

PASSOVER UPDATE 2017

YEMIN ORDE YOUTH VILLAGE



► Message from Shmuli Bing

Director, Yemin Orde
Youth Village

Passover's themes
resonate with educa-
tion and social justice.

In the Exodus, God revealed himself to the weak; God told the world that He supported the weak, not necessarily those with power.

Our challenge at Passover, is to take its themes of education and social justice and connect them to our children's lives. Through hard work and education, our children will understand their past.

Besides the commandment of eating Matzah, we are commanded to tell our children the Passover story; we are commanded to educate, and to continue the passing on of our tradition.

Our graduates have followed and fulfilled their dreams and created a bright future for themselves and their families. These achievements required hard work and our graduates exemplify this reality for our youth.

For me, Passover is the holiday of education and hope. Passover is when the individual connects to the whole. We learn together that we can make a change with education.

Thanks to you, we can create educational and social change.

With great respect,

Shmuli Bing

Shmuli



► New Dental Equipment Brings Smiles

Yemin Orde received an in-kind gift of \$50,000 in new dental equipment from Henry Schein Inc. and its global supplier, Takara Belmont, to upgrade its on-site dental health clinic. The donation upgrades the equipment of the Village's dental health clinic and allows for more complex dental procedures to be conducted on site.



Dental health clinic at Yemin Orde.

"We are grateful to everyone involved in making this generous contribution to the health and well-being of the youth at Yemin Orde," said Shmuli Bing, Director, Yemin Orde Youth Village.

► Welcome Nativ Volunteers

Yemin Orde welcomes 28 U.S. students who are living in Israel as part of the Nativ gap year program. From February to May, "Nativers" live at the Village and serve as English tutors, kitchen helpers, volunteers in the Eco-Farm and organize after-school activities.

This partnership allows Yemin Orde's youth to establish friendships outside the bounds of the Village and Israel,

and to learn about the different streams of Judaism and how these traditions are observed in the U.S.

► A Major Vote of Confidence— Literally

A high-ranking military intelligence officer from the Israel Defense Forces visited Yemin Orde to learn more about its "Integrated Tools" project, a program that provides select students with the opportunity and motivation to excel academically in computer fields valued by the Israeli army.

Maj. Gen. Herzl Halevi, Chief of the IDF Military Intelligence Directorate, and other intelligence officers, met with program participants. Maj. Gen. Halevi said he was "very moved" by our students and their hard work.

► Challenge Hike

Kudos to our 12th graders for completing the annual *Etgat* (challenge) hike. The four-day trek strengthens self-esteem and leadership skills. "I discovered strength I didn't know I had. The lesson I learned is to believe in myself," one youth said.

Based on tradition, the seniors assign a name to the group of incoming ninth graders following the hike. They named the group "Daniel" in memory of a beloved young math teacher at the Village who recently passed away.



Challenge Hike builds leadership skills and self-esteem.

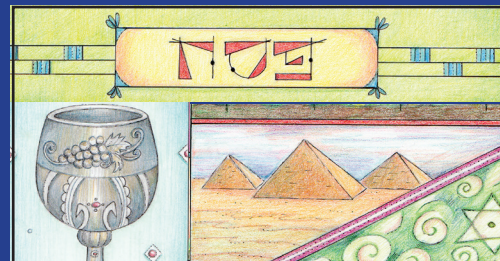
Read about Village Way Educational Initiatives →

Friends of Yemin Orde

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PASSOVER UPDATE 2017

VILLAGE WAY EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES



Haim Rubovitch

► Message from Haim Rubovitch

*CEO, Village Way
Educational Initiatives*

Education deals with questions of forming values. Passover, the festival of freedom,

provides us with the opportunity to search deeply for what kind of freedom we wish for ourselves.

The world is changing quickly and providing complex challenges that require a broad contemplation on the meaning of this freedom, emancipation, and independence we wish for ourselves.

The Village Way believes in the value of accepting the other, which is our leading value, and is essential for every educator and every educational community that partners with us. We work with many frameworks and programs that place this value at the center of their work. Our most recent national conference also dealt with this topic.

Individual, communal, and national freedom is possible only when all the segments of Israeli society, and all those that surround us, no matter what nationality, race, and religion, will enjoy freedom in the same way we want to enjoy freedom for ourselves.

Wishing you a happy holiday,

Haim

► Israeli Scouts Learn About the Village Way

Israel's popular scouts movement (Tzofim in Hebrew) invited key leaders from the Village Way Educational Institute to its national conference to learn more about the Village Way's "Multifaceted Israeli Culture" program. The Educational Institute developed this innovative training program for professionals working in diverse cultural environments, such as the Israeli scouts.

"We should be working to include more new immigrants and others – not as a way of helping weaker populations – but as a way of strengthening this movement," said Dotan Levi, Educational Institute Director.

► Anchors in the Past Workshop

A recent Village Way workshop brought together educators from Adivi Ashkelon Ort Technology high school to learn about Ethiopian Jewish culture, agriculture, and home building practices. This workshop reflected the Village Way element of "Anchors in the Past" which helps students appreciate their own culture. The group is also considering building a Godjo (traditional Ethiopian home) at their school.



*Educators from Adivi Ashkelon Ort
Technology High School.*

30 Educational
Community
Partners in Israel

Since 2006, we have impacted:



1,500
Educators

11,800
Youth At-Risk



► Evaluating our Impact



Tracking outcomes to reflect our success.

Realizing the importance of evaluating the impact of the Village Way process on youth, we are tracking the outcomes of graduates from across our communities. We are collecting data on graduates going back the past five years, from all Village Way partner communities in the third year or beyond of the integration process. Results of this evaluation will be available during the 2017 summer.