

youth in distress (ע"ר) העמותה לנוער במצבי סיכון



#### From Father to Son

Photography: Nir Afterman, participant, Migdalor Holon
"The first camera that my Dad bought with his own money, for the Moscow
Olympics in 1980 when he was around my age. Today, in this camera, I see the
similarity between me and my father and I see it in his daily activity of sticking to
goals, creativity and pursuing success."



#### **Dare**

Photography: Shaked Chetzroni, participant at the Hafuch Al Hafuch program, Kfar Saba "They say that in order to succeed you must take dares, so who am I to argue?"

Dedicated in appreciation to all of the partners to our vision, our dream and our activites - to the volunteers, donors and workers at ELEM

### Just a few words...

Dear Partners and Friends,

As president of ELEM over the past 18 years, I have been a partner in the organization's diverse activity and widespread development and I am happy to witness ELEM's growth and its influence on Israeli society.

This report sheds light on ELEM's broad-based activity and on the trends that we have seen amongst youth in 2012. Over the past year we have observed some worrying statistics, including an increase in the number of homeless youth and young adults, an increase in the number of violent incidents involving teens and an increase in the number of minors engaged in prostitution.

This year we commemorated 30 years of ELEM's essential work. During the year we met thousands of youth in need of a sympathetic ear, a warm hug and a guiding hand. We do whatever we can in order to provide assistance and to give these youth hope for a better future.

ELEM does not work alone. We work closely with various government ministries, with local municipalities and with other NGOs. This year as a result of our efforts to raise awareness and to advance solutions for teens involved in prostitution progress began to expand the variety of programs offered to youth involved in prostitution after a significant visit with the Ministry of Welfare MK, Meir Cohen at ELEM's programs in Tel Aviv and an allocation of funds for the treatment of minors involved in prostitution. We thank the government for their creative and successful efforts and for this essential, important and ongoing cooperation on behalf of Israel's youth.

The business sector is also a significant partner, using its great resources both through manpower and funding, in order to bring about a change in the community. We at ELEM would like to express our thanks to those businesses that have volunteered, donated and worked on behalf of social change.

The Israeli and overseas foundations are also major partners- being exposed to ELEM's widespread activity, providing support to the organization's various programs and working to empower Israeli youth. I want to thank you all for your dedication throughout the years and for your support this year of our Gala Fundraising Event, ELEM's Charity Race, and our annual Flag Campaign.

I would also like to extend thanks to ELEM's dedicated professionals and volunteers, who work day and night on behalf of youth, motivated by their true sense of mission and responsible for providing guidance, assistance and hope to thousands of youth at risk. I wish us all many more years of successful activity.

I would like to wish everybody a year of giving, tolerance and continued activity on behalf of Israeli teens. The youth are our future.

Sincerely yours,



Nava Barak President, ELEM Israel

### Just a few words...

Dear Friends.

I am honored to extend my warmest greetings to all of ELEM's supporters in the United States and in Israel. During the past five years, those of us working in the non-profit sector have been faced with an extraordinary number of hurdles. The weakened global economy combined with the fragile political situation in the Middle East has increased the feeling of uncertainty and created a more difficult environment for the teens that ELEM serves.



Ann Bialkin Chairman, ELEM USA

Israel has a broad vision of future economic progress and well-being for all its citizens, but as each

year passes, we see the gap between the wealthy and the poor increase. Poverty has become such a problem that nearly one-third of Israel's children are now living below the poverty line.

It is hard not to take notice of the kids on the streets, homeless, runaway teens, many of which have dropped out of school and become entrenched in a sub-culture of drugs, alcohol, and violence. They are in need of support and guidance, making ELEM's work more crucial than ever before.

In this report you will read about the many activities ELEM operates for distressed youth and both the challenges and successes in insuring a better future for our youngsters.

ELEM is especially proud of our dedicated and professional staff and every single one of the 1,700 volunteers, and their willingness to listen and lend a helping hand day in and day out to the difficulties of the youth they meet. They help restore belief in their talents and strengths and aid in their integration into Israeli society. Every person, especially those who are young and vulnerable, needs support and warmth to help them define who they are and find meaning and purpose in their lives.

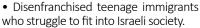
On our recent annual mission to Israel I met many youth who told me that ELEM changed their lives—and that if it wasn't for ELEM they would be living on the streets. ELEM has expanded its services and is now working with the ultra-orthodox community, and the Bedouin and Arab population, providing many more of Israel's youth with the means and support to become productive members of society. The vital assistance they provide reaches far and wide, ensuring that all are given the necessary skills and aid in order to not only survive, but to become contributing members of society.

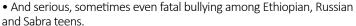
With gratitude, Ann Bialkin, Chair ELEM/U.S.A. Dear Friends.

As president of ELEM USA, I've often asked people what are the first things that come to mind when you think of Israel?

Masada? The Western Wall? Hi-tech? Maybe falafel? These all represent some of the beauty of this country. But there is another side too. A side that that ELEM sees each day, such as:

- A growing incidence of prostitution- in girls as young as 13 years old.
- Increased drug use amongst teens.
- •Town squares that have become homes for adolescent runaways at night.





Lenore Ruben President, ELEM USA

Most people- even those who have visited Israel- are shocked when they hear about the problems affecting Israeli youth. Today one-third of Jewish and Arab Israeli kids are overwhelmed by everyday life. Approximately 32,000 Israeli children drop out of school each year and another 8,000 resort to homelessness, crime and prostitution. The statistics are staggering.

In the past year, I have seen how ELEM's innovative, customized programs have reached out to the at-risk youth in Israel's diverse population. We have touched over 30,000 Jewish, Arab, Bedouin, religious, secular, Israeli born and immigrant youth from a variety of cultures. We target kids who haven't been helped by traditional social services. ELEM does this by going to where these kids are, whether it's on street corners, night clubs or public parks.

ELEM continues to think 'out of the box' and I am proud of the accomplishments made this year: We opened a shelter in Haifa for girls involved in prostitution.; We expanded services to the ultra-orthodox community.; We broadened our mentoring, employment and vocational training projects for Arab, Ultra-Orthodox teens and girls at risk; Our national network of volunteers and ELEM professionals have developed sports, music, horseback riding, film and theater, into creative therapeutic tools that work.; We've counseled kids on the streets at night with our outreach vans in 20 cities across Israel; ELEM was asked to join a committee in the Knesset about creating a National Program that will address the problems these youth face and find solutions for them.

For Israel to be strong its youth must be healthy, and ELEM is one of the country's best insurance policies for a healthy next generation. Unfortunately, raising the funds to do this work has become difficult in the recent years due to the weakened global economy and political uncertainty in the region. However thanks to the generous support of our donors and the professionalism of our staff and volunteers, ELEM continues to beam Rays of Hope. Thank you for supporting ELEM's youth.

Sincerely, Lenore Ruben, President ELEM/U.S.A.

### Just a few words...

ELEM provides assistance to youth at risk in Israel. ELEM is a valuable asset for the Israeli society and is on the "frontline" in service provision to adolescents. The organization is involved in non-stop activity, encouraging innovative initiatives and expanding services for youth that are specially tailored to meet their needs.

In addition to its ongoing work in the field, ELEM is actively involved in influencing policy making and public opinion while at the same time keeping up high professional standards and grappling with complex financial challenges.



Shlomo Yanai Chairman, ELEM Israel

ELEM has a Board of Directors comprised of volunteers who are fully committed to the goal of helping youth at risk. The Board is active and involved on a professional level, whose members come from various realms of knowledge-youth work, academia, business and senior management positions. And come with knowledge, experience and methods from these different areas. In addition to their service on the Board of Directors, they are active on subcommittees in their fields of expertise, which ensures that the issues brought before the Board of Directors and subcommittees will be handled thoroughly and comprehensively.

Personally, I take great pride in my position as Chairman of an active, involved, professional and committed Board. ELEM's Board of Directors is international, and is shared by both ELEM U.S.A. and ELEM Israel. The involvement of ELEM U.S.A. is essential both for the Board of Directors and the Professional Committee.

I believe that ELEM is able to transform its vision into reality thanks, in a large part, to the outstanding relationships it maintains with the business sector. The connection between ELEM, a leading organization working on behalf of youth in distress, and leading Israeli companies is based on an unwritten contract of commitment to human and social values, and an attempt to create a better and more just community and society. This close cooperation has been one of the pillars of ELEM's work throughout its 30 years of activity. As part of its partnership with the business sector, ELEM offers an array of options for cooperation and is open to new ventures proposed by its workers in the field and by its business partners.

I wish us all a productive and successful year of work. I would also like to express my sincere appreciation and gratitude to all ELEM employees, volunteers in the field, donors and partners, who work with us to make a difference in the lives of thousands of at-risk youth. By doing so, you have a profound impact on the future of Israeli society as a whole.

I wish us all a productive and successful year.

Sincerely, Shlomo Yanai, ELEM Chairman Side by side with the organization's daily work with youth in distress ELEM works to promote systemic, social change on behalf of these youth in Israel. Many of the processes generating change were enabled by ELEM's activity characterized by critical thinking, raising public awareness and the belief that almost anything is possible.

ELEM conducts ongoing research on Israeli adolescents and young adults and the hardships of the streets, listens to their voices and their difficulties and aspires to innovate and to create appropriate responses.



Efrat Shaprut
Executive Director,
ELEM Israel

All of the above cannot be done in a vacuum. ELEM sees itself as a complementary organization and part of the existing system of services. Partnerships are an integral part of the power of ELEM's work. ELEM makes the utmost efforts to work in cooperation with local municipalities, government ministries, NGO's and businesses.

In 2013, with the help of its professionals and volunteers, ELEM continued its activity and further expanded its work with youth in the organization's various projects throughout Israel. ELEM continues to focus on its target population with the development of innovative models. Additionally, ELEM has identified gaps in the development and operation of services for youth at extreme risk, living in outlying areas, from the Arab and religious Jewish sectors.

During the course of the past year, the book "ELEM, what for?" was published. The book includes a collection of information and concepts collected and developed over ELEM's 30 years of activity. This book is a product of intensive and expansive teamwork, in cooperation with ELEM's workers from the head offices and the field from all of ELEM's departments. The book presents various intervention models with youth and young adults at risk and is intended for therapeutic professionals and educators that work with youth at risk and those interested in learning more about the social phenomena of this population sector.

ELEM is an organization which works towards social change and is committed to work to initiate change in the lives of its target population, to change public opinion on the issues confronted by the organization and to influence decision makers on a national level. The main issues to be tackled in 2014 is raising awareness and developing solutions for minors and young adults of Ethiopian origin and for homeless minors and young adults along the spectrum of risk. In the coming year, we will begin to utilize a new computerized information system to manage our work with the youth. Our aim is to gain insight and observe trends in the behavior of youth at risk and to help us tailor our services to each of the individuals participating in the organization's programs while analyzing the organization's effectiveness. Likewise, in the coming year, ELEM will assess its programs by conducting evaluation studies and by defining measures of success. I believe that together we will carry on and improve our ability to make an influence in the lives of Israeli youth and thereby on Israeli society as a whole.

Sincerely,
Efrat Shaprut, Executive Director
ELEM Israel

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### **About ELEM**

ELEM was founded with the goal of assisting youth at risk and in distress, extracting them from their situation and helping them find their place in society as adults and citizens who are self-sufficient and contribute to their families and Israeli society.

ELEM was founded by a group of professionals and volunteers from Israel and the United States, and was registered as a nonprofit organization in 1983.

Since then, it has developed into a nationwide organization specializing in identifying the hardships inherent in the daily lives of youth in Israel, and in developing and operating relevant and innovative programs to respond to them, while keeping in mind the unique needs of different population groups.



Minister of Social Services, MK Meir Cohen, visiting ELEM's programs in south Tel Aviv

#### **Provision of Social and Individual Services**

Today there are about 800,000 youth between the ages of 12 and 18 in Israel, a quarter of whom are living at various levels of risk. ELEM is the address for at-risk youth and helps them find their way back into the community.

During 2013, ELEM encountered tens of thousands of adolescents and also young adults ages 18-26 and provided ongoing treatment to approximately 20,000 of them.

ELEM employs 280 professionals in the fields of counselling and treatment. They work alongside 1,700 volunteers.

ELEM employees and volunteers go out and meet the youth wherever they are: at schools, in the afternoon in their communities, on the Internet, at night at entertainment sites and on the streets at night, as well as specific activities during summer vacations.

#### **Working for Social Change**

We believe that the care of youth at risk is the responsibility of society as a whole. Therefore, in addition to our close collaboration with the Israeli welfare, education and health systems, the organization is active in raising the issues of youth at risk to the top of the public agenda and in strengthening the involvement of the general public and the business sector by creating true partnerships on behalf of those youth who find themselves in daily "at risk" situations. Representatives of the organization participate in Knesset committees and meet with government representatives in order to advance fair and beneficial legislation for Israel's adolescents and young adults.

ELEM espouses the values of volunteerism, the involvement of youth, the development of leadership, excellence and professionalism, openness and sensitivity, initiative, community involvement and social activism.



20,000 Youth per year

1,700 Volunteers

**280** Professionals

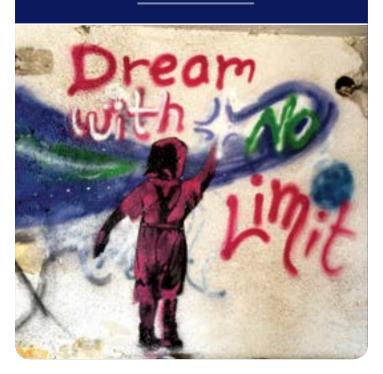
**80** Projects

**40** Cities

# עלם ועל־פה

שיטות התערבות עם נוער וצעירים בסיכון

עורכת: **שלי נתן** 



# The Continuum of Risk of Youth in Israel and ELEM's Responses

### The Continuum of Risk of Youth in Israel

"Normative" Youth (70%) 560,000

Normative difficulties associated with adolescence

Marginal Risk (15%) 120,000

Difficulty in coming to terms with adolescence, difficulty functioning, depression, suicidal thoughts, drug and alcohol abuse without any adequate response from their family, friends or school

Serious Risk (10%) 80,000

Inability to function within the school system, sense of failure, covert dropout from school, educational gaps, drug and alcohol abuse, as well as severe emotional and familial problems

High Risk (4%) 32,000

Overt dropout from normative frameworks, failure to integrate into alternative systems, social detachment, vagrancy, seeking negative sources of pleasure, drug and alcohol abuse, deterioration into delinquency and crime

Fatal Risk (1%) 8,000

Homelessness, deliquency and self-destruction, sexual promiscuity, detachment from family and society, drug addiction

"Galgal" and

"Someone to Run With"\*

Day centers for

homeless youth

The Shelter\*

A shelter for homeless

young women

"Awake at Night"\*

Project for youth involved

# **ELEM's Programs**

#### **Prevention Programs**

in schools and community centers

#### **Hafuch al Hafuch**

Information and counseling centers for at-risk and distressed youth

#### Migdalor

Day centers for youth of different cultures

#### Hafuch al Hafuch

Information and counseling centers for at-risk and distressed youth

#### **Outreach Vans\***

Outreach vans for detached youth

#### Treatment of Sexual Violence

Treatment centers for minors both abusers and victims

#### **Derech Hamelech\***

Rehabilitative employment and mentoring project

# Independent Vocational Initiatives

# "From Dependence to Independence"\*

A rehabilitative program for youth protection authority graduates

#### "A Real Home"\*

For female victims of sexual assault and incest

#### "Two Together"

Personal mentoring for teen girls

#### Alma\*

Program for young women involved in prostitution across the spectrum

\* These services are provided also to young adults (age 18+)

r youth protection in prostitution Ithority graduates

www.yelem.org.il - a portal for support, information and guidance for youth



# Main Findings of the 2013 Annual Report

A 13% increase in youth reporting incidents of sexual violence by adult acquaintances or other teens - During 2013, 1,689 teens, beneficiaries of ELEM's services, reported incidents of sexual violence in comparison to 1,495 in 2012. The workers in the field encountered cases of teen boys and girls who have experienced molestation, one-time sexual assault, or ongoing sexual exploitation. In most of these cases, the perpetrator was a close and familiar individual (family member, teens from school/neighborhood, or employer).

