz, Chairman, Board of Directors



Winston Churchill once said: "We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give." Thanks to your generous giving, the Jaffa Institute's devoted staff and our shared passion for improving the lives of those who are less fortunate, the Jaffa Institute has once again made a significant and enduring impact in 2023, affecting the lives of an unprecedented number of beneficiaries. The achievements described in the following pages are a testimony to the visionary thinking, the generosity and the hard work that went into creating hope for so many. We couldn't have done it without you.

Mr. Yechezkel Portowicz, CEO, The Jaffa Institute

our vision

We envision a future where every individual and family in our service areas has access to the resources they need to break the cycle of poverty. We believe that by providing educational, nutritional, therapeutic, and vocational tools to impoverished families and individuals of all ages, we can empower them to become self-sufficient and contributing members of society. Our goal is to create a community where everyone has the opportunity to thrive and reach their full potential.

our mission

The Jaffa Institute assists severely impoverished residents of Tel Aviv, Jaffa, Yehud, Bat Yam, Kiryat Malachi, Rishon Lezion and Bet Shemesh. Our mission is to provide disadvantaged individuals with the educational, nutritional, therapeutic, and social support they need to escape the cycle of intergenerational poverty.

our activities

To this end, we run over 40 diverse programs, touching the lives of thousands each year, whether through educational programs such as our daily after-school centers and residential facilities for vulnerable youth, our twice-monthly food security initiative, our cyclical vocational training course for unemployed women, weekly wellbeing programs for the elderly, including Holocaust survivors, and other therapeutic and social programs. While our programs vary in frequency and methodology, all strive to improve the lives and futures of those we serve by addressing the most difficult and complex challenges with which they are faced.

your support in numbers

5,500
volunteers in over
40
programs

1,800
children learning
STEM through our
mobile science labs

630 families supported by
parent-child centers

over
20,000
food parcels
distributed to needy
families and
individuals

Approximately
400
Holocaust
survivors and
seniors
participated in
social events

impact report summary

1

Education and Enrichment

In 2023, our Education and Enrichment Programs:

- Served over **3,000** children and teens
- Provided about **30,000** hours of academic instruction, education & enrichment activities

2

Emotional Wellbeing

In 2023, our emotional wellbeing programs:

- Served **2,863** people
- Provided **16,748** hours of emotional support and therapeutic activities

3

Nutritional Security

In 2023, our Nutritional Security programs:

- Served **6,383** families and children
- Provided Over **18,000** volunteering hours
- Distributed around **20,000** food packages
- Provided around **140,000** hot meals to children and teens

