

The ILAI Fund's Project - 2022 ה'תשפ"ב Celebrating 3000 Special Children Since 2005 Award Program in Honor and Collaboration with The Iranian American Jewish Federation NY



\$18,000 Grant
iCan-iPad and ABA Program
Benefiting 26 Underprivileged Israeli Children With
Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Down-Syndrome and More
"Turning Tears Into Smiles"

In The Memory of the IAJF NY Co-Founders

Late Sir. Elias Kalimian Z"L

Late Sir. Yosef Shaheri Z"L

Address: Hartzit 34/46 Modi'in Israel 71700 Tel: USA (213)500-9906 Israel 972-8-9718494

www.ilaifund.org

We Dedicate This Act Of Kindness to
The Memory of Two Co-Founders
of The IAJF NY That Left Us Recently
To Live Among the Angels.
Their Neshama Shall Rest in Gan Eden.
Amen



#### Late Sir. Yosef Shaheri

#### Zokhron Levrakha

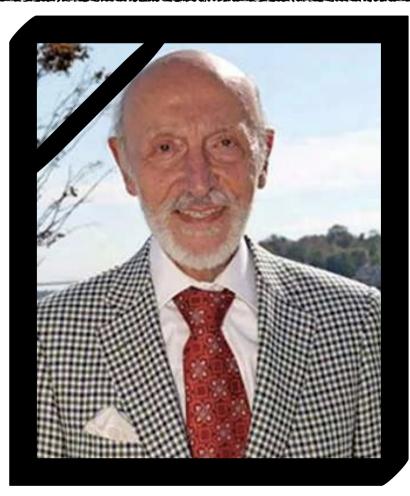
A True Leader, who epitomized our shared values of tzedakah, education, love of Israel, and Kol Yisrael Areivim Zeh LaZeh (all Jews are responsible for one another) and served as a mentor and role model, inspiring the next generation of leaders and philanthropists..

#### Late Sir. Elias Kalimian

#### **Zokhron Levrakhz**

A real Tsadik who was a visionary, a philanthropist. He was involved in numerous other charitable causes and had a deep connection to the Jewish homeland and was an ardent supporter of Israel. He was a warm and generous soul who cared deeply about the Jewish community.





Special Children: A Better Place to Live - 2022 The ILAI Fund Award in Collaboration with IAJF NY. iCan-iPad Project



We, the ILAI Fund's Children thank, salut, and admire you dear IAJF NY Members, For All and Everything You do For Yisrael and Our Nation. You are the good children of the Lord.

May you always be on the giving side.

Amen

As you are our Donating Angels and protecting our children, so may the Angels of God protect and keep you and your children safe.

Amen

You Are The True Fulfillment of "Unconditional Love" (Ahavat Khinam), "Tikun Olam" and "Light Onto The Nations" (Or La Goim).
Kol HaKavod...









Special Children: A Better Place to Live - 2022 The ILAI Fund Award in Collaboration with IAJF NY. iCan-iPad Project



Shahram Yaghoubzadeh, Chairman Robert Kahen, Vice Chairman Steven Khadavi, President David Emrani, Vice President IAJF NY Honorable Board Members

Jan. 2022

Dear Donating Angels, Shalom, שלום

Part of our mission in this world is to lift up children in need, thus contributing to a better tomorrow. Since its establishment, The ILAI Fund has dedicated itself to preserving and aiding the lives of over 3000 special children.

The help and assistance of you our 3 old friends over the last years has been a tremendous honor. We cannot thank you enough for your vital partnership in our efforts, which have helped touch the very souls of hundreds of autistic, sick, disabled, ill and special needs children, some also with the misfortune of living alone in their time of greatest need.

ILAI Fund is humbled and honored to present to you our 2022 grant proposals: iCan-iPad Project 2022

"Special Children: Making the World A Better Place to Live, in Collaboration with IAJF NY".

The **grant** will serve during the coming year, a total of 26 special children with **autism**, **cerebral palsy**, **and Down-syndrome** all from financially struggling families.

The request to accomplish these missions is \$18,000.

A Non Profit Organization Registered in the State of Israel Number 580461085



"ואהבת לרעך כבור"
"love your neighbor as yourself"

The program is designated to supporting 26 special children an iPad that has a communication app installed giving each child access to tools that help express their needs, distress, pain, happiness, and other feelings. The app is also designed to ultimately teach each child to read and write. (\$18,000)

The iPad-iCan program has a proven track record in aiding children over time who have been unable to properly communicate. Prior research and firsthand testimonies regarding the results of this treatment have been included in this grant proposal package.

Our ultimate goal is to increase the quality of life for these children - including for some, greater independence in the future. Many of our special children are being raised by single mothers. Some are new immigrants who are simultaneously facing absorption, financial, emotional, and health challenges.

The ILAI Fund has put endless time, thought, and devotion to drafting this report and grant proposal. It reflects our dedication to taking care of our dear special children, as well.

We hope and pray to the Almighty, and ask you, respected and old friends, to consider our request and support us again to fulfill this dream. We believe that the partnership between our two organizations, benefiting Israeli children in need, will positively impact not only each child and their families but Israeli society as well.

Together, we can turn tears into smiles and we can make the world a better place.

Respectfully yours,

Albert Elay Shaltiel

and The ILAI Children

A Non Profit Organization Registered in the State of Israel Number 580461085





#### **Executive Summary**

The ILAI Fund is a registered Israeli nonprofit organization providing financial and practical assistance to children suffering from physical, emotional and/or neurological disabilities due to various conditions - such as cerebral palsy, Down Syndrome, **autism** and genetic disorders, plus illnesses, pediatric cancer patients, sight-impaired and those with hearing loss; and children who have been wounded in accidents. It is one of the only organizations of its kind, helping children suffering from all manner of illness and disability, including those yet uncategorized.