In addition to these reports, it was found 700 of the teens and young adults that ELEM encountered during the year are involved in prostitution (commercial sexual exploitation for money or money-equivalent). 98 % of the youth involved in prostitution reported that they had suffered or are currently suffering from physical violence.

# A 25% increase in the number of homeless young adults that attended the "Someone to Run With" program in Tel Aviv -

In 2013, 506 young men and women received assistance from the "Someone to Run With" program in Tel Aviv in comparison to 400 in 2012. Besides being homeless, these young adults grapple with difficulties of drug and/or alcohol addiction and they utilize survival strategies such as delinquent behavior and prostitution. ELEM operates a similar program in Jerusalem, the "Galgal-Friendship Home". Both projects operate six days a week and simultaneously conduct outreach work on the streets and include humanitarian assistance, basic services, medical care and even long term rehabilitative care. Unfortunately, the Tel Aviv project operates only as a day center and in the evening the youth must go back to sleep on the streets. In Jerusalem the program operates an emergency shelter for young women.





**Deterioration amongst youth and young adults of Ethiopian origin -** An increased number of Ethiopian teens and young adults reported problems of dropout, drug addiction, suicidal tendencies, involvement in acts of extreme violence and experiences of exclusion and racism. This population suffers mainly from a lack of family and therapeutic support systems in the community and as a result the youth are severely alienated from their parents due to cultural and generational gaps.

Use of smart phones and social networks as an outlet for violent expression - Approximately half of the teens reported that they were either negatively affected or that they themselves used their Smartphone and the internet in a violent matter. There has been a 25% increase in comparison to last year (10,000 in 2013 and 8,000 in 2012). Additionally, there has been an increased trend of reports of cyber bullying, exclusion from social networks and in WhatsApp groups and of teens posting sexually explicit pictures of other teens.

An increase of appoximately 20% in the number of young adults over 18 participating in ELEM programs - In 2013, 6,145 young adults over 18 were in contact with ELEM, in comparison with 5,261 in 2012. Many young adults over 18, who did not enlist in the army, now find themselves without a framework or solution suitable to their age and situation. Most of the problems that these individuals are coping with include homelessness, severe economic difficulties, unemployment, drug use, delinquency and prostitution.

Head of Field: Amir Delummi

Hafuch Al Hafuch Centers, Yelem Portal

"I would come here for the friends and in order to talk about how **bad** things were for me. That was better than doing drugs in the afternoon...Hafuch for me was a home and a **refuge** from everything outside. Suddenly, I met many people who were interested in **listening to me** and to ask me what was good for me. I have a lot of decisions now in my life and that is **thanks to the volunteers** that care."

M, a teen girl from the "Hafuch Al Hafuch" Center in Tel Aviv



#### **Hafuch Al Hafuch Centers**

During the period of adolescence, teens find themselves coping with a wide spectrum of difficulties and crises. Without support and appropriate resources, their distress can escalate into violent behavior, delinquency, drug and alcohol abuse, and in some cases lead to seclusion, depression and self-harm.

ELEM's Hafuch Al Hafuch centers are active since 1999. These centers are designed like cafes and enable social interaction and comfortable conversation between the teens and the professionals and volunteers. The activities in the Hafuch Al Hafuch centers include group meetings, individual sessions, workshops and youth volunteer projects. The professional staff work in close cooperation with various youth services in each town and refer teens for further guidance and treatment when appropriate.

#### **Nationwide Distribution**

There are 15 Centers operating Israel-wide: Kiryat Shmona, Safed, Nazareth Illit, Acre, Kiryat Yam, Kfar Saba, Netanya, Holon, Ashdod, Sderot, Kiryat Gat, Be'er Sheva, Lachish and Neveh Midbar in the Beduin Community.

#### **Human Resources**

Hafuch Al Hafuch centers are staffed by 58 paid employees, 294 adult volunteers and 327 youth volunteers.

Over the course of 2013, 4,005 teens received services from the Hafuch al Hafuch Centers, of whom 1,547 are new clients.

#### **Target Population**

Youth ages 12-18 of various functioning and risk levels. The teens range from those coping with typical difficulties of adolescence in need of counseling and support, to those who are in acute crises or on various levels of social alienation and marginalization.

# Characteristics and Breakdown of the Population Served

Breakdown by Gender		
Population Served	Percentage	
Boys	60.5%	
Girls	38.7%	
Transgender	0.8%	

Breakdown by Origin	
Origin	Percentage
Native Jewish Israelis	41.5%
Former Soviet Union	37.5%
Arab-Israelis	8%
Ethiopian	8%
French	3%
Other (South American and Anglos)	2%

Breakdown by Age	
Age	Percentage
12-14	15.2%
14-16	38%
16-18	39.2%
18+	7.6%

Hafuch Al Hafuch Centers, Yelem Portal

Subject of Inquiry/Personal Distress	
Subject of Inquiry	Percentage
Educational, Social and Military related Framework	22.1%
Love and Sexuality	21%
Home and Family	16.6%
Delinquency and Substance Abuse	15.4%
Recreation and Volunteering	9.6%

#### **New Trends Identified in 2013**

- An increase in the number of participants over 18- 7.6% of the youth coming to the program are over 18 an increase from 5.5% last year. Many of these young adults are not in any framework- educational, vocational, or military and the community is lacking an adequate solution for them.
- An increase in the inquiries regarding sexual abuse and exploitation- This year there was an increase in the number of teens reporting involvement in sexual exploitation as victims or as perpetrators (23% in 2013 as opposed to 16.9% in the previous year). The increase in these reports seems to stem from the exposure of the youth to these type of incidents through media coverage and from the training undergone by our staff and volunteers to help the youth grapple with this issue.
- An increase in the reports of social abuse- this year we have encountered many youth who suffer from social excommunication, being ignored, and abuse at school and via social media on the internet. These teens tend to feel lonely, depressed and the need to inflict self-injury.

#### **Successes and Significant Achievements**

- The re-opening of a Hafuch Al Hafuch Center in Tel Aviv-After an 18 month break, we reopened the center in a building belonging to the Tel Aviv municipality in Gan Meir. The opening of the center was accompanied by an internet campaign with a crowdfunding approach that was jointly organized by the volunteers and the youth of the center.
- Expanding and advancing our work with new populations-During the course of the year we expanded our activities at the "Finjan" center in the village of Qasr Al Sir in the Bedouin settlement and progress was made in the bureaucratic efforts to establish an additional center in the village of Abu Qarinat. Similarly, a unique work model was developed for working with teens from ultra-Orthodox families in Safed.
- Improvement and advancement in measuring and evaluating

- the work of the centers- During the year, we conducted an evaluation study to measure the effectiveness of the Hafuch Al Hafuch Centers in helping to decrease the incidents of dangerous behaviors by the youth. The results of the study will provide an up-to date report that will enable the measurement and assessment of the intervention processes done at the centers.
- Developing relationships with the business sector and expansion of a variety of models of business volunteerism-This is the fourth year of our strategic partnership with 'Unilever-Israel'. The cooperation is based on an inter-sector model and includes 'Unilever's' contribution of both financial and professional resources. 'Unilever' employees volunteer at a number of the Centers that initiate and plan various community events together with the local youth for third party organizations. Additionally, the "My Health is in my Own Hands" program was implemented this year in eight Hafuch Al Hafuch Centers. This program promotes leading a healthy lifestyle- covering topics such as exercise, sexual relations, nutrition, addictive substances, etc. Additionally, a cooperative model was developed between 'Teva' Pharmaceuticals, LTD and the "Kapit" center in Be'er Sheva where Teva employees volunteer on a weekly basis at the center in various capacities.
- Reinforcement of volunteer coordination- In recognition
  of the great importance of the volunteer coordinator, this
  year we assigned the responsibility of adult volunteer
  coordination to our Center directors. As part of the process all
  of the managers underwent training specifically in the field of
  volunteerism covering attitudes, recruitment, maintenance,
  management of complex volunteers and supervision. At the
  same time, we have been involved in the process of rebuilding
  volunteer management in the field including monthly
  personal supervision of each volunteer by a paid professional.



Hafuch Al Hafuch Centers, Yelem Portal

# Institutional, Professional and Corporate Partnerships

The Ministry of Immigration and Absorption, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Welfare, the Ministry for Development of the Negev and the Galilee, 'Unilever-Israel', the National Program for Children and Youth at Risk, City without Violence, the Anti-Drug Authority, JDC-Israel—Amen project, The National Insurance Institute—Development Fund for Services for Children and Youth at Risk, the National Lottery, Project Renewal and the following municipalities and regional councils: Kiryat Shmona, Upper Galilee, Mevo'ot Chermon, Safed, Acre, Kiryat Yam, Nazareth Illit, Kfar Sava, Netanya, Tel Aviv, Holon, Ashdod, Kiryat Gat, Sderot, Lachish, Shafir, Be'er Sheva and Neveh Midbar.

Referrals for Treatment and External Services	
Service	Num of Referrals
Other ELEM programs	187
Social Services (Social Workers and Welfare Officers)	93
Educational Services	85
Vocational and Professional Training	74
Youth Advancement Units	41
Health Services	39
IDF	28
Correctional Services, Police	24
Mental Health Services	21
Drug Rehabilitation	13
Total	605

#### **Donors and Partnerships**

Jewish Agency—Partnership Together, Unilever-Israel, Buxenbaum-Netta Fund, Jewish Community Federation of San Francisco, Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago, the Jewish Federation of Greater Dallas, Central Area Consortium, UIA-United Israel Appeal of Canada, the Naomi Foundation, the Max and Bessie Bakal Foundation, Sandisk, Malca-Amit Ltd., IFCJ Canada (Toronto).

#### **2014 Goals and Development Plans**

• Developing and expanding our work with young adults in preparation for turning 18 and over 18.

- Further definition and development of the 'Hafuch al Hafuch' Centers' role in the community.
- Developing and expanding our work with new populations and sectors in accordance with ELEM's organizational plan.



# Yelem- A Support and Counseling Portal for Teens

In 2004, ELEM launched Yelem, a portal that provides information, counseling and emotional support to youth, adapting to the changing needs of the clientele and to the technological advancements and its effects on the community, family structures, and on the individual. One of ELEM's guiding principles is to be where the youth are and to make meaningful relationships with a positive adult role model accessible during the complicated journey of adolescence. The anonymity of the internet makes it easier for many youth in need to seek help, knowing that they will not be judged.

The Yelem portal allows any youth to access reliable and valuable information, assistance and counseling-all while remaining anonymous. The site enables the youth to receive individual or group counseling, provides information on all relevant topics of interest to the youth, and offers a platform for original writing by youth as a means of self-empowerment.

#### **Support Interfaces Offered by the Portal:**

- 1. Virtual Counseling Rooms- an online chat platform staffed by specially trained professionals who volunteer their time and offer "one-on-one" anonymous counseling.
- 2. Forum- simulates group work and allows youth to advise and share their experiences and difficulties with their peers. The

Hafuch Al Hafuch Centers, Yelem Portal

- forum is operated by professional volunteers who have been trained and certified.
- 3.E-mail Support- youth can e-mail their questions to professional volunteers 24/7 and will receive a response and quality advice.

In 2013, approximately 9,000 unique users visited the site each month. During the year there were 3,350 interventions through the various interfaces, 920 with youth who were new to the site.

#### **Human Resources**

5 paid staff and 48 volunteers.

#### **Characteristics of Population Served**

Youth and young adults from all over Israel between the ages of 12-21, from various backgrounds, who are experiencing an assortment of difficulties and distress and for whom the internet is the most natural place for them to receive support and counseling.

# Characteristics and Breakdown of the Population Served

Breakdown by Gender	
Population Served	Percentage
Boys	39%
Girls	61%

Breakdown by Origin	
Origin	Percentage
Native Jewish Israelis	73%
Former Soviet Union	8%
Arab-Israelis	5%
Ethiopian	14%

Breakdown by Age	
Age	Percentage
12-14	24%
14-16	23%
16-18	29%
18+	24%

Subject of Inquiry/ Personal Distress	
Subject of Inquiry	Percentage
Depression and Anxiety	17%
Sexuality, Intimacy and Social Relationships	15%
Self-harm and Suicidal Thoughts	14 %
Personal and Gender Identity	12 %
Sexual Assault and Abuse	11 %
Army and Enlistment	11 %
Relationships with Parents	10 %
Addictions: Psychoactive Drugs and Internet	5%
Cyber Bullying	3%
Illness (physical/mental)	2%

#### **New Trends Identified in 2013**

- An increase in feelings of loneliness and a lack of support from natural surroundings and self-exclusion from social circlesall of the above were mentioned frequently in the context of anxiety, depression, and social and parental relationships.
- An increase in the number of inquiries regarding financial issues-most of these inquiries were regarding unemployment or illness in the family. The youth relayed the emotional difficulties that they are experiencing due to changes at home.
- A large number of inquiries were received from smart-phone users- which prompted us to start thinking about developing an application of the service which would make it more accessible and available to the youth.
- An increase in the number of inquiries from young adults 21+a slight increase was also noted in the number of inquiries of younger children ages 10-12.



Hafuch Al Hafuch Centers, Yelem Portal



#### **Main Achievements in 2012**

- Expansion of services for teens and young adults from the FSU- the activity was increased from three days to five days a week, on the three levels of interface: personal chat, forum, and return emails. Additionally we increased the number of FSU volunteers by 20% on the Teennet platform, which is designated for teens and young adults from the FSU.
- Expansion of services through social media- a significant increase in the number of interventions on the Yelem Facebook page and efforts were made to market the page and make it accessible to new populations.

Number of Youth Referred for Continued Services	
Service	Num of Referrals
Other ELEM programs	59
Mental Health Services	49
Social Services (Social Workers and Welfare Officers)	24
IDF	22
Educational Services	22
Health Services	19
Youth Advancement	5
Total	201



Hafuch Al Hafuch Centers, Yelem Portal



#### **Professional and Institutional Partners**

The Ministry of Absorption, the Ministry of Health

#### **Partners and Donors**

Gandel Philanthropy, Ort, Live Person forums- technology and virtual support/chat rooms adapted for counseling and emotional support, Naomi Foundation

#### 2014 Goals and Development Plans

- To hold a professional discussion to investigate the possibility of expanding the intervention age to 25- suiting the portal to older ages and providing professional training on topics such as intimacy, employment, etc.
- To create a Virtual Reaching Out plan- with the goal to increase the outreach to youth in distress via the internet. These efforts will be implemented in Hebrew and Cyrillic.
- Adapting the site to smart devices- smart phones, tablets, Ipads, etc., with the goal of making the portal even more accessible to teens and young adults in their natural environment.