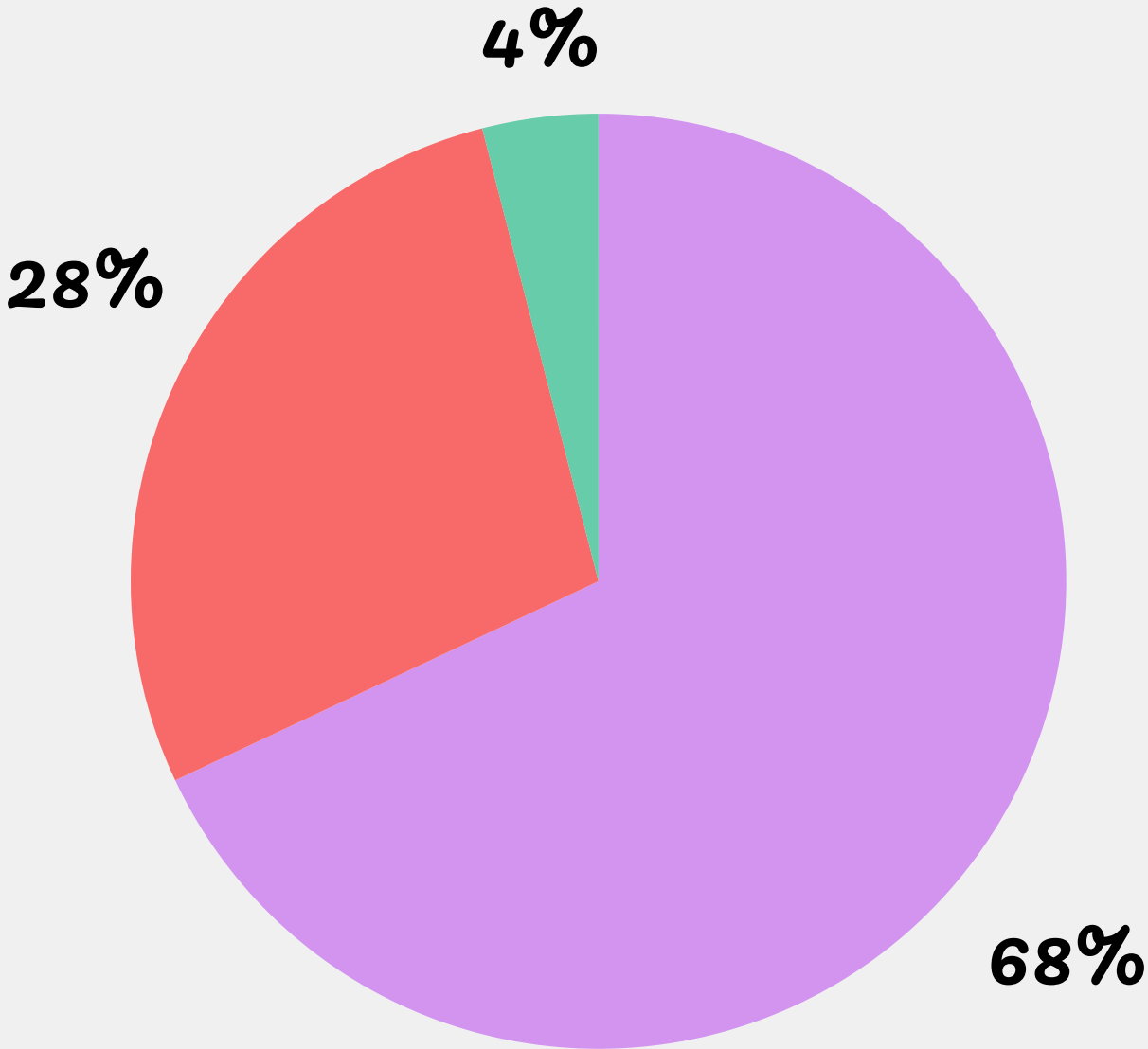
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Economic Independence

In 2023, our Economic Independence programs:

- Served Approximately **60** unemployed women
- Provided **800** hours of vocational guidance and employment skills training

Activity Hours by Project Type:



- Education and Enrichment
- Emotional Wellbeing
- Other

impact report - education

After-School Enrichment Centers

Project Description

This project consists of 20 After-School Educational Enrichment Centers, serving approximately 300 disadvantaged children aged 3-17 in Jaffa, South Tel Aviv, Bat Yam, and Yehud. Eight of these Centers are designed to serve children with special needs. Programming combines academic support with enrichment activities and individual counseling for those in need. A hot meal is also provided for each child.

Quick Facts

- Population served: Children/Adolescents aged **3-17**
- Number of participants: Approximately **300**
- Number of activity hours: approximately **20,000**

Key Achievements

- **13%** increase in social function among participants
- **20%** decrease in disciplinary issues among participants
- **20%** increase in personal-emotional function among participants

Eli, a fourth-grader, has just finished his third year at the 'Yithak Sadeh' after-school enrichment club. Last year, Eli was suffering from multiple emotional challenges that affected his behavior, and he was involved in many disciplinary incidents at the club. However, through the bond formed between Eli and the staff and the bespoke therapy program designed specifically for him, he had the chance to experience success, which gave him a sense of empowerment. This in turn facilitated a marked improvement in Eli's emotional state, behavior and academic achievements. Recently, Eli was selected by his school to participate in their exclusive "Young Excellence Achievers" program.*



** For privacy reasons, all names appearing in this report are pseudonyms.*

Bet Shemesh Educational Center (BSEC)

Project Description

BSEC is a residential academic and therapeutic program serving approximately 250 teenage boys from some of Israel's most impoverished communities, with a specific focus on at-risk boys from Haredi families and immigrants of Ethiopian descent. The students, **who are all considered to be at risk of dropping out of school**, prepare for matriculation (Bagrut) exams, and are also encouraged to explore non-academic interests and talents, as well as to participate in volunteering and social activities. Educational enrichment is supplemented by extra-curricular opportunities such as acting, carpentry, robotics and a new, state-of-the-art Automotive Technology program, 'Autotech', teaching the multidisciplinary skills required for auto maintenance and repair of the latest model vehicles.