Our small and humble nonsectarian Fund currently reaches out to those Israeli families whose financial situation prevents them from providing the proper care for their disabled, ill, and special children. The "ILAI Children", as they have come to be known, are often children from single-parent households.

ILAI Fund was founded by Albert and Yael Shaltiel, a couple of Iranian background who immigrated to Israel in 2000. Founding and directing this charity, which is named for their son, llai Benyamin, was the Shaltiels' expression of gratitude for the birth of a healthy infant after childless years of marriage.

#### The ILAI Fund provides:

- Supplemental financing to make up the shortfall in acquiring a wide range of necessary medical accessories, such as wheelchairs, Hart Walkers, bath lifts, orthopedic shoes, splints and braces, diapers, eyeglasses, hearing aids, specialized computers, etc.
- Finances and logistical arrangements for transportation to and from hospitals, treatments, and appointments.
- Financial aid for nutritional supplements, vitamins, and medication not fully covered or included in the family's healthcare coverage.
- Payments for physiotherapy, hydrotherapy and psychotherapy sessions, one-on-one caregivers and teachers, ongoing individualized ABA treatment, etc.
- Malaki Summer camp, Fun days out, birthday celebrations, etc.







#### Active ILAI Fund personnel include:

#### Ilai Benjamin Shaltiel

The foundation's inspiration, fifteen-year-old llai personally visits the ILAI Children from time to time. (Brother to all of the ILAI Children)

#### Yael Shaltiel

Founder, managing director, secretary and bookkeeper (Mother of the all ILAI Children)

#### Albert Shaltiel

Founder, executive director, chief fundraiser and board member (Father of the all ILAI Children)

#### Tehila Motahed

Member of the ILAI Fund's oversight committee, kindergarten teacher and mother of four

#### Yigal Brachium

Member of the ILAI Fund's oversight committee, board member, real estate broker and father of one

#### Robert Mokhtary

Member of the ILAI Fund's executive committee, board member; father of four, two of them special needs.

#### Elior Babian

New board member, working in Israeli Parliament חתן חידון התנ״ך העולמי ואלוף האלופים

#### Shadi Menashehof

Licensed legal counsel, board member and Justice Ministry employee: she handles all official paperwork on a volunteer basis

The ILAI Fund's is located in Modiin, Israel, 34 Harzit St.

Other contact information:

Postal address: POBox 567 Modi'in 7171801

Website: www.ilaifund.org

Email: <u>albertshaltiel@gmail.com</u> Tel (Israel): +972-8-9718494 Cel (Israel): +972-52-7078845 Tel (USA): +1 (213) 500-9906

All of our annual tax reports since the establishment are available on line:

http://www.guidestar.org.il/he/organization/580461085?show=1

https://www.ilaifund.org/about/official-documents#annual-reports





The ILAI Fund is a family. It was established by Albert and Yael Shaltiel, most of its staff and volunteers are from the Shaltiel family and in addition, all of the children that we help (now close to 3000) become a part of the ILAI Fund family, as do our donors.





These days of the post COVID 19 that all the children were home, the iCan-iPad program proves it's a necessity more than ever and we are facing more and more requests for the children to help.

Children need these tablets for

learning, communicating, daily prayers, play, and to relax and more...

Within These Files Existing About 3000 Cases of Special Children Helped By The ILAI Fund since 2005

#### Our Dining Table Full of New Requests Everyday



Please approve our request to fulfill this dream.

Please help us helping them to
turn their tears into smiles and becoming
successful children and easier life



#### The Ilai Fund's PROJECT 2022

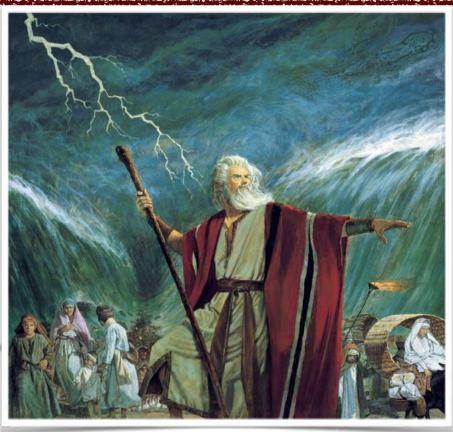
#### Special Award In Collaboration and Honor of the

#### **IAJF NY**

Special Program, to the **Honor of Moses the prophet** (**Mosheh Rabbenu**), the most famous child with special needs who became the greatest leader

Please treat our children as you would, if it were Moshe Rabenu. Each Special Child, has the potential to become THE ONE.





Address: Hartzit 34/46 Modi'in Israel 71700 Tel: USA (213)500-9906 Israel 972-8-9718494

**Testimony** from one of our beneficiaries, the mother of a child challenging with autism who received assistance from us to buy an iPad:

"Dear ILAI Fund,

Thank you for helping us to buy the iPad for our child.

At first, I thought the program was a real success.

#### Now I know for sure it's a miracle.

Thanks to the iPad, my child communicates much better and when he is hungry, thirsty, or angry and loving, he can express himself and tell us what he wants and he needs.

He can tell us if he is in a pain or he needs a toilet. He is much more independent. The gaming keeps his mind busy so he does not bang his head into the wall, as he used to do. He beats himself and us much less and my other children do not afraid of him as before.

As a result, he is calm and much more relaxes than before. Today instead of sleeping 3 hours a night, he sleeps 7-8 hours and also his siblings sleep uninterrupted and I manage to sleep every night like not we could have since he

was born.





The ILAI Fund Dedicates This Letter and The Results

To The IAJF NY

A Non Profit Organization Registered in the State of Israel Number 580461085



"ואהבת לרעך כבווך" "love your neighbor as yourself"

# 

# 26 children Challenging with Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Cerebral Palsy, and Down syndrome and More... \$18,000



Special Children: A Better Place to Live - 2022 The ILAI Fund Award in Collaboration with IAJF NY. iCan-iPad Project

Why is the iPad an extremely helpful learning tool for children with ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder)?