# Multicultural Field Head of Field, Dr. Simcha Getahune

Migdalor Centers, Holistic Centers for Immigrant Youth, Angel Programs

"When I first got here (to Israel), I didn't want to go to school so I was sent to a study center. After a while, it became **routine** to go there, at the beginning because of the **friends** and the counselors...My personality really **changed**. Before I joined the center, I didn't care about people and all of a sudden I did and I got involved in activities, I even volunteered in the **Personal Commitment** program. This place helps me and I give back...My **dream** is to open a center for teens of my own."

R, a teen from the Migdalor program in Bat Yam

Israeli society is characterized by cultural diversity and by a massive absorption of new immigrants. Immigrant youth of varying cultural backgrounds face a range of difficulties beyond the normative hardships faced by native Israeli youth during adolescence, and they often find themselves without suitable help.

In light of the diverse range of cultural backgrounds in Israel and the unique difficulties of youth from the various cultures, ELEM recognized the need for a therapeutic approach which takes into account culture and origin and developed the Multicultural Field.

There are four main sub-areas in the multicultural field that provide services to children from multicultural backgrounds and their families. The goal is to have an impact not only on the youth but on the community as a whole thus promoting holistic change and community empowerment.

### **Migdalor Centers**

There are 10 Centers located in cities and the neighborhoods providing an afternoon and evening framework for the local youth. The Migdalor Centers offer a variety of activities with an emphasis on leisure activities such as music, photography, therapeutic gardening, athletics, horseback riding, etc. These activities aim to provide the youth with a nonverbal "language" they can use to express their emotions and to channel negative or destructive energy into positive, creative energy. These activities serve as an innovative and effective tool for working with youth from various cultural groups.

#### **Holistic Centers**

These six programs take place mainly in local buildings in the city's neighborhoods- i.e. community centers, etc. They provide specialized services for youth from multicultural backgrounds along the spectrum of risk.

# **The Angel Program**

Works to bridge the generation gap and to empower the local community on behalf of the youth. The program focuses on recruiting adult volunteers from the community and training them to work with the youth, in the neighborhoods and in



the Migdalor and Holistic Centers.

# Providing a Culturally-Sensitive, Professional Approach

The department provides training and consultation in multicultural youth work to the staff of ELEM's various departments and to professionals outside of ELEM

#### **Nationwide Presence**

**10 Migdalor Centers:** Bat Yam (three Migdalor programs-Nissenbaum, Negba and Eilat), Rehovot, Petach Tikva, Kiryat Malachi, Holon, Beit Shemesh, Acre and Lod.

**6 Holistic Centers:** Two Centers in Jerusalem (Pisgat Ze'ev and Neveh Ya'acov), three in Hadera (Clore, Givat Olga and Beit Eliezer), and Beit Shemesh.

**3 Angel Programs:** Rehovot, Petach Tikva, and Kiryat Malachi

#### **Human Resources**

There is a paid staff of 55 in the multicultural programs, 341 adult volunteers and 194 teen volunteers.

During 2013 4,090 youth and some 400 families received assistance from the variety of services including private consultation and support, group work, referral to other services, guidance and advocacy.

#### **Population Served**

Youth aged 12-18 from multicultural backgrounds such as immigrants and the children of immigrants, Arabs, Orthodox Jews and native Israelis who are on the spectrum of risk and are experiencing social problems, adjustment and identity issues, family difficulties, drop-out and alienation from studies and/or a tendency towards dangerous behaviors such as drug and alcohol use, violence and delinquency.

### **Multicultural Field**

Migdalor Centers, Holistic Centers for Immigrant Youth, Angel Programs

# Characteristics and Breakdown of the Population Served

Breakdown by Gender	
Population Served	Percentage
Boys	71%
Girls	29%

Breakdown by Origin		
Origin	Percentage	
Ethiopian	38.9%	
FSU	36.9%	
Native Jewish Israelis	19%	
Arabs	5%	

Breakdown by Age		
Age	Percentage	
12-14	15.3%	
14-16	26.4%	
16-18	31%	
18+	27.3%	



"Migdalor" Acre

#### **Subject of Inquiry/ Personal Distress** Subject of Inquiry Percentage Social Difficulties 22.1% Education 21% Sex and Sexuality 16.6% Use of Addictive Substances 15.4% Family Issues 9.6% Violence 9.3% Financial Difficulties 8.5% **Employment** 6.1% Army Enlistment 4.4% Mental Distress (Depression, Anxiety, 4.2% Eating Disorders, Suicidal Thoughts, etc.) Prostitution 3% Unwanted Pregnancies and Miscarriages 2.9% Law infraction/Crime 2.9% Sexual Violence 1.8% **Psychiatric Disorders** 1.2% Illness 0.4%

#### **New Trends Identified in 2013**

- An increase in the number of inquiries from young teens aged 11-13- Most of these new inquiries were either from covert dropouts, youth coping with social problems, or young teens engaging in dangerous behaviors such as: violence, the use of addictive substances and delinquency. It is critical to provide a response to this group out of concern that they will further deteriorate and engage in harmful behaviors.
- Children of immigrants- On one hand, this group was born in Israel and society expects them to succeed in integrating into the general population. On the other hand, these youth are attempting to preserve their cultural identity from their family of origin and are finding it difficult to do so.
- Increase in the use of psychoactive substances- During the year, the Centers and the Angel Programs/ Parent Patrols conducted 950 interventions among youth under the influence of alcohol, "kiosk" drugs (mainly "Nice Guy") and marijuana. Some of the interventions concluded with a referral of the youth to emergency medical care. The remainder of the

# Multicultural Field

Migdalor Centers, Holistic Centers for Immigrant Youth, Angel Programs

- interventions focused on prevention programs and referrals of regular users to therapeutic services.
- An increase of negative use of social networks by teens-Youth use various social networks as a tool: to spread racist messages, violent verbal interchanges between gangs, to upload revealing pictures and for gambling. Additionally, many youth utilize their smart-phones as a tool for transferring pornography.
- An increase and the radicalization of violence and dangerous behaviors-There has been an increase in the number of youth involved in violent incidents and in crime, especially amongst the younger teens. During the year, 1004 interventions were conducted among youth involved in violence. Additionally, there has been an increase in the use of weapons such as brass knuckles and knives in gang fighting.
- Art of 'Parkour' (fence and roof jumping)- As part of a search for challenges and a high level of excitement, there has been major increase of youth practicing 'Parkour', particularly those from the FSU. The youth described their experiences to the staffs of the Centers as extreme excitement from jumping off houses without any training and without taking safety precautions. To provide an answer to this need for excitement and to create a safe alternative to this dangerous activity, two Centers ran Capoeira and gymnastics programs for teen boys.
- Difficulties in finding solutions for teens 18+- During the year, there were 303 interventions conducted amongst youth 18 and over. In these cases, the interventions were with youth who did not find placement in the IDF or in National Service. The staff found it very difficult to find them a therapeutic solution or an alternative to the youth center.

#### **Main Achievements**

- The development of a work model for a structured nationwide program to cope with the needs of teens and young adults of Ethiopian origin- in order to develop this model internal and external planning processes have taken place in conjunction with the Ministries of Absorption and Social Affairs and Social Welfare on the topic of the deterioration of youth of Ethiopian origin. Additionally, a brainstorming session was held, participated by some 50 professionals from various organizations that work with youth in the Ethiopian community. The conclusions drawn from this session will serve to determine a holistic program that will be adapted to the specialized needs of Ethiopian adolescents and young adults.
- An increase in the number of volunteers from multicultural backgrounds- a targeted recruitment led to the intake of 114 volunteers from multicultural backgrounds.

- An increase in the number of youth enlisting in the IDF in comparison to last year.
- Expansion of activities offered exclusively to teen girls- the opening of a mother and daughter's evening, the addition of a teen girls' coordinator and including girls in the municipal Chess tournament in Acre.
- Strengthening the Migdalor Centers in "mixed" Cities as Centers that provide services to teens from the Arab Sector as well as to veteran Israelis and teens of Ethiopian and FSU origin.
- Creating the infrastructure for the opening of an additional Migdalor Center in Acre.
- Special events with teens of the Migdalor Centers- a photography group was started in cooperation with the Young Entrepreneurs' Club and the Glitz Photography School and the pictures were sold at the "Optimism" Exhibit; the Theater group from the Migdalor Center in Bat Yam performed at the theater festival in the city; a special evening was held at the Bat Yam Auditorium presenting the works of youth from the three Migdalor Centers' various groups including: theater, music, photography and cooking; the Nissenboim Migdalor Center in Bat Yam celebrated its 10th anniversary which included performances by the youth and the launching of a music disc created in the Center's music room produced together with the 'Coca Cola' company.
- Social activism- the establishment of a leading group of volunteers at the Migdalor in Rehovot who are involved in creating the activity program at the Center; the establishment of a youth council at the Migdalor in Lod.
- The Second Year of the "Mila" program in Migdalor Kiryan Malachi- this program for the rehabilitation of delinquent youth is to run in cooperation with the Israel police force, the youth probation service, Metzila and "City without Violence".
- Working with parents and community work- continuation of the parenting groups in Neve Yaacov (Jerusalem), Acco and Kiryat Malachi; increased cooperation with parentsexpansion of the municipal citizen patrols in Petach Tikva and the creation of a new neighborhood citizen patrol for the empowerment of the Ethiopian community in the Yoseftal neighborhood of the city; a summer tournament was launched with the participation of the youth and their parents in the Kiryat Moshe neighborhood in Rehovot; an evaluation study of the Angel programs was conducted to assess the success of the program and the need for further expansion.

#### **Institutional and Professional Partnerships**

Ministry of Immigration and Absorption; Ministry of

### **Multicultural Field**

Migdalor Centers, Holistic Centers for Immigrant Youth, Angel Programs

Education; Ministry of Health; Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services; the National Program for Children and Youth at Risk; City Without Violence; the National Anti-Drug and Alcohol Authority; the Jewish Agency, absorption centers for Ethiopians; Project Renewal; Youth Advancement; truancy units; probation services; schools; youth groups: Bnei Akiva, Israeli Scouts; local municipalities: Bat Yam, Petach Tikva, Acre, Kiryat Malachi, Hadera, Holon, Rehovot, Beit Shemesh and Jerusalem; the Company for Leisure and Sport, Ltd., Bat Yam; the Community and Leisure Network, Holon; Communal Administration, Pisgat Ze'ev; Communal Administration, Neveh Yaacov; Sha'alei Tikva Association, Beit Shemesh; the Community Centers Network, Beit Shemesh; the Israel Aids Task Force; Acharai; Zinuk B'Aliyah; Perach; Hila Project; Mifalot and Lahav.

Referrals for Treatment		
Service	Num of Referrals	
City Programs/Community Centers/ Youth Councils	256	
IDF	217	
Educational Services	152	
Employment and Professional Training	130	
Other ELEM programs	129	
Youth Advancement Units	119	
Services for Women involved in Prostitution	75	
Truancy Officers	69	
Social Services (Social Workers and Welfare Officers)	59	
Correctional Services and Police	57	
Drug Rehabilitation	48	
Mental Health Services	36	
Health Services	7	
Housing Ministry	3	

#### **Donors**

FY Foundation, the Jewish Federation of Toronto, Frutgenei, Playback Theater (the Chevra from Ichilov), Bianele Project, Bat Yam, the New Spirit Association, the Confederation House, the SPNI, the Acre Tennis Association and the Ministry of Defense.



"Migdalor" Petach Tikva

Business Sector: Elbit, Coca Cola, QSK, Strauss, Tadiran Telecom, Snack Time, Visa Cal Trusteer, Renuar, Agmon and Associates, Rosenberg, Ha'Cohen and Associates.

#### **2014 Goals and Development Plans**

- The development and application of a national work model for a structured nationwide program for work with youth at risk of Ethiopian origin in conjunction with the Ministries of Immigration and Absorption and Social Affairs and Social Welfare- establishing partnerships to enable the development of the program in three new new cities with a focus on the prevention of school dropouts, assistance with cultural and social identity formation, reinforcement of feelings of belonging and work with families.
- Conducting a study on the use of non-verbal methods as a therapeutic tool.
- Advancing social change- participating in Knesset committees that discuss topics of immigrant youth and the children of immigrants; adding Ethiopian culture into the school curriculum; transforming the youth councils of the Migdalor Centers into leadership and volunteer groups.
- Expansion of work with youth's familes.
- Expanding the services offered to Arab youth in the old city of Acre in cooperation with the Acre municipality.

Head of Field: Roy Ben Menachem

ELEM's Outreach Vans –
"Providing assistance to Vagrant Youth"

"When everyone goes to sleep and turns out the light, the youth street work staff, go outside to find teen girls and boys whose homes are not their castles but places filled with pain that they escape by wandering the streets. The teens that lost their trust in the adult world but are desperately in need of significant adults in their lives that can see them, listen to them, recognize them and they will not be afraid to listen and to see their hardships.

Every night, thousands of teens and young adults roam public parks, town squares, hangouts and hideouts. Many of them have dropped out of educational or therapeutic frameworks and they alleviate boredom by wandering the streets. Without support or assistance, these youth suffer from environmental, social and emotional neglect and can easily deteriorate to drinking and drug use, anti-social activity and self-harm.

ELEM's Outreach Vans are active since 1996 and provide immediate responses out in the field to youth at risk, youth in distress and alienated youth:

- The staff of the outreach vans meet teens at night on their territory, the street, and the youth see them as significant adult figures to which they can turn.
- The staff of the outreach vans meet youth on the street and form relationships with them, helping them to acquire the services and the care that they need, and to get back on track in normative and supportive settings.
- The outreach vans are adapted to accomodate for personal meetings with youth. Inside the van, there is a place to sit, hot drinks and refreshments, a telephone, informational materials, contraceptives and more. The staff is comprised of professionals and volunteers who provide assistance to the youth in a warm and open atmosphere.

During 2013, 6,288 youth benefitted from the outreach van program's services throughout Israel.

#### **National Presence**

ELEM currently operates 15 vans in 18 cities and regional councils: Haifa, Netanya, Ra'anana, Kfar Saba, Hod Hasharon, Herzilya, Tel Aviv, Bat Yam, Holon, Hevel Modi'in, Ramle, Lod, Beit Shemesh, Jerusalem, Ashdod, Sderot, Ofakim and Eilat and five "Night Birds" projects (street work activity without a physical van).

#### **Human Resources**

50 employees and 242 volunteers.

#### **Target Population**

Teens and young adults between the ages of 12-26 wandering



# **Characteristics and Breakdown of the Population Served**

violence and even involvement in prostitution.