Quick Facts

- Population Served: Adolescent boys aged 13-18
- Number of participants: Approximately **250**

Key Achievements

- **100%** of senior students completed high school
- **80%** of graduates enlisted in the army, of whom **60%** opted to undertake pre-army training for more meaningful service
- **20%** went onto higher education

Yossie, a new graduate from our Haredi Integration Program, attended six different schools before coming to BSEC, negatively impacting his self-confidence and state of mind. Yossie's struggle ended when he arrived at BSEC, as evidenced by his testimony: "I finally came to a school where teachers and counselors truly care and where everyone was going through the same things as me. Together, we changed - we're the same guys but with new attitudes. The address doesn't matter. It's the people that make BSEC what it is."*



Ukrainian Immigrants in Bat Yam & Rishon LeZion

Project Description

This project was initiated to meet the immediate needs of the many Ukrainian immigrants living in Bat Yam and Rishon Lezion. The Bat Yam program provides Ukrainian children and teens with sports and science activities, Hebrew lessons (also for adults), academic tutoring for teenagers, Israeli culture programming and a summer camp, as well as a special afternoon Enrichment Center for special needs children. The Rishon Lezion program, carried out by Keren Rishon Lezion, an independent non-profit organization working with the local municipality, provides core subject classes, private tutoring and art and music therapy, as well as trips around Israel, cultural programming and a summer camp. Additionally, both immigrant programs address other needs such as housing, nutritional security and psychological/emotional therapy. Altogether, the two programs combined serve around 700 children and adults.

Quick Facts

- Population Served: Ukrainian immigrants in Bat Yam and Rishon Lezion
- Number of participants: Approximately **700**
- Number of activity hours: Over **6,000**

Key Achievements

- **85%** of participants improved their average grades at school
- Significant progress in Hebrew speaking, reading and writing among the children, as well as increased motivation to improve their Hebrew skills
- Deeper understanding of Israeli culture and history among program participants



Anna was part of the emergency immigration wave of May 2022 and went straight into grade six. She arrived in Israel with very impressive achievements in all subjects but, like all new immigrant children, she had to deal with the language barrier, leading to low self esteem and loss of motivation. Her first math exam result was 30 out of 100. Anna's mother turned to the Language Center in the Absorption Department in Rishon for help. Several months later, we received a message from Anna's mother thanking us profusely as her daughter had received 85 in her math exam and was also starting to integrate into her class.*

Jump Start

Project Description

This successful after-school support program encourages academic enrichment through one-on-one tutoring sessions and emotional support, addressing the unique educational needs of teenagers while boosting their self-confidence and motivation. The students come from diverse backgrounds, including Ethiopian-Israeli families, and receive intensive support to overcome educational, economic, cultural and linguistic barriers. Implemented at eight centers, Jump Start serves disadvantaged children in impoverished neighborhoods in Jaffa, South Tel Aviv, Bat Yam, and Yehud.

Quick Facts

- Population served: Children and adolescents aged **11-17**
- Number of participants: **120**
- Number of activity hours: **over 10,000**

Key Achievements

- Year 6 students achieved an over **20%** improvement in average Math and English grades compared to last year.
- Tenth and twelfth grade students achieved an improvement of over **30%** in their average examination scores compared to last year
- Improved academic confidence, attitude and motivation among project participants

Yoni, a Jump Start graduate, has just been drafted into the army. He is positive, polite, caring and patient. Yoni attended the Jump Start program from the 5th grade all the way up to 12th, and was also part of the Jaffa Daled Excellence Program. At the end-of-year ceremony, Yoni expressed how significant Jump Start had been for him, and how it enabled him to graduate from high school with full matriculation.*



360 Scholarship Program

in Memory of Jaffa Institute Co-Founder Col. Ze'ev (Zonik) Shaham z"l

Project Description

Each year, the Jaffa Institute's Scholarship Program supports hard-working youth from disadvantaged backgrounds who attended our after-school programs and/or our residential high school to provide them with the same access to higher education as their more affluent peers. Scholarships vary from one to four years and range from \$600 to \$4,000, based on the scholarship recipient's tuition cost and ability to work throughout their studies. Recipients have studied a wide range of fields, such as computer science, education, business, engineering, and medicine, at universities and colleges throughout Israel.