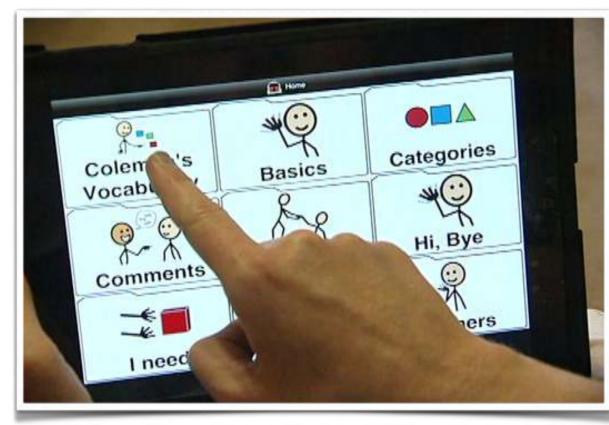
Nowadays, with the advancement of the iPad, children with autism have totally a new opportunities they never had before to improve their communication, motor, and cognitive skills. This amazing tool promotes these Child with Autism ren's learning and communication. As the iPad operates with a touchscreen, the iPad is more accessible for children who have learning or coordination difficulties. Children with Autism who use the iPad discovered that the sliding motions are much easier than typing on a standard keyboard. In addition, iPads are portable and the child can be sure to be understood wherever he goes. Lastly, iPads are extremely appealing to children with ASD because they can be custom-made to their specific needs.



Special Children: A Better Place to Live - 2022 The ILAI Fund Award in Collaboration with IAJF NY. iCan-iPad Project

The world in a Child with Autism 's mind is filled with pictures and images, as opposed to words. On an iPad, a Child with Autism can create words and sentences using many different images. By doing so, the child can communicate with family and caregivers very easily. The iPad is a miracle device - it provides a way for kids with autism to communicate desires and feelings in a way that would not be possible otherwise, such as expressing their bathroom needs, feeling hungry, feeling pain, or even just the need to be alone in their own world. Children with Autism with a lack of communication skills can finally be heard and feel that the world around them

understands them.



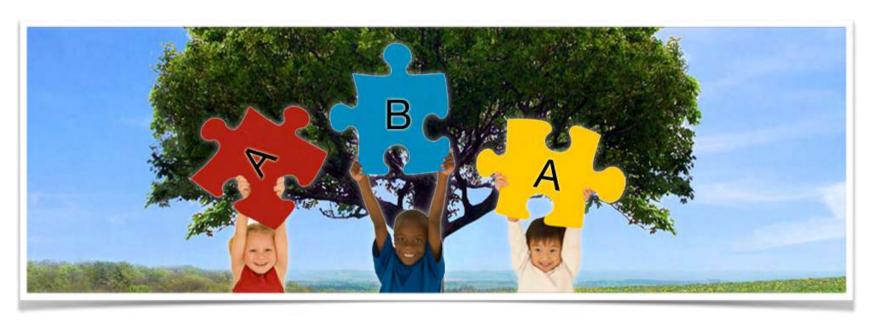
The use of the iPad, in fact, impacts the child and his surroundings emotionally and behaviorally. As a result of this special type of communication through images, studies have shown that children who can converse, connect, and get their point across, are happier and more relaxed. Children with Autism have been shown to sleep and eat better as a result of their calm and composed mindset subsequent to using the iPad. Ultimately, the tranquil mood the child enjoys quickly spreads to his family, siblings and parents, and it can truly be felt wherever the child goes.



The only downside to the iPad is the cost for the parents of Child with Autism. They can expect to spend anywhere from \$700 to \$1,000 for an iPad. Our dream is to help parents get the iPad their child needs for endless learning possibilities. We would like to provide these critical tools they need to better communicate with those around them. Communication is key to these children; without it they are lost.

This technological miracle has proven its worth many times over. We just have to get it into the hands of those who need it most.

Help us make their dreams come true!



#### Following:

A letter from a coach and social worker at the Shetilim School in Jerusalem for Children with Autism to indicating the importance of the iPad and the positive effect of the iCan program on the day-to-day life of an Child with Autism.



#### בי"ס "שתילים ירושלים"

בית יצחק 1 הר נוף ירושלים

#### Shetilim School Jerusalem

בס"ד

Dear Keren Ilai,

Firstly we want to mention the outstanding work you do, standing by children with special needs and their families, helping them in so many ways. With all of the financial aid they may receive, it still does not cover the mass of expenses that are involved in raising such a child. We appreciate your sensitivity to that, and the help that you come through with.

We are turning to you from "Shtilim", a school in Jerusalem for children with autism. We have approximately 70 students enrolled at this time. Each one of them is on the autistic spectrum at a medium to low functioning level. It is difficult to describe the hardships in raising such a child. Not only do they need constant supervision, but there is a no end to the tremendous amount of effort expounded on trying to work on and develop basic levels of communication in these children.

It has been found that children on the autistic spectrum benefit very much from different types technological tools. The IPAD specifically has proven to help children with difficulties in communication to advance tremendously. It can be used as a tool for developing and improving communication, as well as a tool for advanced learning, reading, self- occupation, encouragement, independence, and more. The para-medical staff at Shtilim has already started using the IPAD with students in the school. The parents see the great value and benefit that it has for their children. Therefore they would like to personally have one for home too.

We turn to you with a request for financial aid in acquiring these IPADs, and the necessary programs for these children. We have included the information of 7 children from our school. The instruction and direction in using the IPADs and getting the most benefit from them at home will be given by the staff at the school.

We thank you for any help and support you give towards this important project. May you be blessed to continue to see success in your very special work and to continue bringing to so many people.

Sincerely,

Esti Herring, MSc



Behind the words and numbers there are real special children, real HEROES.