Breakdown by Gender		
Population Served	Percentage	
Boys	70%	
Girls	29%	
Transgender	1%	

to the streets and meet the wide variety of youth exposed

to the dangers of the streets such as alcohol, delinquency,

Breakdown by Origin		
Population Served	Percentage	
Veteran Jewish Israelis	49%	
Former Soviet Union	23%	
Ethiopian	18%	
Arab	5.5%	
Other	4.5%	

Breakdown by Age		
Age	Percentage	
12-14	4%	
14-16	22%	
16-18	45%	
18-22	23%	
22+	6%	

ELEM's Outreach Vans – "Providing assistance to Vagrant Youth"

Subject of Inquiry/ Personal Distress		
Subject of Inquiry	Percentage	
Drugs and Alcohol	13.5%	
Problems at School	12.1%	
Social Difficulties: social rejection, loneliness, low self confidence	11.17%	
Physical Violence	10.72%	
Loneliness and Lack of a Support System	8.47%	
Lack of Institutional Framework and Boundaries	8.18%	
Financial Difficulties	7.53%	
Family Issues	6.27%	
Army Service	3.52%	
Sexual Promiscuity	3.34%	
Psychological Distress (depression, anxiety, suicidal, eating disorders, self-harm)	3.27%	

#### **Trends Identified in 2013**

- Extreme distress experienced amongst youth of Ethiopian origin- teens of Ethiopian descent suffer from exclusion and racism. This year there were a few serious violent incidents between groups of teens from Ethiopia, some even resulting in murder. Additionally we witnessed cases of severe emotional distress and suicide amongst the teens of this sector.
- Rise in the use of legal highs and alcohol-more and more teens are using legal highs. Because of the police crackdown on the businesses selling these drugs, they are usually supplied by messengers and by teen dealers. The use of these legal highs results in severe side effects such as increased violence, depression, delinquency and school dropout.
- Outreach to homeless teens and young adults- this year there
  was an increase in outreach activities to teens and young
  adults in squats and other makeshift accommodations, with
  a focus on the large cities: Haifa, Tel Aviv and Jerusalem.
- An increase of sexual exploitation- during 2013, we observed an increased number of girls sexually exploited, and boys involved in sexually exploitative relationships, both as victims and as customers of prostitution.
- Increase in emergency interventions in cases of suicide attempts.
- A lack of available solutions for young adults 18+- the street work staff met an increased number of young adults of 18+

- years and has encountered a significant lack of services available to this sector.
- An increase in the number of referrals to other services- the street work staff referred the youth to social services and other relevant agencies. This can be partially attributed to the addition of 10 social workers to the vans' staff.

#### **Successes and Significant Achievements**

- Establishing a think tank regarding youth of Ethiopian origin in conjunction with ELEM's Multicultural Field- we held a seminar, together with the Ministry of Absorption, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Welfare and other organizations from the third sector, and in this manner we prepared the field for the creation of a non-compromising, operative and holistic program to improve the lives of Ethiopian youth living in Israel.
- Strengthening our cooperation with the ultra-Orthodox sector- making contacts with various figures and institutions working with youth in the ultra-Orthodox community, creating the infrastructure for an outreach van in the cities of Modi'in Illit and Beitar Illit and hiring an ultra-Orthodox worker for the street work field at ELEM.
- Establishing a unique outreach program at nature/trance parties.
- Establishing ELEM as a source of professional knowledge for street work and the identification of extreme at risk phenomena on both national and municipal levels.
- Increased outreach to youth via social network sites on the internet- with the use of designated Facebook pages that were developed by the staff from ELEM's street work field.



ELEM's Outreach Vans – "Providing assistance to Vagrant Youth"

#### **Institutional and Professional Partners**

Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services- Youth and young adult services: correctional services for teen girls, addiction treatment division, probation services in various cities, "Ad Aylaich" anti-drug unit; Ministry of Absorption; National Insurance Institute: fund for children and youth at risk; Ministry of Education: youth advancement units, Ichpat, the Hila program (completion of primary and educational studies), municipal education units, municipal educational-psychological services, Miftan- vocational school network, school guidance counselors; National Program for Children and Youth at Risk; Ministry of Public Security: A City without Violence, parent patrols; the Anti-Drug Authority of the Israeli government; Metzilah; IDF: recruiting center, absentee department, Center for the Advancement of Special Populations, youth counselors, City Mayor, community department, Netzach Yehuda; Israel Police and Youth Officers; Public Defender's Office; Yitzhar Project- harm reduction program for drug addicts; Youth Protection Authority: BeitDror, Atnachta, the House on Haim St., Mesila, Retorno, Malkishua and Magal; Al Sam; Assaf- aid organization for refugees and asylum seekers in Israel; Beit Eli; The Jerusalem Anti-Drug Association; Hahut Hameshulash; the Women's Courtyard, Hirkuna; Salit; Acharai; Social Workers for Peace; the mentoring program of the Tel Aviv University School of Social Work; Otot.





#### **Partners and Donors**

#### **Foundations and Corporations:**

IFCJ- Rabbi Yechiel Eckstein, Gandel Philanthropy, the Bonita Trust, IFCJ-Toronto, the Max M. and Marjorie S. Foundaion, the Abraham Gertzman Fund, Boxenbaum Foundation, Steinhart Family Foundation in Israel, Pratt Foundation, Carolito Foundation, Final, Amdocs, Toyota, Lubinsky, the Nechmad Family and Isracard.

#### **Local Municipalities:**

Ofakim - City Without Violence, Education Department, the National Program for the Treatment of Children and Youth at Risk; Eilat - the Community Centers Network; Ashdod - the Children and Adolescent department of the Municipal Company for Culture and Leisure; Bat Yam - the Company for Culture, Leisure and Sport; **Hod Hasharon -** the Municipal Social Services Directorate; Herziliya - Herziliya municipality; HevelModi'in the National Program for the Treatment of Children and Youth at Risk, the Social Services department; Holon - the Holon municipality; Haifa - the Social Services Departmen, Shiluvim and Youth at Risk, Sachlav, the Anti-drug Authority; Kfar Saba - Kfar Saba municipality; Lod - Welfare Service Department, Education Department, Ministry of Absorption; Netanya - the National Program for the Treatment of Children and Youth at Risk, Ministry of Absorption; Ramle - the Education Directorate; Ra'anana - the Ra'anana Municipality.

ELEM's Outreach Vans – "Providing assistance to Vagrant Youth"



An activity of the Outreach Van in Sderot

Referrals to Other Services		
Service	Num of Referrals	
Social Services (Social Workers and Welfare Officers)	256	
IDF	249	
Educational Services and Youth Advancement Units	236	
Informal Services: ELEM programs, other nonprofit organizations	232	
Correctional Services and Police	217	
Drug Rehabilitation	55	
Employment and Professional Training	55	
Health Services	31	
Mental Health Services	31	
Total	1,362	

### **2014 Goals and Development Plans**

- To expand the services that are provided to special populations such as youth of Ethiopian Origin and Ultra-Orthodox youth
- To launch three outreach vans in Ultra-Orthodox cities.
- To expand our training of professionals outside of the organization by ELEM professionals from the street work field as part of our social change efforts.
- To increase our outreach activity via Facebook and other social networks.
- To increase the number of referrals to relevant services in the community.

# Treating Sexual Violence Head of Field: Dr. Talia Etgar

"My name is G.(a boy) 12½, years old. When I was 11, I sexually assaulted a girl who I will call Dana. I think that it is very important that there will be several places throughout Israel where kids like me can receive **treatment** that will prevent them from **performing acts of sexual abuse again**. Here, my parents and **I speak** about things that at home we don't have the guts to discuss. We are still young kids, and children deserve a chance to learn and to **change**, like I'm doing here.

G, is receiving treatment at the Center for the Prevention and Treatment of Sexual Abuse among minors.

The department of Treatment of Sexual Violence was established in 1994, and focuses on minors who have been perpetrators or victims of sexual abuse. A Center was established in 2000 and provides treatment to children under the age of 12- the age of criminal responsibility, and also to minors aged 12-18 that are not undergoing criminal proceedings.

Treatment of young children demonstrating sexually abusive behavior is extremely important, and the earlier the treatment begins, the greater the chance of rehabilitation.

The guiding principle underlying the Center's activity is that manifestations of sexual violence can be stopped and that it is our duty, as a society, to work to prevent this type of violence. Raising awareness, sharing knowledge, and putting the issue on the public agenda will help foster a dialogue about the issue and contribute to prevention work. Moreover, timely treatment of the sexually abusive behavior can prevent hundreds, if not thousands, of future incidents.

The work in this field is based on a treatment plan that is tailored to the needs of each client. Individual, group, and family therapy are frequently combined in short- and long-term therapy approaches and integrated with various creative therapies such as art therapy, animal therapy, play therapy, etc.

In 2013, ELEM provided services in this field to 258 children and youth, both sexual abusers and victims, and approximately 86 sets of parents. Additionally 37 psychodiagnostic evaluations and 49 danger/needs assessments were conducted.

#### **National Presence**

The Department of Treatment of Sexual Violence operates branches that provide services to people from approximately 170 cities and towns throughout Israel. The branches are located in: Tel Aviv, Afula, Modi'in, Beit She'an, Yokneam, Shefaram (serving the Arab sector), Greater Jerusalem (serving the Jewish modern Orthodox population) and Bnei Brak

(serving the Jewish ultra-Orthodox population). Additionally the department facilitates 18 therapeutic groups for the Youth Correctional Services and the Youth Protection Authority for boys ages 14-18, three of these groups are conducted at lock-up facilities (Yarcha, Mitzpeh Yam and Gilam).

#### **Human Resources**

48 professionals and 4 volunteers.

#### **Population Served**

Minors aged 5-18 who have been sexually abusive and/or abused, their family members and professionals requesting training and guidance in this field.

# Characteristics and Breakdown of the Population Served

Breakdown by Gender		
Population Served	Perpetrators	Victims
Boys	99.1%	40.3%
Girls	0.9%	59.7%

Breakdown of Victims by Origin		
Population Served	Percentage	
Native Jewish Israelis	50%	
Arab-Israelis	40%	
Ethiopian	5%	
Former Soviet Union	5%	

Breakdown of Victims by Age		
Population Served	Percentage	
12-14	80%	
14-16	15%	
16-18	5%	

# **Treating Sexual Violence**

#### **New Trends in 2013**

- An increase in cases of sexual exploitation via the internetover the course of 2013, we had an increase in cases of victims who were sexually exploited/abused on the internet: through the posting of pornographic materials, attacking victims and spreading information regarding the abuse on the internet.
- An increase of reports of sexual abuse by the parents of the victim- this phenomenon has come up during treatment sessions with the children and/or with the parents.
- The increased influence of the internet on the client's behavior- also by the abuser who used the web to reach victims or to view pornography and also by the victims who were exploited/ abused over the internet.
- An increased number of cases from the Arab and ultra-Orthodox Jewish sectors.
- Sexual abuse of children by their mothers- as there are very few reported cases, it appears that the authorities are lacking the tools to treat this phenomenon.

Subject of Inquiry/Personal Distress		
Subject of Inquiry	Percentage	
Sexual Violence	100%	
Family Issues	90%	
Emotional Distress (depression, anxiety, eating disorders, suicidal thoughts, etc.)	80%	
Social Difficulties	80%	
Financial Difficulties	60%	
Psychiatric Problems	40%	
Sexual and Gender Identity	20%	
Use of Addictive Substances	10%	
Physical Health	10%	

#### **Main Achievements**

- The opening of a branch for the treatment of victims in Yokneam and expanded reception hours at the "HaEmek" hospital in Afula for clients in need of psychiatric care.
- A branch for minors who are perpetrators of sexual abuse opened in Modi'in.
- An increase in the number of clients at the Afula branch and the further establishment of this branch as a regional center that provides services to the northern region.
- The marketing of the center to school guidance counselors as an address for consultation and referral, mainly in Modi'in

and Afula.

- Expanded public awareness activities- the department's professionals gave a wide variety of lectures and workshops to outside professionals.
- Youth Probation Services and Youth Protection Authority groups: the department was awarded another public tender to facilitate the therapeutic groups of these authorities.
- Professional Publications (in Hebrew):
- Etgar, T. (2013) Sexually Abused Children, A Case Study. In: "Meeting Point", Issue 5 February 2013; The Haruv Institute. Pages 39-42.
- -Etgar, T. and Tzabari, R. (2013) Treatment of Minors with Harmful Sexual Behavior in the Haredi Sector. In: Psychoactuality, April 2013. Israel Psychological Association. Pages 38-51.
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- -Etgar. T. (2013) Multiple perpetrator rape— Treatment issues. In: Miranda Horvath & Jessica Woodhams (Ed) Hand book on the study of Multiple Perpetrator Rape. A multidisciplinary response to an international problem. Routledge Taylor & Francis Group, London and New York.

#### **Institutional and Professional Partnerships**

The Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services, "Haemek" hospital, Afuala Sieff hospital, Safed

#### **Donors and Financial Partners**

Check Point Technologies Ltd, the Carolito Foundation, the National Insurance Institute, and The Rashi foundation.

#### **2014 Goals and Development Plans**

- To train the staff in EMDR therapy (Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing) a psychotherapy technique used to treat cases of trauma
- To open a therapeutic group for teen girl victims of sexual assault
- To hold a regional seminar for therapists and educators on sexual assault victims
- To conduct assessments in preparation for the opening of a day center for sexually abusive minors
- To computerize the department

#### The Hotline for Issues of Sexual Abuse - 03-6477898 The Hotline for the Northern Region/Afula - 04-6785871

The public is invited to call anonymously to receive guidance and assistance regarding sexual abusive behavior of minors and sexual assaults.

During 2013 the Hotline responded to a total of 169 inquiries, 159 in Tel Aviv and an additional 10 in Afula (This number does not include consultations regarding specific children who are referred directly to the professionals at the center).

#### **Head of Field: Inbal Dor**

"Derech Hamelech", Business Initiatives, "From Dependence to Independence"

"I am not good with **goodbyes** but what I write now is coming from my **heart**. It is important for me to let you know that you came into my heart, a place that very few have succeeded to enter. I had an **amazing time** with you that I will never forget because you are the kind of person who is difficult to forget. I learned so much from you and **because of you** I am what I am today."

Y, a young woman from the "Derech Hamelech" program says goodbye to Jasmine, the volunteer that mentored her for two years.



# "Derech Hamelech" - A Vocational Training and Mentoring Program for Alienated and Detached Youth

In Israel, there are thousands of youth under the care of the Juvenile Probation Services and Youth Advancement Units. Most of these youth have personal, familial and social problems. They lack a meaningful adult role model who believes in them and communicates with them openly.

The Derech Hamelech program began its activity in 2005 and serves as a complementary program to the professional treatment services offered by state institutions. The program provides assistance to youth by assigning them an adult mentor and integrating them into vocational training and/or employment in a business within the community. The purpose of this program is to enable youth to exit the vicious cycle of violence and begin a process of rehabilitation that will enable them to get back on track to a normal life.

The Derech Hamelech program offers an array of responses for delinquent youth, youth at risk and youth in distress, which include:

Personal mentoring and support from a caring adult volunteer, Integration into rehabilitative employment programs and vocational training under the guidance of their volunteer mentors, and preparation for employment- providing tools and life skills and an alternative training program tailored for alienated youth ages 14-18

#### **Human Resources**

21 paid workers and 223 adult volunteers

#### **National Presence**

The program is operating in Be'er Sheva, Haifa and its environs (Krayot), Jerusalem, Neveh Midbar Regional Council, Al Kassum Regional Council, Lod, Netanya and the Sharon region, Petach Tikva, Safed, Kiryat Gat, Ramle, and Tel Aviv.

During 2013, 652 youth were served by the program.

#### **Target Population**

Youth and young adults ages 14-25, who have been referred by a variety of service providers from the community. Most of these youth have completely or partially dropped out from educational institutions.