Quick Facts

- Population served: Young adults
- Over the years we distributed thousands of scholarships to students in difficult financial situations

Key Achievements

- **30%** of students studying for a degree in Engineering
- **25%** of students studying for a degree in Education
- **25%** of students studying for a degree in I.T.
- **18%** of students studying for a degree in various medical fields

Gal, 28, who grew up in the Kiryat Shalom neighborhood in South Tel Aviv, has just completed his second of four years of Electrical and Electronic Engineering at Ariel University. Tal grew up in a single-parent household where he worked to help support his family. He writes: "The year so far has been good, and I have been able to study well. I have been volunteering with two elderly ladies: Sima, who prefers visits to talking on the phone, and Dina, who likes to complain about everything, but once you get to know her she is very special!"*



Col. Ze'ev Shaham, affectionately known as "Zonik," is a captivating figure in Israel's history. His life story weaves through the fabric of twentieth-century Israel, embodying courage and resilience. Col. Shaham co-founded The Jaffa Institute with Dr David Portowicz in 1982. His legacy stands as a testament to dedication, sacrifice, and the enduring spirit of Israel.

Musical Minds

Project Description

Each year, the Jaffa Institute's Scholarship Program supports hard-working youth from disadvantaged backgrounds who attended our after-school programs and/or our residential high school to provide them with the same access to higher education as their more affluent peers. Scholarships vary from one to four years and range from \$600 to \$4,000, based on the scholarship recipient's tuition cost and ability to work throughout their studies. Recipients have studied a wide range of fields, such as computer science, education, business, engineering, and medicine, at universities and colleges throughout Israel.

Quick Facts

- Population served: Children aged 3-12
- Number of participants: **100**

Key Achievements

- Musical Minds successfully operated in seven of our Afterschool Enrichment Centers
- High levels of enthusiasm, cooperation and engagement throughout the program.
- Significant progress in participants' musical and aural development and skills, facilitating their use of the musical medium to channel inappropriate behaviors in positive ways and to connect as a group.

Liron is a 5th grader at the Yovel Afterschool Club. Most of the time, Liron is shy and has a hard time connecting with his peers but in music class, he shines. Liron enjoys expressing himself through playing the guitar and the Darbukah, which gives him a sense of confidence and achievement. At a recent session, when asked what he wants to be when he grows up, Liron answered: "I want to be a musician like the music teacher!"*



Science Mobiles

Project Description

Our Science Mobile Program, consisting of 4 RV trailers outfitted with cutting-edge technologies, travels to the Jaffa Institute's holistic After-School Educational Enrichment Centers for at-risk youth as well as to underserved local public schools in Tel Aviv-Jaffa and Yehud, serving a total of approximately 1800 children each year. The program offers a curriculum focused on creative experimentation and hands-on learning in four scientific areas: Physics and Technology, Space, STEM Kitchen and Chemistry. Since the outbreak of the war, the Science Mobiles have been providing hundreds of evacuees from the north and the south with educational and enjoyable activities on a daily basis.



Quick Facts

- Population served: Children aged **6-12**
- Number of participants: **1,800**

Key Achievements

- The mobiles have also been serving children and adults who were evacuated from the North and South of the country and are residing in hotels in Tel Aviv
- High levels of enthusiasm for the program and marked progress in STEM skills among project participants

Amira was evacuated from the south with her family and is now living in a hotel in the center of the country. She had been away from her home and her kitchen for many weeks and missed cooking for her family. During a cooking workshop in our Mobile STEM Kitchen, Amira said: "This is the first time I have smiled since October 7th. Thank you!"*

Summer Camps

Project Description

Our summer camps operate for the full two months' vacation throughout July and August, serving children and adolescents attending our programs in Tel Aviv, Jaffa, Bat Yam, Yehud and Bet Shemesh, as well as children of Ukrainian immigrants. The program ensures participants have a safe and enriching environment during their summer vacation while allowing staff to continue to provide them with emotional support. Activities include a wide variety of indoor and outdoor activities, as well as exciting field trips to water parks, nature reserves, movie theaters, etc. For most participants, the program provides their only opportunities to take part in these types of activities and outings.