The ILAI Fund is proud to announce since our establishment, we have been able to help 3000 special children from all kinds and all from very poor and needy families

Let's get to know some of our children benefiting by this grant



#### **Autistic Spectrum Disorder**

#### Hero Ariela

Rachel and Yosef are sister and brother. in a one-of-a-kind case, Yosef suffers from autism as well. Rachel who suffers from Autism as well. She is a beautiful six-year-old girl who uses the famous 'PECS' cards to communicate with the world around her. She is a pro!

Rachel has trouble interacting with other children her age in day care and rarely reacts to social interactions. Sadly, she bites her hands for stimulation, to the point that she has permanent scabs. Rachel lacks the ability to spontaneously interact with other children her age, which harms her language progress. She is excellent at gestures to help indicate what she wants.

It is tough for Yosef and Rachel's parents, but they are extremely hopeful! We

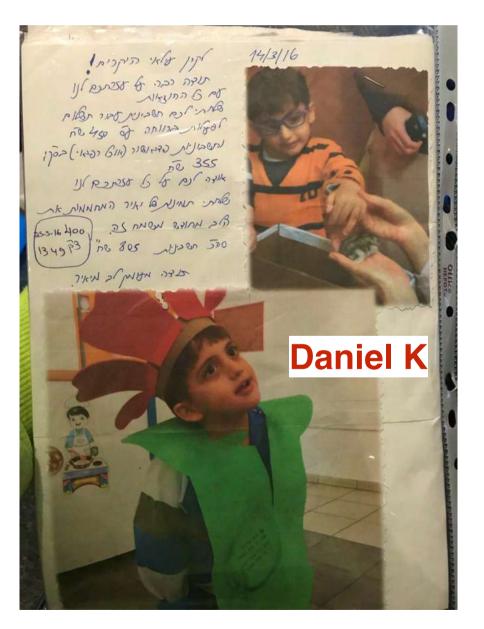
are praying for her speedy recovery!