# Characteristics and Breakdown of the Population Served

Breakdown by Gender	
Population Served	Percentage
Boys	64.2%
Girls	35.4%
Transgender	0.4%

Breakdown by Origin		
Population Served	Percentage	
Native Jewish Israelis	54%	
Ethiopian	13%	
FSU	10%	
Ultra-Orthodox Jews	10%	
Arabs	9%	
Other	4%	

Breakdown by Age	
Population Served	Percentage
12-14	4%
14-16	15%
16-18	63%
18+	18%

"Derech Hamelech", Business Initiatives, "From Dependence to Independence"

-/4		
	Subject of Inquiry/Personal	Distress
	Subject of Inquiry	Percentage
	Financial Difficulties	19%
	Family Issues	14%
	Social Difficulties	14%
	Education	12%
	Violence	12%
	Mental Distress (Depression, Anxiety, Eating Disorders, Suicidal Thoughts, etc.)	7%
	Use of Addictive Substances	5%
	Sexual Violence	3%
	Sexual and Gender Identity	2.5%
	Army Enlistment	1.5%
	Illness	1.5%
	Other	8.5%

#### **New Trends Identified in 2013**

- Expansion of our work in the Jewish Ultra-Orthodox sector and the Arab sector- increase in the number of inquiries and responses and a development of partnerships with key figures within these sectors.
- Increase in the number of teen girls and young women that were referred to the program and the adaptation of the program to their needs.
- An increase in the number of inquiries of young adults (18+) to the variety of services offered by the program.
- Expansion of our work with youth at extreme risk (homeless, victims of sexual assault, youth involved in prostitution).

#### **Significant Successes and Achievements**

- The establishment of a new employment center in Safed and the reinforcement of the existing employment centersand the variety of services they offer including: personal mentoring, vocational training and employment.
- Increase of technological training- in 2013, 136 youth received training in the field of computers and technology.
- Development of vocational workshops for populations with less access to employment- i.e. Bedouin youth, ultra-Orthodox Jewish youth and youth at extreme risk.
- Expansion of the cooperation with the Arab and Bedouin sector- increase in the number of youth receiving personal

- mentoring, vocational training courses and employment opportunities in East Jerusalem and the launch of our work with the Bedouin population in the Negev.
- Operating employment programs for youth with the goal of preventing delinquency.

#### **Institutional and Professional Partnerships**

The National Insurance Institute, the Youth Correctional Services, the Youth Advancement Authority, the National Program for Children and Youth at Risk, the Petach Tikva Municipality, Sachlav-Haifa, Ashalim-Turning Point, Top Audio, Machshava Tova, and the First International Bank of Israel.

Referrals for Treatment and External Services	
Service	Num of Referrals
Youth Probation Services	29%
Youth Advancement Units	28%
Social Services (Social Workers and Welfare Officers)	24%
Other ELEM programs	11%
Local Community Institutions	8%



Vocational Training at the Derech Hamelech Program

"Derech Hamelech", Business Initiatives, "From Dependence to Independence"

#### **Donors and Funding**

Bezeq Corporation, UJA-Federation of New York and the Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City

#### 2014 Goals and Plans

- To identify dangerous phenomena in the employment realm and to initiate a public discourse on these phenomena.
- To develop and adapt continuation tracks after vocational training together with the IDF.
- To develop and expand the employment services available to youth from other ELEM programs.
- To learn new models that have been developed in the field in 2013 and to implement them in various cities.

#### **Business Initiatives for Youth**

Many youth in Israel find it difficult to be part of formal educational structures. They drop out of educational institutions and find themselves in a downward spiral, due to a lack of a support system. Integrating youth into independent business initiatives allows them to become part of a normative and challenging environment where they gain practical skills, learn to take responsibility and become acquainted with the "real" world of business.

ELEM has established independent businesses and is a partner in others, giving youth the opportunity to work and even to participate in management. Together with the professional and practical vocational training, each

participant in the program meets regularly with a social worker and has an individualized treatment plan.

Involvement in the project provides them with a sense of belonging to a group, improves their self-image and enables them to experience success. This is a real opportunity to acquire educational and professional experience and to develop personal skills (work ethic, negotiation skills, acceptance of authority, interpersonal communication skills, time management and decision making skills). The youth regain trust in others by creating meaningful relationships with the staff members who mentor them.

During 2013, there were 87 participants, 61 new in the four initiatives operating in the field of food and restaurant services.

#### Café Yael-Sderot

Café Yael was established in 2006. Located in the building of the Sderot Cinematheque and operated by youth at risk from the area, it offers coffee, sandwiches and light meals to local residents and businesses. Café Yael is operated by ELEM's subsidiary known as "Business Initiatives for Youth, Inc." and has succeeded in branding itself as an independent and profitable economic unit. Café Yael also caters events and its number of customers increases from year to year.



Coffee and Company at the HP Corporation in Yehud

"Derech Hamelech", Business Initiatives, "From Dependence to Independence"

### Liliyot Restaurant and Liliyot Bakery in Tel Aviv

The Liliyot restaurant has been operating since 2000 and offers a rehabilitative program for youth at risk, providing professional training in the culinary arts: cooking, baking and pastry making. The training at Liliyot is over the course of 18 months, takes place in small groups and is specially tailored to the unique needs and abilities of each individual.

The Liliyot project is a joint initiative of ELEM and the Liliyot group, who own the restaurants. The Lilyot group is a group of private entrepreneurs that has made social action its priority focusing on the weaker populations in the realm of employment and providing them an opportunity to change their future and integrate into society as independent and normative citizens.

#### **Coffee & Company**

Opened in 2011, Coffee and Company is a café located at the main offices of the HP corporation in Yehud which provides services to the thousands workers at the company. The café employs, in addition to a professional kitchen staff, youth at risk from the greater metropolitan area of Yehud and Or Yehuda. These youth receive practical training in the restaurant business.

The Café was an initiative of HP, in partnership with the Dualis Israeli Social Venture Fund and ELEM. ELEM provides the support and the therapeutic aspects of the program to the participating youth.

#### **Mataim Restaurant, Ramat Hanadiv**

Opened in 2012, Mataim is a Kosher, dairy restaurant located in the Ramat Hanadiv nature reserve. The restaurant employs youth at risk from the region. The partners in this initiative are the Zichron Ya'acov Local Council, the Dualis Israeli Social Venture Fund and ELEM.



#### **Human Resources**

Six professionals, seven volunteers and 12 students-volunteer/ scholarship recipients

#### **Population Served**

Youth ages 16 to 19 who have dropped out of formal educational programs and have emotional and/or social difficulties, various socio-economic difficulties, and have been involved in activities such as criminal activity or drug use. Despite their distresses, the youth in these programs are motivated, capable of learning and able to integrate in a highly demanding vocational program.

# Characteristics and Breakdown of the Population Served

Breakdown by Gender	
Population Served	Percentage
Boys	64%
Girls	36%

Breakdown by Origin		
Population Served	Percentage	
Veteran Jewish Israelis	65%	
Former Soviet Union	20%	
Ethiopian	6%	
Arabs	4.5%	
Other (Indian, Mexican)	4.5%	

Breakdown by Age	
Population Served	Percentage
14-16	1%
16-18	80%
18-21	18%
21-26	1%

"Derech Hamelech", Business Initiatives, "From Dependence to Independence"

Subject of Inquiry/Personal Distress	
Subject of Inquiry	Percentage
Employment	100%
Family Problems	48%
Financial Difficulties	37%
Social Difficulties	22%
Psychiatric Problems	15%
Drugs and Alcohol	8.5%
Violence	8%
Sexual/Gender Identity	6%
Illness	4%
Homeless	3%

#### **New Trends Identified in 2013**

- A significant increase in the number of referrals from other ELEM programs and outside services.
- Increase in the number of girls integrated into the workplace.
- Increase in the number of young women (18+) participating in the project.

### **Significant Successes and Achievements**

- The opening of a new business initiative- 'Nail It', the express manicure initiative in Netanya, targeting young mothers. During the course of the year 12 young women completed their training in the field and participated in a business initiatives workshop. The business officially opened in February 2014.
- The expansion of our work at the Mataim restaurant in Ramat Hanadiv— an increase in the number of youth working at the restaurant and a strengthening of our connections with the local social workers in the area.
- Regular professional supervision for the social service directors of the projects from businesses that are not working in partnership with ELEM.
- Development of a work plan for social service programs within social business ventures- conceptualization and theory.
- Beginning to work with the Arab sector.

#### **Institutional and Professional Partners**

The Dualis Israeli Social Venture Fund Foundation, Youth Advancement Authority, Hila, Youth Correctional Services, the National Insurance Institute-the Fund for the Development of Services for Children and Youth at Risk, the Zichron Ya'acov Local Council, Ramat Hanadiv, the Liliyot Group, HP, Zionism 2000—Asinu Esek, Sapir College, Cinematheque Sderot, National Service.

#### **Donors**

Hp, Glencore Foundation, Strauss Group

#### **2014 Goals and Development Plans**

- 1. To reach the maximum number of participants in all of the business initiatives (48 participants at any given time in the four programs).
- 2. To develop the volunteer field in all of the initiatives.
- 3. To increase the percentage of youth working for a period of more than six months at the initiative.
- 4. To open the new business initiative, 'Nail It', for young mothers in Netanya.
- 5. To develop a model for a business initiative working with homeless young adults.
- 6. Supervision and guidance for the staff that are not youth workers (Chefs, shift managers, etc.)

#### "From Dependence to Independence"a Personal and Group Mentoring Program for Leading Independent Lives within the Community

The "From Dependence to Independence" program has been operating since 2010 and aims to offer an opportunity to young adults at risk to become independent adults and active and contributing members of society.

Every year, some 150-200 young adults complete their period of stay in Youth Protection Authority institutions. For these youth, developing an independent life is wrought with difficulties and challenges. Many of these individuals are still coping with the after effects of life experiences such as neglect and emotional or physical abuse that occurred before they entered the Youth Protection Authority's institutions. The youth enter the community without the financial, social and emotional resources needed to cope with the period of transition following placement and in most cases are lacking the necessary coping tools.

"Derech Hamelech", Business Initiatives, "From Dependence to Independence"

The "From Dependence to Independence" program offers a two-year long-term personal and group work model where each participant is supervised by the program coordinator and a volunteer in his residential community.

#### The program includes:

- Developing a personalized plan for independent living-Approximately four months before the teen leaves his placement, his continuation plan in the community is developed together with the regional coordinator of his area. This includes an initial needs assessment, a recognition of the personal and social resources available and the setting of personal goals such as accommodations, army/national service, studies, employment, family and relationships, mental and physical health, socialization, leisure, etc.
- Personal mentoring by a community volunteer- A volunteer who has been trained by the volunteer coordinator, mentors the young adult over the period of at least one year. The mentor meets with the youth on a weekly basis and provides him with advice and assistance to achieve his goals and to integrate into the community. The mentor is a significant adult

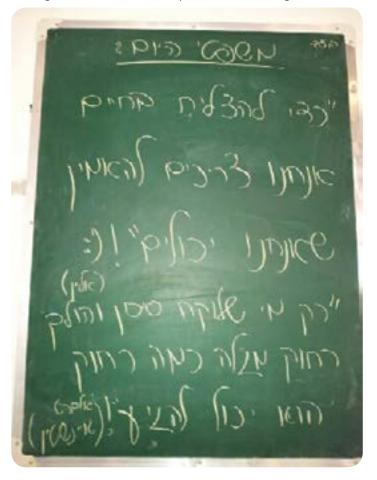


figure to the young adult and relates to him non-judgmentally enabling the youth to identify with him and open up.

- Acquiring skills and tools for independent living The young adults acquire skills for independent living which helps to bolster their belief in themselves and encourages them to take responsibility for their lives and their future decisions, through group meetings and personal mentoring throughout their integration into the workforce, studies, housing, volunteering and more.
- Creating a network of services and community responses— The young participant and the coordinator map out together the available relevant community services for the participant's needs. Over time, the young adult experiments with making contact and utilizing services and in time an economic, social and emotional support network is built which will then serve as the springboard to achieving independence at the end of the program.

#### **National Presence**

The program is active in the following regions- Southern, Lowlands, Central, Jerusalem, Northern and the villages in the "Triangle".

#### **Human Resources**

Eight paid employees and 20 volunteers

During 2013, 175 youth and young adults took part in the program: all of them graduates of youth institutions throughout Israel, 91 were new participants.

#### **Target Population**

Youth and young adults ages 17 to 24, graduates of Youth Protection Authority programs who completed their placements and are coping with difficulties associated with the transition to independent living in society.

# Characteristics and Breakdown of the Population Served

Breakdown by Gender	
Population Served	Percentage
Boys	53%
Girls	45%
Transgender	2%

"Derech Hamelech", Business Initiatives, "From Dependence to Independence"

Breakdown by Origin	
Population Served	Percentage
Native Jewish Israelis	44%
FSU	32%
Ethiopian	12%
Arabs	9%
Refugees	3%

Breakdown by Age	
Population Served	Percentage
14-16	2%
16-18	9%
18+	89%

Subject of Inquiry/Personal Distress	
Subject of Inquiry	Percentage
Army Enlistment	89%
Financial Difficulties	85%
Family Issues	80%
Employment	67%
Housing	67%
Sexual Violence	50%
Social Difficulties	45%
Illness	20%
Education	15%
Mental Distress (Depression, Anxiety, Eating Disorders, Suicidal Thoughts, etc.)	15%
Use of Addictive Substances	11%
Sexual and Gender Identity	6%
Unwanted Pregnancies	5%
Violence	4%

#### **New Trends Identified in 2013**

- An increase of the number of Youth Protection graduates from drug rehabilitation programs that do not return to their communities and struggle with the lack of adequate housing solutions that suit their needs.
- An increase in the number of Youth Protection graduates that are interested in volunteering through the National/ Civil Service program, though many are forced to give up on this option due to the cancellation of many housing posts by the civil service administration.
- A lack of therapeutic and housing options for Youth Protection graduates who have been sexually abused and are returning to the community where the abuse occurred.
- An increase in the number of Youth Protection graduates with housing difficulties as the existing options are minimal and not a practical alternative.

#### **Main Achievements in 2013**

- Staff development and training- the training model was modified from one-on-one training to regional team training.
- Expansion and advancement of our collaborations with relevant services in various fields-welfare and therapy, employment and vocational training, National/ Civil Service, IDF, exercise of rights.
- The creation of a pool of services for the benefit of young adults at risk.
- Putting an emphasis on the preparation for independent living at the Youth Protection authority's institutions- a seminar for the therapeutic coordinators was held and additionally an initial pilot of life preparation workshops were held at the Youth Protection authority's various institutions.
- Group supervision was held.
- A volunteer system was developed for the programs in the Lowlands and the Center.
- The program's model has proved itself and we are now considering expanding programs for ELEM's graduates and for graduates of the Ministry of Social Affairs program based on the "From Dependence to Independence" model.

#### **Professional and Institutional Partners**

• Education and Vocational Training- John Bryce College, University, Inc, ELEM's Derech Hamelech program, BPM College, the Animation Center, the Hila Program, Nazareth Illit College (Arab Sector), the Atid colleges network, the Mishli Program, the mentoring program (Sapir College, Tel Aviv University) and the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labor.