Quick Facts

- Population Served: Children/Adolescents aged **3-17**
- Number of participants: approximately **1,000**

Key Achievements

- The summer camps provided an enriching and safe alternative to unsupervised hours throughout the summer school vacation
- The summer camps nurtured academic, personal, and social development with enrichment programming
- Relationships were strengthened both between program participants and professional staff and among the participants themselves



impact report - emotional wellbeing

Parent-Child Centers (Jaffa Daled & Neveh Shalem)

Project Description

Our **Parent-Child Centers** serve new parents in Kfar Shalem and South Tel Aviv through three main forms of intervention: therapeutic play, counseling, and communal support. Classes, counseling and support groups are held for parents, toddlers and infants, while bolstering critical community ties among program participants.

Quick Facts

- Population served: Parents, babies, toddlers and young children
- Number of participants: **Approximately 2,000**

Key Achievements

- The number of program participants increased by over **12%** compared to last year
- **90%** of 'Mother Circle' participants felt the program had a positive impact on their personal wellbeing and their self-confidence as mothers
- **80%** of families attending the therapeutic play center reported a significant improvement in their level of parental confidence, enhancement of their skill set in dealing with everyday situations and the strengthening of their relationships with their children

Anya, a single mother to a newborn who recently immigrated to Israel from Russia, was having a very hard time adapting to motherhood and had no support. Michal, a volunteer in the Center's 'Mother to Mother' program, began visiting Anya to help her, talk to her, guide her and listen to her, while also building her confidence, accompanying her on outings to help her get used to leaving the house with her baby and so on. A very special bond formed between the two mothers and they stayed in touch. Recently, Michal's son-in-law was injured during the war in Gaza and she needed to care for her grandchildren. Anya immediately offered to help her as she wanted to repay, if only a little, the wonderful help she had received from Michal when she was the one in need.*



Boys Youth Center



Project Description

This center was established to serve at-risk teenagers from troubled backgrounds who require social-emotional, nutritional, and educational support to overcome their challenges. Reflecting their numbers in the area's diverse population, most participants are of Ethiopian descent. The center holistically addresses the adolescents' academic, therapeutic and nutritional needs and provides participants with a safe and nurturing alternative to unsupervised evenings on the streets.

Quick Facts

- Population served: Ethiopian adolescents aged **13-16**
- Number of participants: **35**

Key Achievements

- Successful re-launching of the program in the new center after construction hiatus
- Regular attendance of all participants in the program
- Strengthening of relationships between participants and staff, and among the participants themselves

*Lior * is 17 years old and is on the autism spectrum. When he first started attending the center, his shyness and lack of confidence made it hard for him to fit in and he was mostly silent in group situations. After many conversations with him by staff members, encouraging his strengths and relating to him with care and warmth, Lior began to emerge from his shell. As the year progressed, a marked difference was noticeable in Lior's ability to express himself confidently and to say what he was thinking.*

Neveh Ofer House

Project Description

This emergency facility is located in South Tel Aviv and provides housing and support for children who were removed from their homes by the social welfare authorities due to neglect, abuse or other issues. The program is open to children from all backgrounds who live in the area; Arabs, Jews, Olim, foreign workers' children, etc. The house's proximity to the homes where the children were raised allows for continuity in their education and relationships with classmates and teachers who positively influence their lives. Residents benefit from a warm home environment and receive daily assistance with homework from the House staff. They are also visited 2-3 times a week by a social worker to assist with their emotional needs, and by an outside tutor to provide individualized academic assistance.

