



Friends of Yemin Orde

**PROMINENT DENVER BUSINESSMAN AND PHILANTHROPIST, CHARLIE GWIRTSMAN,
IS NAMED CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD FOR FRIENDS OF YEMIN ORDE**

Gwirtsman, Co-founder and Managing Director at KRG Capital Partners, recently served as National Campaign Chair for Friends of Yemin Orde, a Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit that supports Yemin Orde Youth Village in Israel and Yemin Orde Educational Initiatives.

ROCKVILLE, MD., January 6, 2012; FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Friends of Yemin Orde has announced that Charlie Gwirtsman, Co-founder and Managing Director, KRG Capital Partners, will serve as Co-Chairman of the Board for Friends of Yemin Orde, effective immediately. Gwirtsman, who previously served as the organization’s National Campaign Chair, will partner with current Board Chair, Michael Frieze, until January 2013, when Gwirtsman will assume sole leadership of the board. Marcie Zelikow will now lead Friends of Yemin Orde’s national campaign efforts. Yemin Orde Youth Village, located in the Carmel Forest region of northern Israel, is the preeminent residential education program for at-risk youth in Israel, and serves as home, school and family to hundreds of children marred by neglect, abandonment and strife. Yemin Orde Educational Initiatives (YOEI) extends the Village’s successful methodology to other youth villages and schools in Israel by sharing resources and helping to create a positive learning environment. For more information on Yemin Orde and YOEI, visit www.yeminorde.org, email info@yeminorde.org or call 202-237-0286.

“We are extremely pleased that Charlie will serve as Co-chair of the Board. His experience in both management and raising funds will be invaluable to our organization and we look forward to his leadership in advancing Yemin Orde Youth Village and Yemin Orde Educational Initiatives’ important work in Israel,” said Karen Sallerson, Executive Director, Friends of Yemin Orde. “Charlie has a great sense of community and charity. We are honored to welcome him in his new role with Friends of Yemin Orde.”

Gwirtsman is Co-founder and Managing Director of KRG Capital Partners, the largest private equity firm in Denver that specializes in private equity, mergers and acquisitions, and buyouts. The Denver Business Journal recently ranked KRG as one of the top 20 Corporate Philanthropists in Colorado. As National Campaign Chair for Friends of Yemin Orde, Gwirtsman oversaw a national emergency campaign that raised more than \$5 million for the Village when a wildfire tore through the area and nearly destroyed Yemin Orde.

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“It is my privilege to serve as an advocate and leader for Friends of Yemin Orde and the children of Yemin Orde Youth Village. The Village and its staff overcame the challenges of displacement when the wildfire tore through their area, and now we need to help rebuild Yemin Orde into the beautiful and therapeutic refuge it was a year ago,” said Gwirtsman. “Despite the fire, the team at Yemin Orde, through the Yemin Orde Initiatives, continued to expand the use of the Village’s *Derech Kfar* holistic educational methodology towards an increasing number of children at risk and educators in Israel. I look forward to working with the Board and our donors to dramatically increase the reach of these programs.”

Gwirtsman has nearly 25 years of experience in business, volunteer and philanthropic activities in the Denver community. In addition to Friends of Yemin Orde, he and his wife Nancy are also active in Seeking Common Ground, Jewish Family Services of Colorado, AIPAC, the Allied Jewish Federation, Hillel of Colorado, the American Jewish Committee, Denver Academy and other Jewish and secular nonprofit organizations.

About Yemin Orde Youth Village & Yemin Orde Educational Initiatives

Yemin Orde Youth Village, located just south of Haifa in the Carmel Mountains, is home, school and safe haven to hundreds of at-risk immigrant youth from all over the world, among them Ethiopia, the former Soviet Union, and Brazil. The Village’s dedicated staff, educators and other professionals helps the children cultivate self-esteem, leadership skills, strong cultural identity and a positive outlook on life. Yemin Orde Educational Initiatives was established to expand the Yemin Orde methodology to other villages and schools in Israel by providing resources, teacher training, workshops, and more. Visit www.yeminorde.org for more information on the Village or email info@yeminorde.org, or call 202-237-0286.

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