"Derech Hamelech", Business Initiatives, "From Dependence to Independence"

- Army Enlistment- the Lone Soldiers department, the Center for Promoting Special Populations (MAKAM), the Meitav Unit, Army Preparatory programs for young adults at risk (Tzur Meshalem, Echad Meshelanu and Aderet), Michve Alon, Ramad Kehila, Acharai, and Nirim.
- Employment- Shoham, Manpower, Champion Motors, Aroma, Tikshuv, Superpharm, Holmes' Place, Tzalash, Afikim and the government employment agency
- National/Civil Service- The Civil Service directorate, the Opportunity Fund, Shlomit, Bat Ami, Aminadav, and Gvanim's "Hed" program.
- Housing- Yeladim- Fair Chance for Children, Otot-madrega program, Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services: the young women's division- transition apartments, Hut Hameshulash for the religious population, the House in Sdeh Eliyau and ELEM's transition apartments.
- Therapy and Welfare- Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services: the young adult's division, Teven, the addictions treatment units, Efshar, the center for the treatment of sexual offenders, Youth Advancement and the youth correctional service.

Referrals for Treatment and External Services	
Service	Num of Referrals
Employment and Professional Training	63
IDF	57
Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services, young adult unit	45
Housing	23
Educational Services	18
Health Services	15
Youth probation Services	12
Mental Health Services	7
Drug Rehabilitation	6
Other ELEM programs (Derech Hamelech, Employment Initiatives)	5
Total	251

#### **Donors**

Gandyr Foundation



### **2014 Goals and Development Plans**

- To expand and develop the group training as a complementary component of the personal mentoring
- To establish a leadership group of program graduates who will be trained in the area of extraction and advancement of rights and will work to advance public policies for youth without family support.
- To develop in collaboration with the Youth Protection Authority a preparation program for independent living after completion of institutional placement
- To advance equal opportunities for youth at fatal risk by creating special tracks providing them with guidance for integration in relevant areas.
- To advance policy making for housing for Youth Protection Authority graduates without family support through the Prime Minister's round table and through the forum for organizations working with young adults at risk.
- To build up the volunteer base in the program, recruit volunteers both from cities where ELEM operates programs and cities where ELEM is not yet active.
- To raise funds and to expand the government funds allocated for the continued operations of the program according to the existing model.
- To develop the field of personal supervision for graduates of ELEM programs and of programs outside of the organization.

### **Girls Field**

Head of Field, Rely Katzav, Acting Head of Field, Reut Guy

"A Real Home", "Two Together", "Alma"

"I feel that it doesn't matter **what I do in life**, or where I'll be, if it's at school, **in a relationship**, with friends- it will always be there. No one can understand what it does to me. The **pain** is there and it is drowning me... I ask myself often why **continue living?** If it hurts so much...I feel like I was left **injured** to bleed out in the field and everyone just went on, despite my screams for help. That's why when people make the efforts to be with me it feels like a big hug!"

M, a young woman who attends the Real Home program, a therapeutic community for teen girls and young women who have been sexually abused.

Today, the widespread professional outlook is that one must perceive the state of teen girls as distinctive and unique. The societal differences between women and men are reflected also in the differences between teen girls and boys and create unique situations for the girls.

The Girls' field at ELEM facilitates three unique programs specifically for girls and additionally operates within other fields of the organization promoting gender sensitivity in the work of the relevant programs.

#### "A Real Home"

"A Real Home" is a therapeutic community for young women who were or are victims of sexual violence. The center was established in 2006 as a supportive and empowering framework for young women ages 16-26. The program encourages them to function in normative frameworks and aids to reduce their feelings of shame and guilt. In addition to group work, the center offers individual services to the girls/women according to the unique needs of each participant under the personal supervision of the professional staff and volunteers. The center is located in Tel Aviv and accepts young women from all over Israel. Since 2012, the home is operated as a joint initiative with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services' adolescent and young adult services department.

# During 2013, 50 teen girls and young women were served by the program.

#### Staff

The program is staffed by 3 workers and 30 adult volunteers.



The center provides services to young women between the ages of 16- 26, who are or have been victims of sexual abuse and who are in need of a support system and to work through the after effects of the abuse.

# Characteristics and Breakdown of the Population Served

Breakdown by Gender	
Population Served	Percentage
Young Women	97%
Transgender	3%

Breakdown by Origin	
Population Served Percentage	
Native Israelis	88%
FSU	9%
Arabs	3%

Breakdown by Age		
Population Served	Percentage	
16-18	3%	
18-21	42%	
21-26	55%	



### **Girls Field**

"A Real Home", "Two Together", "Alma"

Breakdown by Subject of Inquiry /Personal Distress	
Subject of Inquiry	Percentage
Sexual Violence (attack, exploitation)	100%
Family Relationships	100%
Mental Distress (depression, anxiety, eating disorders, suicidal thoughts, etc.)	51%
Psychiatric Problems	42%
Social Problems	39%
Financial Difficulties	33%
Sexual/Gender Identity	15%
Violence	15%
Death	15%
Drug/ Alcohol Use	15%
Employment	15%
Health Issues	15%
Prostitution	6%
Homelessness	3%
Unwanted Pregnancy/ Abortion	3%
Births/ Young Mothers	3%

#### **New Trends in 2013**

- During the year the following phenomena were identified amongst some of the girls: obsessive shopping sprees, disaffiliation from Orthodox Judaism, and court appeals in cases where the offender was not convicted.
- An increase in the number of referrals to the Real Home program, mainly via the teen girls social workers from the municipalities.
- An increase in the number of girls who are involved in abusive situations such as addictions and prostitution during the therapeutic process.

#### **Significant Successes and Achievements**

- The groundwork was laid for the opening of the center on an additional evening for girls ages 15-18.
- There was an increase in the number of girls receiving

personal mentoring.

• The connections between the program and the youth services in the community were strengthened.

#### **Institutional and Professional Partnerships**

The Teen and Young Adult Services Unit of the Ministry of Social Welfare and Social Affairs.

Number of Youth Referred for Continued Services:	
Service	Num of Referrals
Other ELEM Projects	10
Employability and Training	9
Social Services (Welfare Officers, Social Workers)	7
Mental Health Services	7
Drug Therapy and Rehabilitation	3
Services for Women Involved in Prostitution	1
Services for the Homeless/Housing	1
IDF	1
The Housing Authority	1

#### **Donors**

"Friends of the Home" - a group of women who help raise money for the project, Bank Leumi, Safra

#### **Goals and Development Plans for 2014**

To develop services for teen girls, to further develop the field of volunteerism and the "Friends of the Home", To increase the number of girls and young women receiving assistance from the program.

## "Two Together"

The "Two Together" program works to find young women and girls in the spectrum of sexual exploitation. The program began its activity in 2011 in the Hevel Modi'in settlements in conjunction with the social services of the local regional council and reaches out to teen girls and young women ages 13-23 involved or at risk to become involved in prostitution.

The program includes outreach and connecting with these girls. Each staff member or volunteer serves as a personal mentor to a girl and builds up a supportive and positive relationship.

#### **Girls Field**

"A Real Home", "Two Together", "Alma"

During the course of 2013, seven girls were actively served by the "Two Together" program and our staff was active in recruiting an additional seven to the program.

#### **Human resources**

One paid employee and five volunteers

#### **Population Served**

Teen girls and young women between the ages of 13-23 from the Hevel Modi'in Regional Council settlements, who are involved in sexually dangerous behavior- from exploitative relationships to sexual relationships for compensation.

# Characteristics and Breakdown of the Population Served

Breakdown by Origin	
Population Served Percentage	
Native Israelis	92%
FSU	8%

Breakdown by Age		
Population Served	Percentage	
14-16	35%	
16-18	50%	
18-21	15%	

Breakdown by Subject of Inquiry /Personal Distress	
Subject of Inquiry	Percentage
Prostitution	86%
Unwanted Pregnancy/ Abortion	79%
Sexual Violence (attack, exploitation)	64%
Family Relationships	38.4%
Mental Distress (depression, anxiety, eating disorder, suicidal thoughts, etc.)	23%
Social Difficulties	7%

#### **New Trends in 2013**

• Reports from professionals from the religious community about dangerous sexual behavior of girls.

- Sexually dangerous behavior amongst young teen girls who are involved in relationships with teen boys of 18+.
- Teen girls without family support grappling with loneliness and severe crises.

#### **Significant Successes and Achievements**

New and creative methods for outreach to a greater number of girls.

#### **Institutional and Professional Partnerships**

There is a financial and professional partnership with the Hevel Modi'in Regional Council

# Number of Youth Referred for Continued Services:

Service	Num of Referrals
Social Services (Welfare Officers, Social Workers)	1
Health Services	1
Employment and Vocational Training	1

#### **2014 Goals and Development Plans**

- Recruitment of additional volunteers and expanding the duties of the current volunteers.
- Increasing the number of girls in the mentoring program.
- Referring girls to additional services and increasing cooperation with the social services.
- Raising awareness amongst the local residents and professionals regarding the phenomenon of dangerous sexual behavior.



#### "Alma"

The Alma project was launched in Petach Tikva in April 2013 and provides services to girls 13-26 across the spectrum of

prostitution. The work with the girls/women occurs in three spheres: an apartment that serves as a physical space where they can rest, eat a hot meal and find a sympathetic ear, street work whose aim is to actively recruit new girls, and regular mentoring meetings between the volunteers and the girls.

During 2013, 34 girls/women were identified, and 16 are in regular contact with our volunteers.

#### **Human resources**

There are two youth workers and 13 female volunteers.

#### **Population Served**

Girls/women ages 13-26 across the spectrum of prostitution, starting with promiscuous sexual activity to sexual relations for reward, to the extreme of commercial sexual exploitation.

Breakdown by Origin		
Population Served	Percentage	
FSU	46.4%	
Native Israelis	42.9%	
Ethiopian	10.7%	

Breakdown by Age		
Population Served	Percentage	
12-14	3.5%	
14-16	7.3%	
16-18	67.8%	
18-21	21.4%	

Breakdown by Subject of Inquiry /Personal Distress			
Subject of Inquiry	Percentage		
Prostitution	100%		
Financial Difficulties	57.1%		
Family Relationships	42.8%		
Drug/Alcohol Use	32.4%		
Sexual Violence (attack, exploitation)	17.8%		
Mental Distress (depression, anxiety, eating disorder, suicidal thoughts, etc.)	3.5%		



### **Professional and Institutional Partnerships**

Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Welfare- adolescent and young adult services, Ministry of Absorption, Petach Tikva Municipality- department of social services and the National Insurance Institute- fund for youth at risk.

Number of Youth Referred for Continued Services:		
Service	Num of Referrals	
Referral to ELEM's business initiative "Coffee and Company"	2	
Community- dance studio	1	

#### **2014 Goals and Development Plans**

- Increase the number of program participants.
- Team building between the professionals and the volunteers working in the project.
- Creating a social activities program together in cooperation with the program participants.
- To hire a therapeutic coordinator and a volunteer coordinator.

Head of Field: Rely Katzav Interim Head of Field: Reut Guy

"Awake at Night", "Someone to Run With", "Galgal-Friendship House"

"At Midnight I was **exhausted** and my thoughts drifted back and forth. I am so worn out and **drunk**, maybe it's a good idea that I go to the place that Roni suggested? I searched through my bag and found the card. I went to the **address** written on the card, I rang the bell and a female voice asked me for my name. "Ronit", I shyly replied. I went up the stairs and a smiling woman **opened the door** and said: "Nice to meet you, I'm Inbar."

Ronit (not her real name) a young woman receiving services at the Galgal-Friendship House.

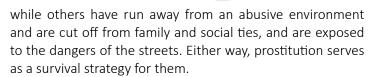
ELEM's programs for youth at fatal risk provide services to adolescents and youth across the spectrum of extreme risk. These youth are usually detached from family, social and therapeutic support systems. Most of them are forced to survive in the world with no resources, not only because of their physical and emotional circumstances and life history, but also because of their young age. In most cases, they are an invisible population excluded from professional and public discourse. We base our work on our aspiration to connect with these youth and aim to break the cycle of social alienation and isolation that they live in. First and foremost we seek to give them visibility and recognition.

The work in the extreme risk field is adapted to the unique needs of these adolescents and youth and is based on several key principles:

- Outreach- To conduct ongoing outreach work to youth along the spectrum of risk. This involves interventions on the street, in clubs, in squats, through the internet and wherever else they may be.
- Harm reduction- The goal is to minimize physical (prevention of disease and death, etc.) and emotional (reducing feelings of alienation and isolation) damages, which are a result of the client's lifestyle.
- Intervention in the "cycle of change"- This method, is designed for work with addicts, the homeless, child prostitutes and other life situations that require motivation for change.
- Gender and culturally sensitive work.
- Understanding that various states of distress are a result
  of social structure. This outlook helps to remove the social
  labeling common with these marginalized populations and
  instead to rely on the strengths and life experience of the
  youth to build a process for change.

# "Awake at Night"- a Program for Teens and Young Adult Involved in Prostitution

The youth who are commercially sexually exploited and involved in prostitution come from all segments of the population. Some are living at home and some are at school,



In recent years, we encounter this phenomenon not only on the streets but also in discrete apartments, clubs and bars, saunas, and other closed arenas. An additional and significant arena is the Internet- there we have witnessed a significant increase of the phenomenon, whether openly on sex sites or more subtly on social networks, forums, and chat groups and on seemingly innocent dating sites. Additionally, we have observed the phenomenon of prostitution via private order usually via agents that "pimp" the girls.

The "Awake at Night" program aims to reduce emotional and physical damage, advocate for these youth and encourage them to exercise their rights, generate trust in a positive and meaningful adult role model, and provide alternatives to the world of prostitution in order to enable the participants to gradually exit the realm of prostitution. The program was started in 2001 in Tel Aviv. In 2008, the program was expanded to Haifa as part of the National Program for the Treatment of Women and Girls involved in prostitution. In 2012, the program began in Eilat. The progam works in conjunction with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Welfare- the youth and young adults services, the local municipalities and the National Insurance Institute's fund for youth at risk.

Number of Youth/ Young Adults Who Received Services in 2013 Tel Aviv - 116 youth and young adults, 56 new to the program Haifa - 54 youth and young adults, 38 new to the program Eilat - 15 youth and young adults, seven new to the program

#### Staff

Tel Aviv: 5 Employees and 27 Volunteers Haifa: 5 Employees and 11 Volunteers Eilat: 2 Employees and 8 Volunteers

#### **Target Population**

Youth and young adults ages 14-26 involved in prostitution across the spectrum: from actual prostitution on the street,



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"Awake at Night", "Someone to Run With", "Galgal-Friendship House"

on the internet, in discrete apartments, in clubs and strip clubs to sexual favors in exchange for other rewards which happens in the community and at schools. The youth involved in prostitution are mainly boys and girls who are cut off from family, social and therapeutic support systems.