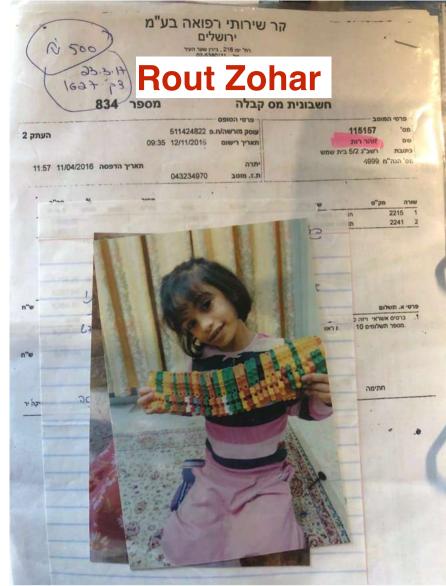




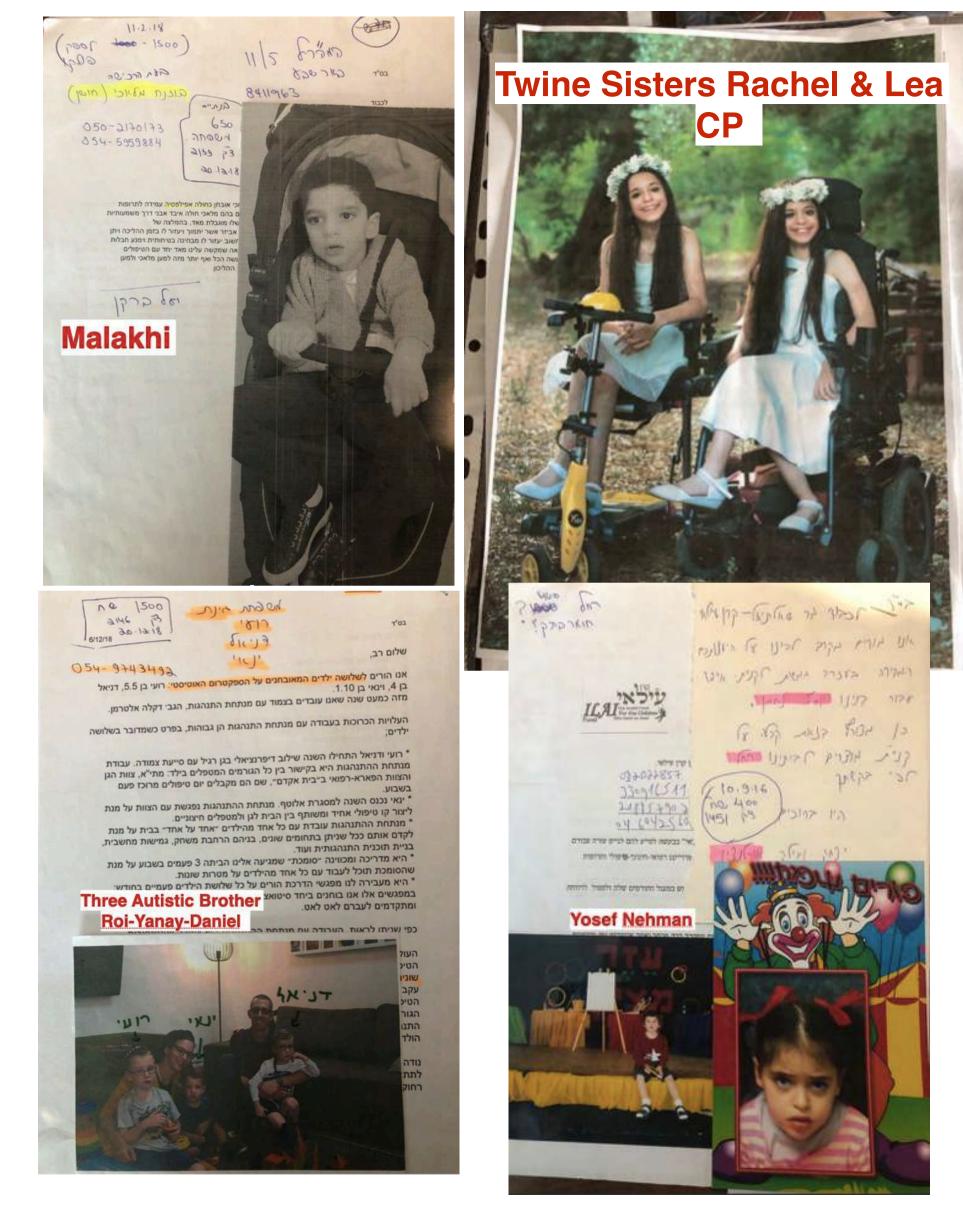
#### **Twins CP Mika & Teo**











Special Children: A Better Place to Live - 2022 The ILAI Fund Award in Collaboration with IAJF NY. iCan-iPad Project

#### Autistic Spectrum Disorder

#### Hero Yosef

Yosef is a sweet and a young little boy. He is only two years old and has already been diagnosed with autism.

With all his difficulties, cute, little Yosef is a very happy and active child, who likes to dance and clap his hands!

He doesn't make much eye contact, although he does at times. He is a non-verbal child and it is extremely difficult to understand his needs, as he doesn't point to objects.

Yosef doesn't respond to our gestures, which makes it very difficult for his family around him.

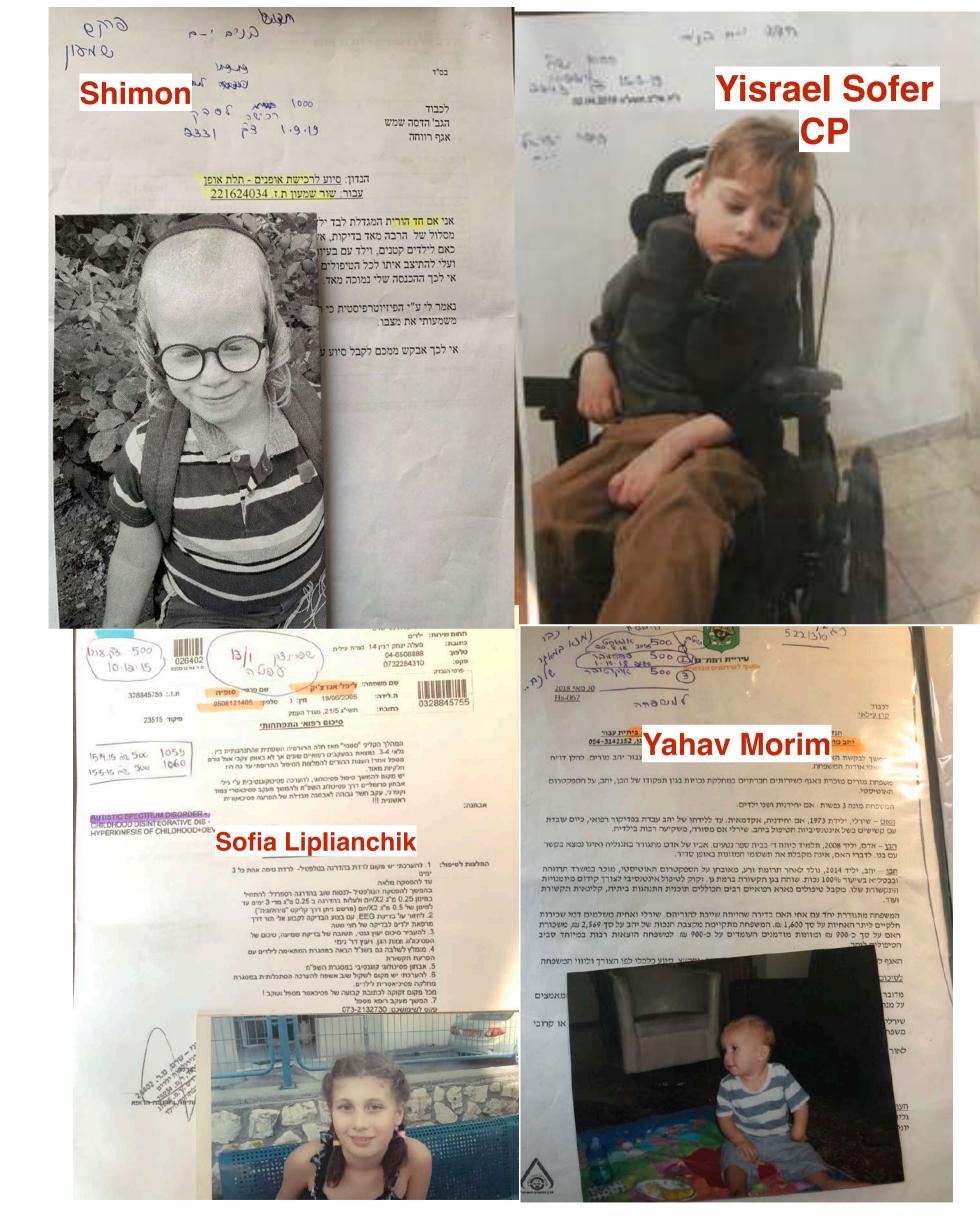
Thanks to angels like you, we have helped a few families purchase an iPad so that their non-verbal children, like Yosef, can communicate through a different type of "speech".

Help make his parent's life a little easier by donating today, so that he can get the therapy he needs.

