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Machaseh Holocaust Survivor
 Program:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cSzvKZF0qVY>



NEWSLETTER



Part of the team with volunteers : 2.f.l. Lena Levin, Head of the Ministry, M.A. in Pastoral Counseling and und Padagogy. 3rd fr. left Partricia, 3.f.right Dr. Alla Omelchenko, PhD Psychology. 2.f.r. Larisa Erenburg, Ph.D in Mathematics, accountant

Dear Friends and Supporters

We are so grateful to you for staying with us so faithfully in such a time like this. As everyone all over the world we got very challenged by the Corona-crisis and tried to continue our work throughout the time of shut-

down as best as possible. You can imagine how difficult this time is and was especially for the poor and vulnerable. With God's grace and your support we were able to continue and help with food packages and other necessary items. Thank you so much for your financial support and your intercession

Machaseh is caring for Holocaust Survivors and their descendants, who often are very poor and suffer of traumata, help with professional therapy and medical help. Also we are helping new immigrants, mainly from the Ukraine. Still daily there are coming many new immigrants into the country. Most of them don't know the language and/or Israeli culture and end up in unemployment. Not coping with the stress in the family some of the fathers become violent. Machaseh is helping with 'safe apartments' for violated women and their children as well as offers seminars to prevent domestic violence.

We are also distributing food packages among poor people, take care of youth in the streets to prevent them from drug abuse. Their aim is to help immigrants to integrate into Israeli society and to become self-independent.

Quite a number of people received support and a new life by our ministry.

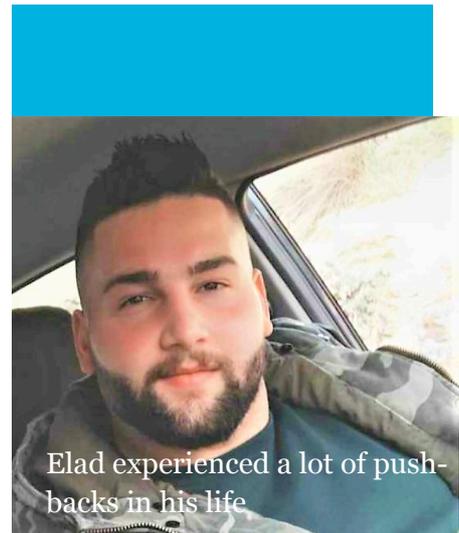
Some of them report here how their lives got changed positively:

Elad. “Shalom! My name is Elad and I want to say *Thank you* to you from my heart for the support I received from Machaseh. My parents got divorced when I was 4 years old. Since then I was moving from one place to another. At first, I lived with a number of foster families, then with relatives and later in a boarding-school. I faced a lot of difficulties in my youth: drug addiction, emotional problems and depression, panic attacks and low self-esteem.

When I got 17 years old, I had to take care of myself. I rented an own apartment and didn't see my father for years. In spite of all the obstacles in my life I succeeded to receive a high school degree. My emotional problems that were growing since my childhood got treated. It became clear to me that I want to have a profession where I can help people like myself. But other big problems were that I didn't have enough money to pay my rent and I was in debts. Then I got to know the relief organisation Machaseh. Today I am soon to finish my studies in social work and I am doing so much better. The financial support I received during my studies were decisive. I passed all tests with good grades. This has strengthened my self-esteem. I completed also 5 English courses successfully with the help of Patricia, a volunteer at Machaseh from the US, who gave me private English lessons. Also Lena helped me a lot with her emotional support and counselling. I experienced that I am not alone on this journey. During my studies I did two years of social work and I learnt that all these difficulties I faced in my youth are wide spread in society. To have problems doesn't mean you have to stay there. My self-value grew since I am on the other side. Now I am the helper. To help people in need genuinely is a tremendous satisfying work and I feel I am at the right place. Machaseh's support enabled me to study and to become self-independent in life. Now I am caring for my own family and help others in need. I really want to thank you – I highly value what you did for me and are doing for many others. Elad

Lev Eshel: „ 7 years ago I moved from Ashdod to Jerusalem. I suffered of domestic violence. I tried to become self-independent and rented an own apartment. I was working (and I am still working) as a taxi driver, but couldn't earn enough money to pay the rent. Very often I didn't get the alimony in time and I had great financial problems. The relationship to my children were often difficult. It filled my heart with grief to see how my children were suffering. I turned to the social services for help and to take the children out of my custody. I had to get more stability in my life and build up more inner strength. Until today the children are in a boarding school in Jerusalem.

