



# SOCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

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*“Let My teaching drop as the rain, My speech distil as the dew, as raindrops on the tender herb, and as showers on the grass.” Deuteronomy 32:2*

## **FROM THE DESK OF SAP**

Greying skies and lower temperatures have brought summer and a short but pleasant autumn to an end here in Israel. During the days between Succot and Passover, the Jewish Prayer Book includes in its Morning Prayer section, praise to God ‘*Who causeth the wind to blow and the rain to descend.*’ Truly Israel is thankful for rain during the winter months to replenish its meagre sources.

*The cold wind and rain though, can be a difficult time for people unable to afford heating or even blankets and coats for winter and we would like to remind you **our Winter Appeal** as outlined in October’s Update.*



**PRAISE GOD** for the many warm and moving responses that we receive from Israelis who are so encouraged by our help.

**PRAY** that we will receive much needed funding in order bring encouragement to many more, as we function as your hands and feet here in the Land.

Pray for:

- Funds for the ‘*Winter Appeal*’ to supply heaters and blankets.
- Funds for ‘*Christmas gifts for needy Arab Christians*’.
- Wisdom in decisions regarding the overwhelming requests

## SAP Family Social Worker Files

**A recent report states that Poverty in Israel has increased by 10% . 1.4 million Israeli citizens live below the poverty line including over 600,000 children.**

Misha and his family came to Israel 5 years ago from Ukraine. He is 42 years old, and has two daughters 14 and 15 ½. Two years ago his wife was diagnosed with cancer and died 6 months later. It was a terrible and painful time. She was a Christian and they had had a close and happy marriage. Finding a place to bury her as a non-Jew was difficult and eventually it had to be in Beer Sheva in the south of the country. Every month he and his two girls travel from Jerusalem to visit her grave. One of the daughters has had a battle with Leukaemia and has had to have blood transfusions a few times. One of these times resulted in contracting Hepatitis. The Doctors warned her against Stress in order for it not to develop in to Hepatitis A, but how is it possible to lose a mother without stress? Sadly it did develop and she has had to undergo a lot of treatment. Misha is working in a small company, as a cabinetmaker. It is a low salary but on a visit to the home Claudia saw some beautiful furniture in his house, which he had made. To see them through a difficult time, we helped with food bills.

Orli is only 20 y o but has already suffered a stroke, which left her a paraplegic, and requires help with every day functions. On top of this personal

calamity, her mother died in March this year. She continues to live with her father who works at casual jobs and also helps his daughter whenever he can. They live on his low income and a disability allowance. However there is nothing left over for extra expenses and debts have accumulated. For example, her father cannot be there all the time so they sometimes need paid help. Recently, Orli's wheel chair needed urgently replacing and we paid towards this.

Ina who was made redundant in her job as a teacher is willing to do anything to earn money for her and her son, but can only find about 4 hours per week. Her situation became critical with the landlord threatening to throw them out if the rent was not paid. She writes: *"your gift means for me means not only financial help, but it gives me the feeling that I am not alone in this world."*



There is daily interaction with Israeli Social Workers in response to the requests they send.

**We cannot help every needy person who comes to us for help. Pray for God's direction in deciding which needs to meet, and for the funding to be able to help many more hurting Israelis.**

**\$US150 can cover an outstanding debt or pay for extras such things as medical needs for a family.**

## **LOVE GIFTS FROM THE NATIONS THROUGH SAP**



Many items were given to the Social Assistance Program at the Feast of Tabernacles from the visiting pilgrims. We are still sorting and packaging these, but have also begun to distribute bags of clothing and other items.

A mountain of clothing in 'Beit Nadav' our distribution room

- ❖ One of the Social Welfare Departments in Jerusalem has a 'store' where needy residents can go to choose used clothing for a nominal amount. They were pleased to receive several bags of clothes, telling us that everything given to them in such good condition is a blessing.
- ❖ Clothes have also gone to Karmiel where the Jewish aid organisation, WIZO, cares for new immigrants and needy families. There is growing need for clothing in this area and the Director was very thankful to receive a large quantity of men and women's clothing.
- ❖ We received a letter on behalf of a shelter for women in Jerusalem, which read, "...thank you for the lovely bedding, towels and tablecloths that you personally delivered to us. You encouraged us greatly..."
- ❖ A gift package of baby clothes, toys, and other items was put together and delivered to a couple with 6 y o twins and who had just had triplets. This would normally be an unusual and special blessing, but their needs are now multiplied. While she juggled crying babies, the wife cried as she shared their story with Claudia who visited them in response to a request for help. This couple are non Jewish and in Israel as refugees from Ethiopia from they fled for their lives 12 years ago after a change of government. Their situation has become complex and they now do not receive any financial help.



We have been blessed to have the temporary help of Sabine Stamminger from Germany who has made order in our mountain of love gifts.

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*Greetings from Cheryl, Claudia, Maxine, Nicole, Yudit.  
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