Quick Facts

- Population served: Children aged **8-18**
- Number of participants: **10**



Key Achievements

- Neve Ofer house ensured the safety of 10 vulnerable children and provided them with a warm, welcoming home
- The program assisted the children in developing their learning skills and closing educational gaps
- Where possible, the program promoted healthy relationships between the children and their families

Daniel is the son of an immigrant mother and an unknown father. He came to Neve Ofer House in 2018 as his mother was unable to care for him. Till then, Daniel had regularly been engaging in risky behaviors such as roaming the streets, joining street gangs, delinquency and so on. During his first years at Neve Ofer House, Daniel's troubled behavior continued. However, with the help of a stable environment, ongoing therapy, a regular routine and above all, forming a healthy relationship with caring adults, Daniel has abandoned his previous behavior patterns and has evolved into a mature, cooperative and responsible young man. For example, since the war began, Daniel has taken it upon himself to help the younger children get to the bomb shelter during sirens, even carrying them when necessary.*

Stepping Stone

Project Description

This program addresses the needs of disadvantaged at-risk teenage girls. All participants, of whom about a third are of Ethiopian descent, are referred to the program by social services. Most live in extremely challenging family situations; the majority of them have regular childcare responsibilities for younger siblings, and many have been exposed to and engaged in extremely risky behaviors and situations. This program is designed to empower these girls to recognize their ambitions and cultivate the necessary skills, relationships, and attitudes to develop into healthy young women. Program activities focus on three main areas: nutrition, mental & emotional wellbeing and education.

Quick Facts

- Population served: Adolescent girls aged **13-15**
- Number of participants: **10**

Key Achievements

- 80% of participants attended the program regularly.
- Strengthening of healthy and meaningful relationships between the girls, and with others in their lives
- Expansion of program partnerships to include additional schools, counselors, welfare authorities and others

Ortal has been coming to Stepping Stone for years, but has always had difficulty connecting and opening up to others. To address this problem, the program coordinator scheduled weekly one-on-one meetings with her, as she suspected Ortal was dealing with acute issues but was unable to confide in anyone. In time, thanks to the coordinator's persistence and the regular meetings, Ortal learned to trust her and shared that she was dealing with domestic abuse and anxiety attacks. The coordinator taught her self-regulation techniques which alleviated her anxiety attacks, while continued meetings helped reduce her sense of isolation. In cooperation with Ortal and the Welfare Department, options for removing from her family home are being sought.*



'Come as You Are' Club for Young Women

Project Description

This club was founded in 2023 to serve girls from impoverished backgrounds living in the Jaffa Daled neighborhood in the City of Tel Aviv-Jaffa. The Club provides a safe, nurturing, warm and encouraging environment and is open to all girls in the neighborhood, promoting integration and expanding participants' opportunities for advancement and growth. Approximately 50% of participants are of Ethiopian descent. The Club forms an embracing and inclusive framework in which the girls can forge positive connections with caring adult figures, with whom they can practice resolving conflict and making connections. Programming includes social activities, shared meals, study sessions and various workshops.

Quick Facts

- Population served: Adolescent girls aged **13-18**
- Number of participants: **20**



Key Achievements

- Strong attendance of participants, with most attending whenever the club was open
- Establishment of trusting relationships between participants and program staff, manifested by increased willingness to share and confide
- Strengthening of ties between participants, who are now a cohesive group

Talia, a teenage girl who began attending the club, started out with a great deal of resistance. She refused to take part in activities, behaved in a disruptive manner, had trouble fitting in socially and was constantly complaining that the club was boring and no fun. The staff found her challenging, but the club coordinator persisted in being kind and understanding towards her, reaching out to her and bringing her closer. For example, she made a point of finding out what Talia liked to eat and drink, and buying those items for her especially. When she discovered that Talia liked to cook, she put her in charge of preparing food at the club. The stronger Talia's relationship with the coordinator became and the more responsibilities she was given at the club, the less resistant and disruptive she was. This improvement, in turn, enabled Talia to start fitting in socially. She now attends the club regularly and with enthusiasm.*

Accompanying the Elderly

Project Description

Our Accompanying the Elderly program aims to augment participants' physical health, enhance their social connectedness and emotional wellbeing, develop their awareness of their rights and access to government social services and to improve their living conditions. The program serves seniors in need within our service areas, providing volunteer home visits, social events, group therapy and home improvement projects.