# **Characteristics and Breakdown of the Population Served**

Breakdown by Gender			
Population Served	Tel Aviv	Haifa	Eilat
Boys	55%	4%	
Girls	40%	92%	95%
Transgender	5%	4%	5%

Breakdown by Origin			
Population Served	Tel Aviv	Haifa	Eilat
Native Jewish Israelis	60%	24%	90%
FSU	5%	35%	
Arabs	25%	28%	5%
Ethiopian	5%	13%	
Lacking Legal Status (Refugees, foreign workers, etc.)	5%		5%

Breakdown by Age			
Population Served	Tel Aviv	Haifa	Eilat
14-16	5%	37%	5%
16-18	30%	33%	50%
18-21	50%	22.5%	35%
21-26	15%	7.5%	10%



"Awake at Night" center, in Haifa

Breakdown by Subject of Inquiry/ Personal Distress				
Issue	Tel Aviv Haifa		Eilat	
Prostitution	100%	100%	100%	
Sexual Violence (attack, exploitation)	95%	100%	100%	
Violence	90%	80%	50%	
Financial Issues	100%	100%	90%	
Employment	100%	50%	10%	
Mental Distress (depression, anxiety, eating disorder, suicidal thoughts, etc.)	80%	75%	50%	
Family Relationships	100%	22.2%	20%	
Drug/Alcohol Use	90%	22.9%	30%	
Health Issues	63%	70%	30%	
Death/Suicide	50%	30%		
Homeless	50%	30%	10%	
Sexual/Gender Identity	30%	10%	15%	
Social Issues	10.34%	10%	40%	
Psychiatric Problems	8.62%	7%	15%	
Unwanted Pregnancy/ Abortion	1.72%	8%	20%	
Births/Young Mothers	0.862%	14%	5%	

# New Trends and Phenomena Identified in 2013 Tel Aviv

- Teens pimping each other- over the last year we have seen a significant increase in the number of youth "organizing" clientele for one another.
- Increased involvement of young women in BDSM.
- Prostitution amongst refuges from Eritrea.
- An increase in referrals to the program and consultation requests from the municipal social services.

"Awake at Night", "Someone to Run With", "Galgal-Friendship House"

#### Haifa

- An increased number of minors involved in prostitution in contact with the program.
- A lack of local services for young adult Arab women from the LGBT community involved heavily in prostitution. Most do not manage to stay in Haifa due to death threats and end up moving to the center of the country.
- An increase in the number of teen girls and young women from the Arab sector involved in prostitution on the street and at high risk without a secure roof over their heads.
- An increase in the number of unplanned pregnancies and teen mothers.

#### Eilat

- An increase in the number of referrals from municipal services, mainly the local police department and the social services department.
- Preoccupation with pregnancies, abortions, birth control and safe sex in cooperation with the Yoseftal Hospital in the city.
- Interactions between the girls and Arab partners which has triggered discussion about cultural differences.
- A need of the girls/young women of the program for ongoing support from a significant adult figure.

#### **Main Achievements in 2013**

#### **Tel Aviv**

- An increase of the number of inquiries to the National Insurance Institute and inquiries regarding the realization of rights.
- The establishment of an employment section within the program, facilitated by project volunteers who underwent "double" training in the fields of employment and youth at extreme risk.
- The opening of a special shift of the program specifically for minors.

#### Haifa

- The opening of an initial emergency overnight housing option for young women 18+ at extreme risk which will help map out a need for an ongoing program component of this nature.
- The center was opened an additional day each week.
- An increase in the number of referrals for employment via ELEM's Derech Hamelech program in Haifa.

#### **Eilat**

- An increase in the number of inquiries and of connections with girls/young women.
- Preparations have begun to move the program into a new building that will coordinate all the services for the girls and young women under one roof.

• Expanding the activities of the program to include a girls' evening at the center in addition to outreach and personal connections.

#### **Institutional and Professional Partners**

The "Awake at Night" program operates in conjunction with the National Program for the Treatment of Women and Teen Girls Involved in Prostitution of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services. Additionally, there is a budgetary and professional partnership with the young adults' services and the individual and family services units of the Ministry. This partnership enabled the expansion of the program to Haifa in 2008 and most recently to Eilat. Similarly, there is a partnership with the National Insurance Institute's Fund for the Development of Services for Children and Youth at Risk and with the local municipalities where the program is operating: Tel Aviv, Haifa and Eilat. In Tel Aviv the program operates in partnership with the "Salit" program and in Haifa as part of the spectrum of services offered by "Ofek Nashi".

Additionally, there are unique partnerships in the following cities:

Tel Aviv- partnerships with ELEM's other projects (Outreach Vans, Someone to Run With, Derech HaMelech, A Real Home, Galgal, Alma, Two together, and Hafuch Al Hafuch) and with the Levinsky Clinic, the "Women's Courtyard", the Center for Victims of Sexual Assault, Asaf, Makom Acher, Beit Dror, Beit Hashanti and Hofchot et Hayotzrot. There is a partnership with the forum for youth workers with girls in the city and with the correctional services.

Eilat - Eilat Police Department, youth department, informal education programs, Beit Hossen.



"Awake at Night", "Someone to Run With", "Galgal-Friendship House"

Number of Youth Referred for Continued Services:			
Service	Tel Aviv	Haifa	Eilat
Other ELEM programs	15	7	6
Social Services (Welfare Officers, Social Workers)	20	10	5
Services for the Home- less/ Housing Services	10	6	
Services for Women Involved in Prostitution	2	28	1
Youth Advancement	2		
Educational Services	4	2	2
Health Services	15	22	
Mental Health Services	8		
Probation Services, Police	10	4	1
Drug Therapy and Rehabilitation	1	2	
IDF	4		
Employment and Professional Training	10	4	
Referrals to Other NGO's	21	10	
Total	122	95	15

#### **Donors**

The Kahn Foundation, the National Insurance Instituteand the Carolito Foundation

#### **2014 Goals and Plans**

**In Tel Aviv:** to establish services to operate 24/7, to establish a shelter, an internet hotline, an increase in the number of professionals and volunteers and to move into a new building in partnership with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Welfare and the Tel Aviv municipality.

**In Haifa:** to provide a solution for emergency sleeping accommodations seven days a week and to make these services accessible during the morning hours for young mothers involved in prostitution, to launch a new employment initiative for young women along the spectrum of prostitution. **In Eilat:** to open a physical center for teen girls and young adults involved in prostitution, to expand the hours and the number of days of operation, to increase human resources and to expand the basket of services and the cooperations with the municipality on behalf of young women who are involved in prostitution.

## Programs for Homeless Young Adults-"Someone to Run With" and "Galgal"

"Someone to run with" in Tel Aviv and "Galgal" in Jerusalem have been operating since 2002. They respond to the need of homeless young adults between the ages of 18 and 26 in various serious states of risk and distress. These young adults frequently abuse drugs and/or alcohol, are detached from therapeutic, social and family support systems, and live their lives on the street. Many of them use survival strategies such as crime and prostitution.

These programs run two drop-in centers in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem that each operate six days a week and perform outreach work on the streets. The work in these centers includes outreach and contact with homeless youth, providing humanitarian assistance and responses to basic needs such as food, clothing, hot showers, medical supplies and more. Additionally the programs focus on minimizing the risks that life on the street entails for the young adults and amongst other things, offers emotional support and medical care. In cases where there is motivation for change, the young adults are also given the opportunity take part in a long-term therapeutic and rehabilitative process.

In addition to the drop in centers, Galgal in Jerusalem also runs a shelter for homeless young women who use drugs. The shelter provides safe and unconditional short-term accommodation. In Tel Aviv, "Someone to Run With" has two transition apartments for homeless young men and women, and drug addicts who have completed physical detoxification.

#### Number of Youth Who Received Services in 2013:

"Someone to Run With"- 506 youth, 56 of them new to the program.

Transition apartments - 17 youth.

"Galgal" - 197 youth, 66 of them new to the program.

The Shelter for Homeless Young Women - 44 Young Women.

#### **Human Resources**

"Someone to Run With" and the transition apartments have a staff of six paid employees and 40 volunteers.

"Galgal" and the Shelter for Homeless Young Women are run by a team of five paid employees and 29 volunteers.

## **Population Served**

Young men and women ages 18-26 who are homeless without a regular and safe place to stay. Some of them are drug addicts and/or involved in prostitution. These young adults are alienated and lack social, family, or therapeutic support systems.

"Awake at Night", "Someone to Run With", "Galgal-Friendship House"

# Characteristics and Breakdown of the Population Served

Breakdown by Gender			
Population Served	Galgal	Someone to Run With	
Male	61.4%	67.5%	
Female	38.6%	32%	
Transgender		0.5%	

Breakdown by Origin				
Population Served	Galgal	Someone to Run With		
Native Jewish Israelis	61.9%	30%		
Arabs	14.7%	14%		
Ethiopian	3%	4%		
FSU	9.1%	42%		
Without legal status	2.5%	2%		
Other (immigrants from other countries, refugees)	8.6%	8%		

Breakdown by Age			
Population Served	Galgal	Someone to Run With	
14-16	2.5%		
16-18	4.5%	3%	
18-21	26.4%	13%	
21-26	60%	73%	
26+	6.6%	11%	



Breakdown by Subject of Inquiry/ Personal Distress				
Issue	Galgal	Someone to Run With		
Homeless	100%	100%		
Prostitution	20%	30%		
Violence	30%	50%		
Unwanted Pregnancy/ Abortion	2.5%	1%		
Births/ Young Mothers	1%	0.5%		
Sexual/ Gender Identity	3%	2%		
Psychiatric Problems	10.2%	15%		
Sexual Violence (attack, exploitation)	10.6%	20%		
Family Relationships	11.7%	10%		
Drug/Alcohol Use	35.5%	80%		
Employment	10.1%	30%		
Mental Distress (depression, anxiety, eating disorder, suicidal thoughts, etc.)	5.6%	100%		
Health Issues	7.6%	100%		
Social Issues	9.1%	100%		
Financial Issues	28.9%	100%		

#### **Transition Apartments in Tel Aviv**

In Tel Aviv, ELEM operates two transition apartments as part of the "Someone to Run With" program. The apartments are operated in collaboration with the Addictions Unit of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services. The apartments are intended for drug-addicted homeless young men and women that have completed the stage of physical detoxification and are interested in undergoing a process of change and to integrate back into society. The duration of the stay in the apartment is one year, under the assumption that the young adults will complete the rehabilitation process. An individually tailored plan is made for each individual including ongoing therapy in an addiction day center, a continuous relationship with a social worker, group therapy, a personalized program for life skills development and regular meetings with a volunteer mentor.

"Awake at Night", "Someone to Run With", "Galgal-Friendship House"

#### **Goals of the Transition Apartments:**

- To provide a supportive framework during the process of personal change for the young men and women living in the apartments.
- To provide tools and skills to enable integration into society.
- To create a network of social support for the young men and women during their stay in the apartment and after.

During 2013, 17 young adults stayed in the transition apartments, eight young men and nine young women. Two completed their one-year therapeutic process, seven dropped out before completing the process and eight are in the height of the process and are scheduled to complete their course of therapy in 2014.

# Central Challenges Faced by the Transition Apartment Staff in 2013:

- The use of legal highs- Over the past year there has been a significant increase in the number of legal highs/drugs sold at local kiosks amongst the young adults in the apartments. As it is impossible to identify these drugs in a standard urine test, it is difficult to provide a response to this issue.
- Adapting responses to the individual needs of the young adults- with an emphasis on leisure time and enrichment, has proved to be challenging and has been the focus of special attention throughout the year.
- Apartment "graduates"- this year we received at least four inquiries from individuals who have completed the program that have experienced a relapse in their rehabilitation. This has clarified the importance of follow-up and continued care for the "graduates". At the same time there are program graduates who are independently continuing their rehabilitative process, have integrated into the work force and are leading independent lives.
- Working in coordination with the Addiction Unit and reinforcing this professional partnership.

# The Shelter for Homeless Young Women in Jerusalem

In Jerusalem, in conjunction with the youth advancement unit of the Jerusalem municipality, ELEM operates the Shelter for young homeless women. The program unconditionally offers the women a secure place to stay at night. The Shelter is open every day, 365 days a week from 10:00 pm until 11 am the next day. The young women can come and sleep at the shelter regardless of their personal situation and their motivation for change. The shelter provides humanitarian aid, showers, food, clothing and a sympathetic ear.

During the course of the year 60 young women stayed at the Shelter.

# **Characteristics and Breakdown of the Population Served**

Breakdown by Origin			
Population Served	Percentage		
Native Jewish Israelis	55%		
Arabs	20%		
FSU	20%		
Of USA and Australian Origin	5%		

Breakdown by Age		
Population Served	Percentage	
16-18	5%	
18-21	55%	
21-26	40%	

Breakdown by Nights Stayed in Shelter		
Duration of Stay	Percentage	
One night	15%	
A few nights	15%	
Up to a month	30%	
Up to five months	25%	
Over five months	15%	

#### New trends in 2013

#### "Someone To Run With", Tel Aviv

- Increase in the use of legal highs- these substances have devastating after-effects on the youth- mainly increased violence and referrals to the Mental Health services.
- Increase in the number of cases of extreme violence at the center both between the participants and against the staff.
- Difficulties in identifying the use of the new drugs by the residents of the transition apartments (legal highs) through urine tests- as opposed to the use of traditional drugs (marijuana, cocaine, ecstasy, heroin) and alcohol.
- It is difficult for young adults in need of financial aid to find residential apartments through the rental assistance of the Homeless unit for young adults.

"Awake at Night", "Someone to Run With", "Galgal-Friendship House"

#### "Galgal" and the Shelter for Homeless Young Women:

- A significant increase in the number of young women coming to the shelter and a slight increase in the number of young women attending Galgal.
- A significant increase in the number of young men and women from the Arab sector.
- An increase in the assistance given to young women who have suffered sexual abuse and/or abortions.
- An increase in the use of legal highs amongst the youth and young adults attending the program.

#### **Main Achievements in 2013**

#### "Someone to Run With" and the Transition Apartments

 Expansion of the cooperation with ELEM's Outreach Van in Tel Aviv, the Homeless Unit, and the Addictions Unit and the clinic for comorbidities.

#### "Galgal" and the Shelter for Young Women

- Mapping out centers of prostitution of minors and young adults in Jerusalem.
- A regular street work shift during the week.
- A seminar was held for professionals and for the general public about the prostitution of minors.

#### **Institutional and Professional Partnerships**

"Someone to Run With", Transition Apartments- Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services, Addictions Unit, Yizhar program, Levinsky Program-Avner Cabel, the Homeless Unit, "HaHut Hameshulash", legal assistance through the Center for Law and Business in Ramat Gan and the Halev Association, the integration of students from Bar Ilan University and the IDC, Sova-Gagonim, Beit Hashanti, Makom Acher, rehabilitation institutes, the Jewish Agency.

"Galgal", Shelter for Young Women- the Youth and Young adult Advancement Unit of the Jerusalem Municipality, "HaHut Hameshulash", the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services, The Center for Emergency Situations of the Jerusalem Municipality, Addictions Unit –Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Welfare, Yizhar Program, Ladaat-Choose Well



Celebrating a birthday at the "Someone to Run With" center

Number of Youth Referred for Continued Services				
Service	Galgal	Someone to Run With		
Health Services	100	60		
Drug Therapy and Rehabilitation	4	23		
Services for the Homeless/ Housing	4	22		
Social Services (Welfare Officers, Social Workers)	16	20		
Mental Health Services	24	16		
Other ELEM Projects	12	6		
Services for Women Involved in Prostitution	10	5		
Probation Services, Police		2		
IDF		2		
Employment and Professional Training	3	1		
Youth Advancement	21			
Ministry of Housing	3			

#### **Project Donors:**

"Someone to Run With" and the Transition Apartments-IFCJ, the Yahel Foundation, the Carolito Foundation and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Welfare.