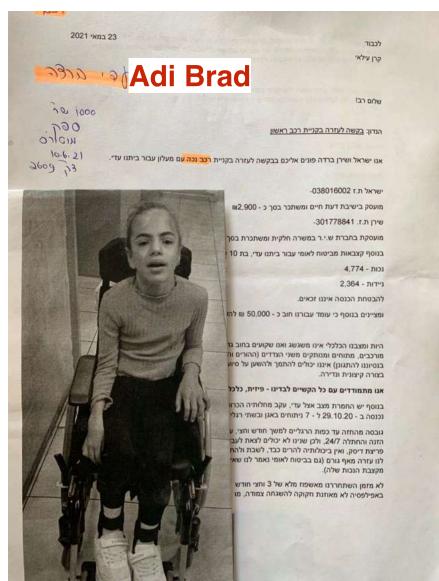
We wish you a SPEEDY RECOVERY! We love you, Yosef!

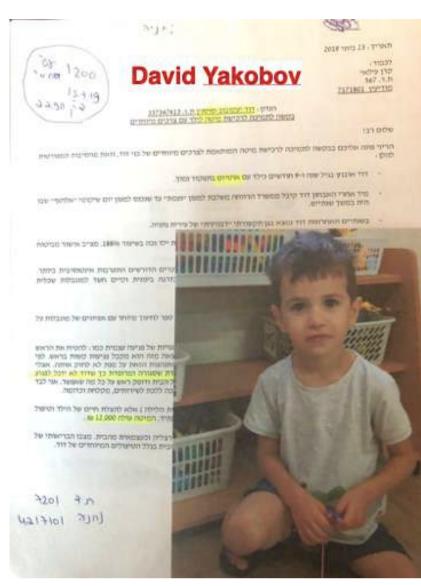


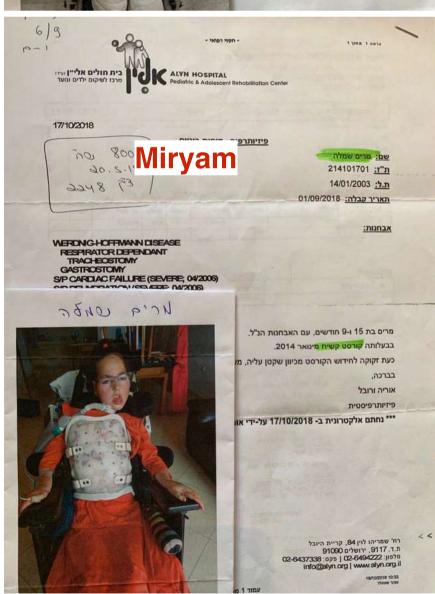
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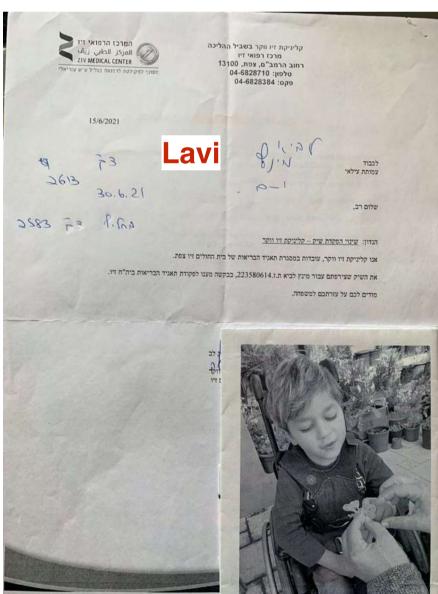


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#### Autistic Spectrum Disorder