Quick Facts

- Population served: Elderly individuals and Holocaust Survivors
- Number of participants: **380**
- Number of volunteer hours: Approximately **7,500**

Key Achievements

- **90%** of participants experienced a reduction in feelings of loneliness as a result of the program
- The number of program participants grew by **27%** compared to last year
- The number of volunteers increased by **66%** compared to last year

Francis, an Accompanying the Elderly participant, loves getting visits from her volunteer and also requires a fair amount of assistance with various forms and with her phone. This year, her volunteer was a pre-military training course cadet, who visited her regularly and helped her with whatever she needed. They connected well together and formed a special bond of friendship. At the end-of-year meeting, the volunteer shared with the group his concern about having to leave her as he was being drafted into the army, indicating how significant their relationship was to him. Thankfully, she has a new volunteer now, also a cadet, who visits her regularly.*



impact report - nutritional security

Food Packages for the Elderly & Holocaust Survivors

Project Description

Food Packages for the Elderly & Holocaust Survivors is a joint venture of the Jaffa Institute's Food Distribution Center and its Accompanying the Elderly program. Throughout the year, all Accompanying the Elderly participants received one package of non-perishable foods and one package of fresh foods each month. Each parcel contained the staple goods required for a balanced diet, and was specifically tailored to meet individual dietary needs. For Passover and Rosh Hashanah, special food packages with holiday-specific items (e.g. Matzah for Passover, honey cake for Rosh Hashanah) were provided so that everyone could celebrate properly.



Quick Facts

- Population served: Elderly individuals and Holocaust survivors
- Number of participants: **380**
- Number of volunteer hours: approximately **7,500**
- Number of food packages distributed: **9,120**

Key Achievements

- The number of program participants grew by **27%** compared to last year; the number of volunteers increased by **66%**
- The program provided nutritional security for all participants, with **85%** expressing high levels of satisfaction with the food packages
- The program enabled participants to celebrate the holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Passover in dignity by providing special items relating to these holidays

Food Distribution Center

Project Description

Our **Food Distribution Center** delivered approximately 20,000 food packages to households on our year-round distribution list. During Passover and Rosh Hashanah, staff and small groups of volunteers assembled and delivered approximately 4,000 special holiday food packages to impoverished families. Since the outbreak of the war, the number of food packages delivered on a monthly basis has increased significantly. These include packages to IDF soldiers and families who were evacuated from southern communities near Gaza, Ashkelon and Sderot.

Quick Facts

- Population served: Families and individuals suffering from nutritional insecurity in our service areas
- Number of food packages distributed: Approximately **20,000**
- Total cost of packages distributed: Approximately **₪4,500,000**

Key Achievements

- Regular and timely delivery of food packages to all listed recipients throughout the year
- Increase in the number of packages delivered for Rosh Hashanah and Passover
- Effective rapid response to increased demand for food packages due to the outbreak of the war for IDF soldiers and evacuees from the north and south of Israel



Hot Meals Program

Project Description

With the understanding that eliminating hunger of school age children is a prerequisite to healthy physical, cognitive and emotional development, the Hot Meals Program feeds daily all the children and teenagers daily who attend the Jaffa Institute's educational programs in the impoverished Israeli neighborhoods of South Tel Aviv, Jaffa, Bat Yam, Yehud, and Bet Shemesh. Our staff tailors this support to each program site's schedule serving the meals while they are still hot to the children at the scheduled meal time, which differs at the various program sites.

Quick Facts

- Population served: Children attending Jaffa Institute programs

Key Achievements

- Provided nutritional security to all children attending Jaffa Institute programs, enabling them to focus on their cognitive and emotional development



impact report - economic independence

From Welfare to Wellbeing

Project Description

The Jaffa Institute's **Welfare to Wellbeing** serves single mothers and other disadvantaged women who struggle with long-term unemployment. The program provides participants with daily vocational training courses, empowerment workshops, interview simulations, and therapeutic, nutritional, and job placement support to achieve personal and financial independence.