**"Galgal" and the Shelter for Young Women**- ICFJ and the Steinhart Family Foundation Israel.

#### **2014 Goals and Development Plans**

#### "Someone to Run With" and the Transition Apartments

- To expand the services for homeless young adults in Tel Aviv and to create a holistic response with partners.
- To expand our cooperation with services in the community.
- To expand and further develop the street work component of the program.
- To raise awareness and facilitate policy change on behalf of homeless young adults.
- To expand and strengthen the volunteerism component of the program.

#### "Galgal" and the Shelter for Young Women

- To expand the opening hours of the Shelter for Homeless, expand the services given at Galgal and create a holistic response with partners.
- To boost the presence of the professional staff on the streets to enable increased outreach to young men and women in need of assistance.

## **Organizational Training and Knowledge Management**

Heads of Field: Inbal Dor (Knowledge Management) and Reli Katzav (Organizational Training)

The Organizational Training and Knowledge Management Division was established in 2007 to increase professionalization within ELEM and to encourage writing, concept development and excellence within all of the organization's departments.

The professional knowledge developed and accumulated by the organization over the years is a valuable resource both as an instrument for social change, as a tool for our youth work and as a means for fundraising. This knowledge is disseminated to therapists and educators to decision makers and the general public.

#### Main Principles of Our Work in this Field

The knowledge management circuit is comprised of technological tools (internal organizational portal, ELEM website, a computerized data collection system and a Facebook page) and of more "traditional" tools such as writing articles, conceptualization, research, training and supervision. We believe that the process begins with collecting the knowledge from ELEM's professionals and workers in the field and its knowledge management experts and then by devising concepts, conducting research and publishing the results. ELEM's training processes integrate new knowledge, allowing it to be tested in the field.

#### **Human Resources**

There are nine paid workers on staff.

#### **Target Population**

ELEM employees, ELEM volunteers and other Israeli professionals working with Israeli youth.

#### **Internal Training for ELEM Management**

In 2013, three training days were held for ELEM management on the following topics: Sex and Sexuality, Working with Youth on the Web, and Working Young Adults at Risk.

#### Training for Outside Professionals -Annual Professional Conference

The topic of this year's conference was "The Significance of Homelessness for Adolescents and Young Adults".

The conference was held at the Beit Berl College in conjunction with the Beit Berl and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services. The conference participants included ELEM's workers and volunteers, therapeutic professionals from throughout Israel, and Israeli government representatives.

#### **Main Achievements in 2013**

# The positioning of ELEM as a leading professional association in the field-

- Significant attendance of ELEM field workers at ELEM'S Annual Professional Conference.
- Training for outside professionals in core professional areas,

- comprehensive training for the safety counselors of the "City Without Violence" program on outreach and recruitment.
- Publishing ELEM's book "ELEM—What for? Intervention Methods with Youth and Young Adults at Risk", edited by Shelly Natan. The book includes a large and original collection of information and concepts that have been developed during ELEM's 30 years of activity. ELEM staff members from each field were assigned to write on their area of activity.
- Increasing the activity of the Research and Evaluation Committee with an increase in the number of research studies; the appointment of a new chair of this committee, Prof. Riki Soya.

# The improvement of the professional services offered to various groups of Israeli Society

- Establishment of a planning and development team for the organization's work with the ultra-Orthodox sector.
- A training workshop was held for the senior staff and training staff on work plans, management techniques and innovation when working with youth at extreme risk.
- Training, lead by an organizational consultant, was held on staff management tools for ELEM managers from the Youth at Fatal Risk and Girls' field and from the Rehabilitation through Personal Mentoring and Employment field.
- ELEM headquarters' managers participated in a special staff day devoted to the presentation of the yearly work-plans.

# The improvement of the knowledge management processes of the organization-

- A seminar was held for all of ELEM's volunteer coordinators on the topic of "Volunteering Changes Reality".
- Preparations were made for the launch of the new computerized database for the management of our youth work and volunteerism and to help us gain insight and observe trends in the field of youth at risk and in distress.

#### **Partners and Donors**

The Samuel Sebba Charitable Trust and the Bonita Trust

#### **2014 Goals and Plans**

- To improve the organization training system according to the goals of the annual work plan.
- To hold quarterly management training sessions.
- To hold cross-organizational training days in a specific field.
- To appoint a review team for the field of work with young adults.
- To expand the transferring of knowledge accumulated at ELEM and to market it outside the organization.
- To develop a research program to measure and assess the various divisions at ELEM.
- To distribute and market ELEM's book at institutions of higher education and youth agencies.
- To integrate the new data management system within all of the divisions of the organization.



# Community Resources and Volunteering

**Head of Field: Leah Adler** 

"Over the last five years my Thursday afternoon entertainment has been at the Hafuch center in Kfar Saba. There was one teen at the center who was very introverted and closed, no one managed to get through to him but somehow I did through our common language of computer games. Through discussions on computer games I found a way to get through to him and that's how our friendship was formed. This was the first time that an adult had talked with him about his hobbies and other stuff..."

Damien Primorsia, a volunteer at the Hafuch Al Hafuch, Kfar Saba.

ELEM believes that the treatment of youth at risk and in distress is the responsibility of Israeli society as a whole. Therefore, along with close cooperation with social welfare and educational systems and the municipal authorities, ELEM is operating to engage the community as a true partner in its social action activities.

The Volunteering Field is engaged in the development and recruitment of resources and human capital both within local communities for youth at risk and on a national level. The goal is to strengthen the involvement and the partnership with the community in providing assistance to youth and in creating innovative responses and services for this population in the community, all on a volunteer basis.

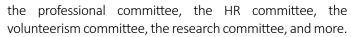
In 2013, ELEM had 1700 active volunteers, of whom 300 were teenagers.

# **Volunteering at ELEM**Field Volunteers

- Volunteers in the programs in the field- these volunteers undertake various tasks which include both direct work with the youth on an individual or group level or the training of professional staff. The volunteers in the field commit to one weekly shift over the course of a minimum one year period. Every project has a paid director who oversees the program's volunteers.
- Volunteers for special events and campaigns- such as "tag" days and fundraising, lectures, third-party volunteer activities with youth, renovations of program buildings, and more.
- Diaspora Volunteers- actively involved in fundraising in the USA and in Europe
- Business Volunteers- there are businesses that employ teens and corporations and businesses active in the community that organize special events throughout the year.
- College Students receiving Scholarships

#### **Volunteers at ELEM Headquarters**

• The executive committee and the subcommittees-



- The volunteerism committee- is comprised of academics, ELEM field and HQ staff and members of the professional committee. The committee discusses practical and organizational topics in the field of volunteerism.
- Professionals that mentor the senior staff of the organization- comprised of organizational consultants, HR directors, supervisors and business executives.

#### **Main Achievements and Successes of 2013**

- Establishing meaningful forums with volunteer coordinators in every Department- The forums meet every six weeks and function as study groups to help strengthen the area of volunteer management. These forums work on integrating cross-organizational topics within the field of volunteerism as part of the unified training "language".
- A conference for all of ELEM's volunteer coordinators was held together with JDC- Israel- "People Changing Reality"during the conference Dr. Aharon York, the chair of the volunteerism committee received an honorary award on behalf of himself and all of ELEM's volunteer coordinators.
- A Professional Seminar was held for all of the volunteers and professionals of ELEM's street work department
- Volunteer retention, training and appreciation- the volunteer forum of the street work department strengthened the communication between the field and the department's managers. Awards of Excellence were given to ELEM volunteers by city mayors.
- Increased activity of the volunteer's committee- under the leadership of Dr. Aharon York- This year more project representatives joined the committee.
- Training volunteers for ELEM's Yelem Support, Counseling and Information Portal- This year two courses were held of 56 academic hours. These courses provide training to professionals on how to provide online counseling and emotional support for teens at risk.
- Establishing and deepening relationships with volunteers from the business sector- In addition to offering financial



# Resource Development and Fundraising Department Director: Adi Shamgar

assistance to the organization, many businesses in the community are sending volunteers, both as individuals and as groups to work in ELEM's programs with youth.

#### **Donors and Partners**

- The Naomi foundation provided funding in 2013 to strengthen ELEM's Department of Volunteerism and our network of Volunteer Coordinators. Their support recognizes the importance of continued training and supervision of the Volunteer Coordinators and of a professional approach in retaining and mentoring ELEM volunteers.
- In ELEM's collaboration with the IMPACT Program and the HESEG foundation, 95 scholarship recipients were placed as volunteers in various ELEM programs. In this framework, over 6000 volunteer hours were devoted to ELEM.
- ELEM has continued its partnerships with Israeli Colleges and Universities who provide volunteers in ELEM programs as part of their field work training and/or community involvement initiatives.
- The IDC in Herziliya- 25 students from the teen law clinic volunteered in ELEM programs.
- The Socio-law clinic for the advancement of the protection of youth at risk at Bar Ilan University-placed students from the clinic in volunteer positions at ELEM programs.
- Amdocs Israel and Zionism 2000 concluded the threeyear business mentoring program. Over the course of the program, senior management staff members at ELEM underwent a process of business coaching led by Amdocs directors.

For volunteering: leah@elem.org.il

## **Resource Development and Fundraising**

ELEM's resource development and fundraising department's goal is to provide the necessary resources required for the work that we do in the field on behalf of youth at risk throughout Israel. We are proud of our partners and grateful to them as they dedicate both time and money to ensure the continuation of all of ELEM's programs summarized in this report.

Our generous partners and donors include business and private donors who have been supporting the organization throughout the years, foundations from Israel and overseas, Jewish Federations, and the general public who donate throughout the year on our various campaigns and events and volunteer in a variety of ways.

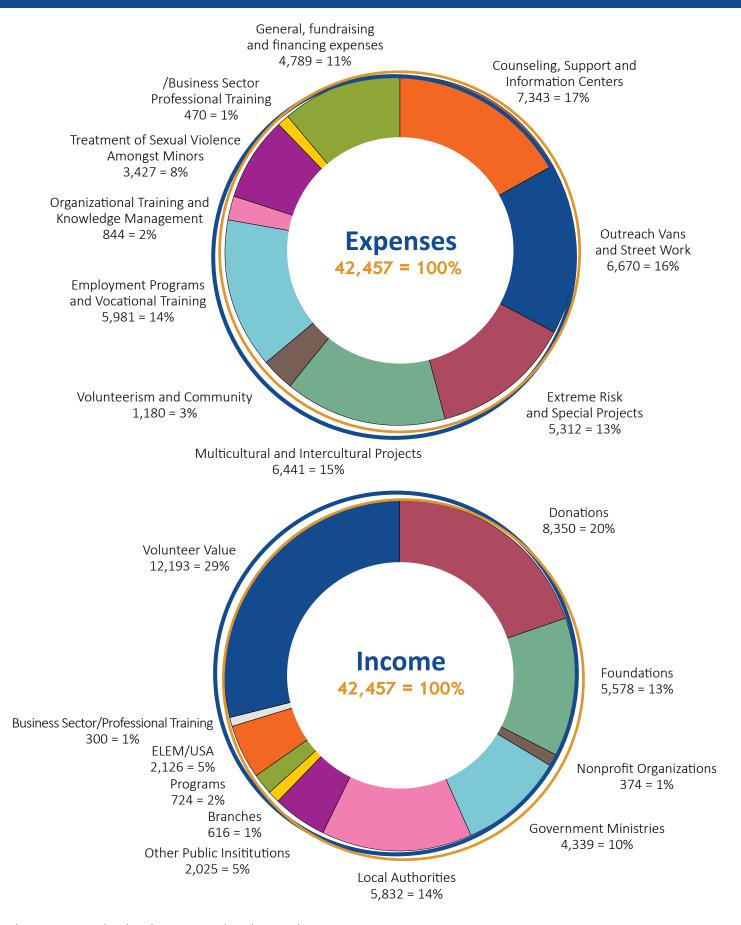
Our fundraising events in 2013 included:

- "Just 30", ELEM's annual gala fundraising event- this year in honor of ELEM's 30th anniversary. The event was held at the Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center, with guest performances by Yehudah Poliker and Esther Rada. During the course of the evening the ELEM award of honor was given to Varda and Boaz Dotan, ELEM's outgoing chairman, and the special appreciation award was given to Moshe Teumim and the Gitam BBDO company for their volunteer assistance to ELEM over the last decade.
- ELEM's annual flag campaign leading up to Israel Independence Day- this year's campaign, led by the organization's president Nava Barak, included a campaign to expand ELEM's pool of donors via the "Round Up Israel" program, to recruit donations from the business sector, the sale of flashing flag pins to the public and the publication of a comprehensive report on the organization's activities.
- ELEM Charity Race- Holon- this is ELEM's third annual race and the first time that it was held as a joint venture with the Holon Municipality. 7,000 runners participated in the race including professional runners, running groups from corporations, and the general public. All of the proceeds raised were used to fund ELEM programs. The race is an initiative of three members of ELEM's business forum: Nadav Greenspun, Avi Motola and Doni Elron.
- Annual Tag Day- as in previous years, school children Israel-wide went door to door to raise money for ELEM.
- The "Shooting Optimism" Exhibit- Members of the YEC, Young Entrepreneurs' Club in cooperation with the Glitz photography school initiated this project which paired youth and photographers who together had to photograph a picture that expresses optimism from the teen's point of view. At the culmination of the project the photographs were put on sale at a festive event and the proceeds of the event went to ELEM.

We call on businesses and the public to continue and join hands with ELEM and to assist us with donations and with volunteer activity. We take this opportunity to thank all of our patrons for all the generous assistance throughout the years.

Business and Corporations interested in giving and in taking part in our activities are invited to contact us at: adis@elem.org.il.

# **Expenses and Income**



<sup>\*</sup>Data is not audited and is presented in Thousands NIS

## **National Presence - ELEM Activity**



## **Members of the Board of Directors**

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Nava Barak

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Ministry of Education

Ministry of Health

Ministry of Immigrant Absorption

Ministry of Public Security

Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services

The National Anti-Drug and Alcohol Authority

The National Program for Children and Youth at Risk

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Acre

Afula

Kiryat Gat

Kiryat Malachi

Kiryat Shemona

Kiryat Yam

Mevo'ot Hermon Regional Council

Nazareth Illith

Netanya

Neveh Midbar Regional Council

Petach Tikva

Ra'anana

Ramle

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Tikshuv

Tnuva

Yes

Young Entrepeneur's Club

Zionism 2000

**Zomet Sfarim** 



The presentation of ELEM's 2012 Annual Report to Israel's President, Mr. Shimon Peres



Nava Barak-ELEM's president, Efrat Shaprut-ELEM's Executive Director and ELEM youth present ELEM's 2012 Annual Report to Israel's President



The 2013 ELEM race in Holon



Starting off the 2013 ELEM race in Holon: From R: Nava Barak, Moti Sasson- Mayor of Holon, Hbatmo Bayich-a participant at the Migdalor program in Kiryat Malachi., Hannah Hartzman-CEO, Holon Municipality and Efrat Shaprut



ELEM's fundraising Gala "Just 30". From right" Shlomo Yanai-EL-EM's chairman, Rabbi Yechiel Eckstein- President and founder of IFCJ, Nava Barak and Boaz Dotan



Fundraising Gala "Just 30". Varda and Boaz Dotan, ELEM's outgoing chairman is presented the ELEM award of honor



Fundraising Gala "Just 30", Mrs Talia Ze'evi - a board member and Gad Ze'evi



Fundraising Gala "Just 30". Anat Gavrieli-CEO Unilever and Nava Barak



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# **ELEM - Youth in Distress**

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