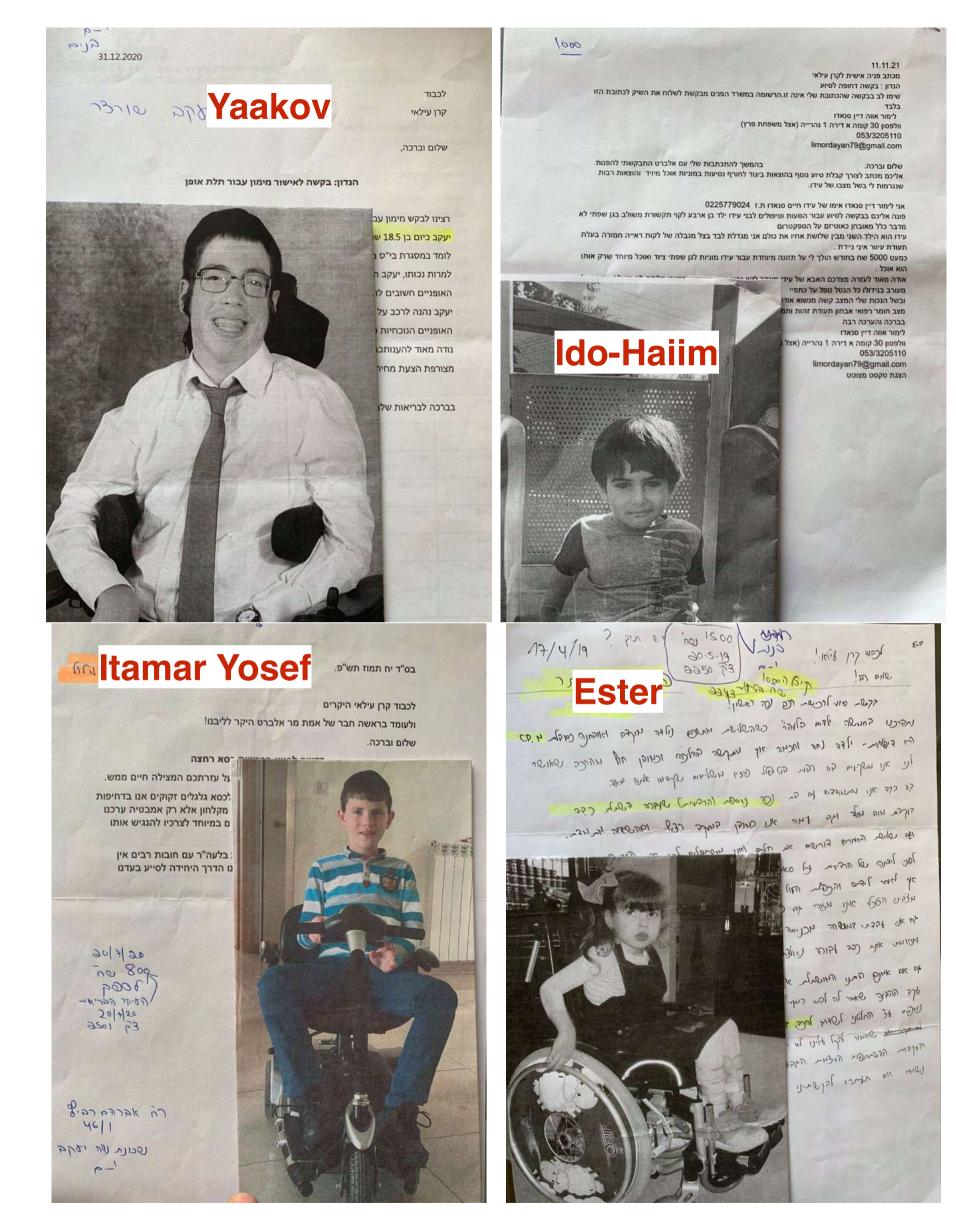
#### Hero Nahman

Our sweet,10 year old Nahman- finds it very hard to communicate and express his feelings and emotions. When he was 2 years old he was diagnosed with autism, as well as hearing difficulties. Nahman sometimes mumbles and makes sounds as if to express himself, although the sounds are solely for stimulation and not for any conducive communication.

When Nahman is focused, he has shown signs of interest in the iPad applications. His pointing is a way for us to see his verbal skills and we are so proud of how clearly he points! He benefits greatly from the use of the iPad and can progress and expand his communication and linguistic abilities! The iPad is the main tool to help him achieve his goals.



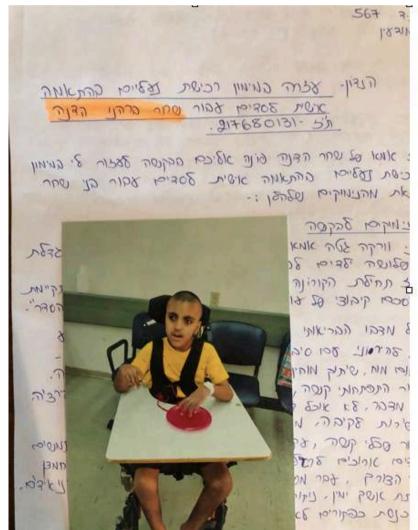
Special Children: A Better Place to Live - 2022 The ILAI Fund Award in Collaboration with IAJF NY. iCan-iPad Project

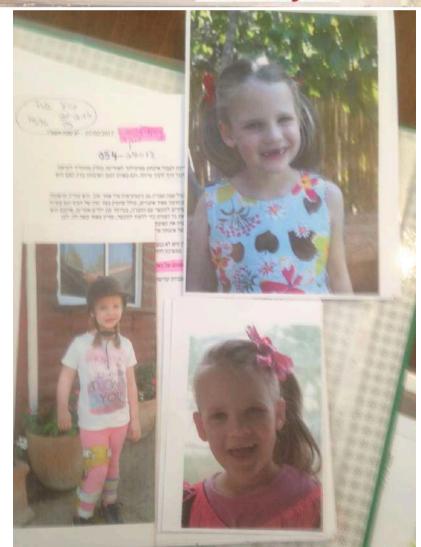


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**Shahar Bar** 

**Shlomit** 







Special Children: A Better Place to Live - 2022 The ILAI Fund Award in Collaboration with IAJF NY. iCan-iPad Project

#### עוסק מורשה 513902536

י ב פרוייקטים במחשוב בע"מ היוזמה 3, כפר סבא 45836 טלפון: 07725567556 פקס: 0722158556

הצעת מו	זיר	מספר: 898000/60	)	מקור
לכבוד:		מספרכם: 00331		
זרבר יפעת			4/2016 :תאריך	10/0
			שעה: 08:56	
			דף 1 מתוך 1	
			יתרה ל4/2016	0/0
מס' פריט <b>#</b>	תאור פריט	כמות	ש"ח ליחידה	10
0 1	IPAD AIR 1 WIFI 32 G	1.00	1,880.00	1,880.00
0 2	מגןקשיח	1.00	330.00	330.00
		2.00	סה"כ ללא מע"מ:	2,210.00
			הנחה % 0.00	0.00
			סה"כ לאחר הנחה:	2,210.00
			מע"מ 17.00%	375.70
			סה"כ לתשלום:	2,585.70

כל הציוד יוסיף להיות בבעלות חברת י ב פרוייקטים במחשוב עד לפרעון מלא של עלות הסחורה. שער ההמרה יקבע ע"פ שער המחאות גבוה של בל"ל ביום הוצאת החשבונית ההצעות תקפות ל 14 יום

