



missions

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

During the past three decades ELEM has grown into a national organization known throughout Israel as “the address” for quality care to at-risk teens



ELEM/Youth in Distress in Israel was founded by a group of professionals and volunteers in Israel and the United States and has been registered as a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization since 1982. During the past three decades ELEM has grown into a national organization and is now known throughout Israel as the resource for quality care to at-risk teens. There are about 800,000 youth between the ages 12 and 18 in Israel, of whom approximately 200,000 are living at varying levels of distress.

ELEM develops and implements innovative solutions for these youth and provides a continuum of care through a broad variety of professional- and volunteer-led programs. Each year ELEM meets tens of thousands of adolescents and provides ongoing treatment to more than 12,000 of them.

We invite our friends and supporters to visit projects and gain a deeper understanding of what makes ELEM special. Visits to specific programs can be organized for individuals, families, or school and synagogue groups. Our goal is to provide visitors with a meaningful experience and an authentic feel for our approach to treating adolescents. However, many of the projects deal with youth facing very difficult and sensitive issues. We will make every effort to allow guests to meet and interact with ELEM professionals, volunteers and the youth helped by the programs.

“LILIOTH RESTAURANT” Vocational Culinary Training

Location Tel Aviv

Venue Gourmet Kosher restaurant where at-risk youth are trained in the culinary arts. The project combines a social therapeutic program with professional training in cooking, pastry, and restaurant management to youth who have dropped out of educational frameworks.

Visits Arrangements can be made for visitors to meet youth who are participating in the program. The restaurant is open for lunch and dinner.

“SOMEONE TO RUN WITH” (Tel Aviv) or “GALGAL” (Jerusalem)

Venue Drop-in centers for homeless youth, often struggling with substance abuse. These centers offer therapy and such basic humanitarian needs as clothes, food, showers and referrals to medical care and rehabilitative services. Temporary residence in a shelter or transitional apartments is available for some participants.

Visits Visitors can meet with the professional staff and may be able to interact with youth at the centers.

“BAIT AMITI” – “A REAL HOME” Center for victims of sexual assault and incest

Location North Tel Aviv

Venue A day center for young women who have been victims of sexual assault and/or incest. These women are offered group and individual therapy, enrichment activities, and holistic treatments in a safe and supportive space.

Visits Due to the sensitivity of the issues facing the victims, it is not possible to meet with the program’s beneficiaries. Visitors can meet with the professional staff before the program opens for the day.

OUTREACH VAN – Street Work

Locations Kiryat Shmona, Acre, Haifa, Netanya, Herzliya, Raanana, Hod Hasharon, Tel Aviv, Jaffa, Jerusalem, Bat Yam, Holon, Ramle/Lod, Modi’in region, Ashdod, Sderot, Nitzan

Venue Vans roam local parks, parking lots, and neighborhood hangouts nightly to reach out to homeless and runaway youth.

Professional staff and volunteers sit down with the teens and offer informal counseling, information, humanitarian aid and referrals to services in the community.

Visits Visitors can join the van staff on nightly rides to meet with teens and observe the counseling provided by ELEM workers. Van work begins at 10:00 pm each night.

“ADI CENTER” Power, Care, Friendship

Location Rehovot

Venue A day center providing a “safe space” for girls in various states of detachment, many of whom are victims of violence. The ADI Center provides a nurturing environment and structured framework where the girls develop life and vocational skills and find emotional strength and empowerment.

Visits Guests will be able to meet with the professional staff and volunteers and chat with the girls. Arrangements can be made to volunteer to assist the girls in the garden or kitchen.

“MIGDALOR CENTERS” Multicultural Field

Locations Bat Yam, Holon, Nahariya, Acco, Petach Tikva, Kiryat Malachi, Rechovot, Tiberias

Venue Centers provide counseling and a safe space for multicultural populations and recent immigrants. The centers offer youth the opportunity to explore activities and interests including sports, art, computers and music to foster empowerment and integration into a new and diverse society.

Visits Guests are welcome in the afternoon and evening.

“DERECH HAMELECH” Vocational Training and Mentoring Program for Delinquent Youth

Location Kiryat Shmona and the Upper Galilee, Haifa, Kiryat Gat, Hadera, Netanya, Tira, Kfar Saba, Tel Aviv, Petach Tikva, Ramle/Lod, Jerusalem, Be’er Sheva

Venue A project that helps at-risk youth, many referred by Youth Probation Services, by assigning

an adult mentor and/or integrating the youth into vocational training and a job opportunity in a business in the community.

Visits Guests can visit one of the businesses and speak to the volunteers and professionals and meet youth participating in the program.

“HAFUCH AL HAFUCH” Counseling and Information Centers for Youth

Location Kiryat Shmona, Zefat, Kiryat Yam, Acre, Nazareth Illit, Netanya, Kfar Saba, Tel Aviv, Ashdod, Holon, Kiryat Gat, Sderot

Venue Drop-in centers where youth enjoy free coffee while receiving informal counseling, help with homework or day-to-day issues and attend workshops on topics such as drugs, sexuality, army service, and empowerment.

Visits Guests can learn about the guidance, counseling and support services provided at the centers. Guests will be able to meet with beneficiaries.

For further information regarding a visit to one of ELEM’s programs in Israel, please feel free to contact our US office – info@elem.org or our Israeli office – info@elem.org.il



ELEM offers preventative services and outreach to runaway, homeless and neglected Jewish and Arab youth throughout Israel.



*Original Artwork by
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