When came to Jerusalem I became emotionally and physically weaker and weaker. There were days when I stayed in bed the whole day. I wasn't able to take care of myself. There



Elad experienced a lot of push-backs in his life



Lev with her son Aaron



Edna is blowing a kiss to thank you

were moments I was thinking to end my life. Then I lost my apartment and didn't have a place to live. Then I got in contact with Machaseh. The head of Machaseh invited me to her office and stayed until late evening with me. I had the feeling I am at the right place at the right time. I felt understood and Lena saw my desire in spite of all that has happened to become self-independent again. This kind of empathy was a complete new experience for me. My counsellor has helped me in many different ways. We made a personal plan to overcome the difficulties I experienced. This included prayers, professional therapy, English lessons to improve my professional perspective, vocational and educational guidance. Now I am at a point to look at my main aim: to get back my children and to live with them in a good and stable home. With the help of Machaseh I made a long journey of recovery. Today I am a law student.

In Machaseh I got to know amazing, loving and professional women. They helped me in all areas of my life. Through their ministry I felt loved and worthy. It helped me to build up more self-esteem and to believe again in me and my own capacity. I have now doubts: With their help I got back my life. Through all of you behind the scene who are supporting financially and by prayer, the women of Machaseh can continue their ministry. Thank you very much!" Lev Eshel

Edna is a single handicapped mother of seven children and a victim of domestic violence. Edna receives food and financial support from Machaseh. Lena from Machaseh tries in spite of Corona to continue this kind of support. Her daughter Tali helps with the aid distribution.



Tali (left) and Edna

Jonathan Lev: „Dear friends and supporter, I want to thank you for your help during the recent years. It means a lot to me. I grew up in an extreme ultra-orthodox cult where I never learnt the most essential tools to survive the outside world. When I left the cult, I was totally isolated without family and vocationally training, without any supporting community. There was a big gap in my life. I needed a lot of help in every area of my life. I didn't do very good. But there is a saying: *“When God closes a door, he leaves the window open.”* I was very lucky to meet Lena, who reached out to me with unconditionally help and love. It was a real turning point that changed my life for the better. Dear friends, I truly believe that you have a big part in this and I want to say that I am very grateful and want to thank you for your help and estimation. Thank you so much for your support. Be blessed!" Jonathan



Machaseh helped Jonathan to found a little enterprise. He is making cards with bible verses in traditional Jewish calligraphy and is organising teachings and lectures for people who want to learn

Friendly people behind masks. Currently, these kind of pictures we can see all over the world. Soup-kitchen are closed, but instead food packages are getting delivered or financial support is given. With this money people at the edge of their mere existence can buy some food. At the moment, Holocaust Survivors are not allowed to meet. They suffer of loneliness and isolation as the elderly people everywhere.. Usually, Machaseh is organising attractive events and outings. Art Therapy, birthday parties, celebrating Jewish holidays, ergo therapy as well as services for those among them who believe in Jesus as the Messiah and worship him in their language.



Alla is coordinatinng the Holocaust-Survivor program



Art Therapy for Holocaust Survivor



Pessach Shopping for Holocaust Survivor



Lena, Head of Machaseh with Messianic Holocaust Survivor



Alla Olemechenko, PhD, Psychologist is holding a lecture for Holocaust Survivor

But isn't Israel rich?

Does it really need this kind of work of Machaseh in Israel?
Should we support them?

Larisa Erenberg, accountant of Machaseh, is commenting on this question:

"I was born 1949 in Kiew, Ukraine. 1996 I immigrated together with my husband and son to Israel. Since more than 10 years I am working for Machaseh as accountant, but I am mathematician by profession. In Israel I made additionally a diploma in social work. I am helping single mothers with their children and new immigrants. Also I am working additionally as a volunteer in social services and help people who don't speak Hebrew, mainly new immigrants and elderly people. I am accompanying them with official meetings at government ministries and help them to fill forms in Hebrew for retirement funds, grants or any other governmental support."



It is a very important task of Machaseh to help new immigrants to integrate into Israeli society as well as with cultural orientation. Also how to get along with the administrative government system in Israel. Many new immigrants get into a crisis and need especially guidance with the bureaucracy, otherwise they don't get help from the state.

The leader of Machaseh, Lena Levin, is saying:

„The particular characteristics of Machaseh is that we work together as an organisation of professionals with different skills and are therefore able to help people quickly, unbureaocratically and individually according to their needs.

Dear Friends, we send you many blessings from Jerusalem! May our Lord and Saviour bless you in return.

*Your Machaseh Team from
Jerusalem*



This is Edna with three of her seven children. She is in Machaseh's Sponsorship Program.