Quick Facts

- Population served: Disadvantaged women who suffer from long-term unemployment
- Number of participants: approximately **60**
- Number of activity hours: **800**
- Number of combined activity hours: **8,000**

Key Achievements

- **88%** of program graduates have found employment
- The program was expanded to include two more 160-hour course cycles
- Established new partnerships with the Prisoner Rehabilitation Authority and Kiryat Malachi Welfare Authorities

Batya, a 39-year-old divorcee, victim of domestic abuse and mother of four, said: "Before I came to the course I didn't know what I was good at and what my strengths were. I lacked self-confidence and wasn't aware of my abilities. The weekly meetings with Orian empowered and focused me both personally and professionally. I acquired tools to cope with everyday issues; I found strength to persevere, to become driven and to hold down a steady job. Today, I know exactly what I'm good at, what I like doing and what my skills are. If I persevere, I will succeed!"*



hour of need

The Jaffa Institute War Response

Since the tragic events of October 7th and particularly during the first few weeks of Iron Swords, the Israeli authorities have been struggling to meet the population's needs in at least four critical areas: Housing, Nutrition, Child Care and Education, and Mental Health. The Jaffa Institute has stepped in to address these urgent needs, capitalizing on its vast experience and expertise in providing community support to initiate a host of war-response activities in the following areas:

Housing

The Jaffa Institute opened the doors of its residential campus facility in Bet Shemesh to house, feed and care for displaced families and individuals from evacuated towns near the borders.

Nutrition

As the crisis unfolded and it became clear that evacuees and IDF soldiers were suffering from nutritional insecurity, the Jaffa Institute expanded its ongoing Food Distribution Program to include these populations, while also continuing to pack and distribute food packages for impoverished families and Holocaust survivors, more of whom have been requiring this service since the war began.

- 400 additional families receiving food packages since the start of the war
- 2,000 food packages delivered to evacuees and IDF soldiers



Education and Therapy

The Jaffa Institute supplied families with computers so that children could continue their schooling with Zoom lessons and educational programs during the time schools were closed. We also created and distributed home activity packages for children containing creative art kits and videoed science activities. Additionally, we ran educational programs for evacuee children three hours each day and provided group and individual therapy sessions with qualified professionals and parental counseling.

- 800 children received home activity packages

Social and Enrichment Program for Evacuees:

The Jaffa Institute initiated an array of enrichment activities for evacuee children, including activities for children, such as science-based sessions, art sessions and music sessions with an emphasis on the social benefit of these activities.

- 242 hours of science and art activities reaching 700 evacuees in 7 hotels

IDF Soldiers' Needs:

The unprecedented call up of hundreds of thousands of reserve troops created logistical problems resulting in shortages of meals, clothing and equipment for the soldiers. In addition to helping meet soldiers' nutritional needs, the Jaffa Institute opened the doors of its Bet Shemesh Dormitory High School to serve as a residential and training base, and secured clothing and vital military equipment for battalions on the front.

- Over 1 million shekels of equipment distributed to soldiers on the front lines



The above activities, carried out by Jaffa Institute staff members with great dedication, despite many of them having been personally affected by the war, have contributed greatly to alleviating the acute needs that have arisen within Israeli society as a result of October 7th and Iron Swords. In spite of the extreme challenges, we feel it is a privilege to be in a position to help those in need and take comfort in the knowledge that our efforts are vitally supporting the most vulnerable populations affected by the war in these most difficult of times.

plans for 2024

Here are some of our exciting plans for 2024:

Digital literacy program for all recipients of our services

Nationwide expansion of our Science Mobiles program

Upgrading of our “Autotech” program

Significant long-term assistance for evacuees from the North and the South

Staff development and training in meeting evolving wartime needs

Increased emphasis on closing educational gaps

how can you help?

1 Volunteer

at one of our After-School Centers or Jump Start
yoel@jaffainst.co.il

2 Donate

through our website: <https://www.jaffainstitute.org/donate>

3 Share

Us on Social Media



The Jaffa Institute העמותה לקידום החינוך בתל אביב-יפו
[Facebook](#)



@jaffainstitute
[Instagram](#)



The Jaffa Institute
[Linkeldin](#)



The Jaffa Institute העמותה לקידום החינוך בתל אביב-יפו
[Youtube](#)

4 Plan

A company event at our Food Distribution Center to help pack food boxes

yoel@jaffainst.co.il

5 And so many more ways to get involved!

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Thank you for your help



in making this possible

