



TWO NOTED CHILD ADVOCATES MEET TO DISCUSS CHANGING THE CULTURE OF LEARNING FOR AT-RISK CHILDREN

*Singer-Activist Peter Yarrow and Educator-Author Dr. Chaim Peri discuss ways to
join forces and inspire traumatized children.*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friends of Yemin Orde (FYO) is pleased to announce that Dr. Chaim Peri, Founder-Director of [Yemin Orde Educational Initiatives](#) (YOEI) in Israel, and American folksinger and social activist, Peter Yarrow, recently met in Israel to share information about their respective organizations and to discuss ways to blend their unique methodologies into schools and communities on a broad scale. The Educational Initiatives is an education blueprint for youth villages and schools in Israel that advocates a special approach to living and learning for at-risk immigrant youth, called the Village Way. Yarrow is the Founder of Operation Respect, a nonprofit children's advocacy organization with a curriculum for schools and camps of tolerance and respect for each other's differences. FYO is the U.S. fundraising arm of [Yemin Orde Youth Village](#) and Yemin Orde Educational Initiatives. For more information on the Village and YOEI, visit www.yeminorde.org, call 202.237.0286 or email info@yeminorde.org.



Peri and Yarrow agreed that the Village Way's philosophy of advocating self-esteem and respect had much in common with Operation Respect's mission of providing a safe and compassionate climate of learning for children. "We are definitely interested in taking the connection further," Peri said. "There was chemistry there. He is, indeed, a total *mensch* (person of integrity)."

The Village Way methodology is facilitated through Yemin Orde Educational Initiatives. The overall goal of the Educational Initiatives is to have a positive impact on the education system of Israeli society so that at-risk children are provided with the security and advantages they deserve. The Village Way philosophy is currently implemented in seven youth villages, three therapeutic boarding schools and three public high schools in Israel. It is also integrated into the curriculum at Oranim College's School of Education. In 2010, Operation Respect launched its programming in several public schools in Israel.

Peri is also the author of ["Teenagers Educated The Village Way"](#), which tells the poignant stories of immigrant children born into difficult circumstances but who receive a second chance at life with their arrival at Yemin Orde Youth Village. Yemin Orde Youth Village remains a role model for other youth villages in Israel with its successful Village Way methodology and high rate of well-adjusted graduates.

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