שער המרת מט"ח יקבע על פי שער המחאות גבוה של בנק לאומי ביום הוצאת החשבונית

2,580 NIS

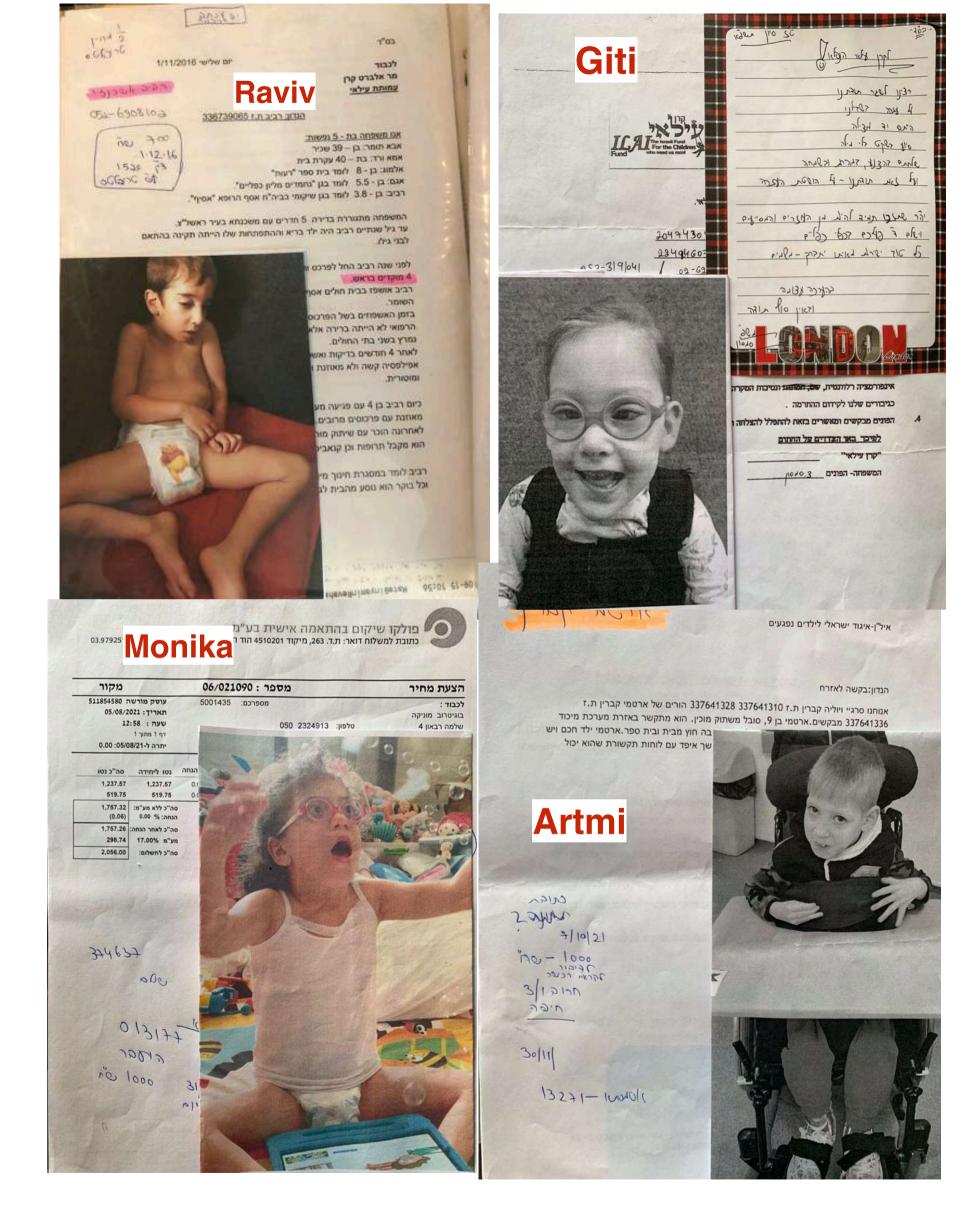
מפיק המסמך: [] י ב פרוייקטים במחשוב בע"מ\_\_\_\_\_\_

### An iPad purchased for two autistic brothers both diagnosed with ASD. Mori, 6.5 and Yair, 5 years old. Father left the single mother with 4 kids.



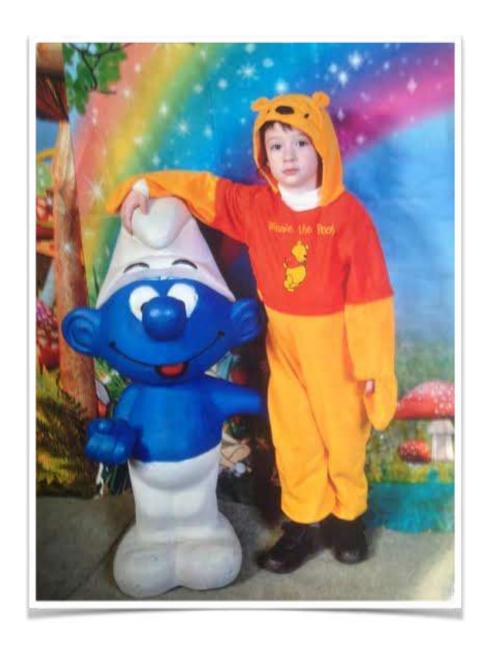


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Itamar Shemuel Zatokobsky - a six-year-old boy with autism.

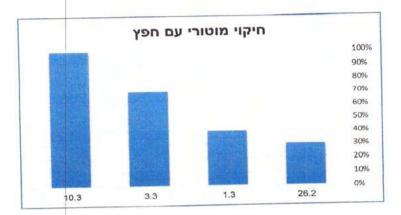
Following is a report from his school indicating the success of ABA treatment and the importance of the iPad for learning skills which is being supported by the ILAI Fund. Also included is as a letter from his mother.



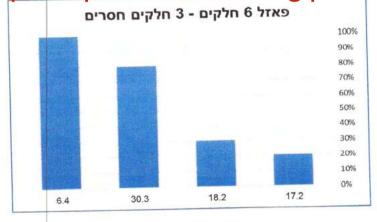
#### Beit Lior Learning Centre ABA treatment and behaviour

#### Motor imitation with an object





#### 6 piece puzzle - 3 missing pieces



153-3-6737333 | פקס: www.liorcenter.com | טלפון: 03-6737333

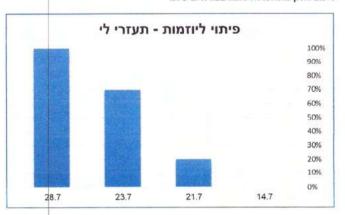
#### Anual Report - Itamar Zetkovski Improv Estimation of Improvement



סיכום שנתי – איתמר זטקובצקי הערכה תפקודית 2015-2016

#### The temptation to initiate- "Help me"

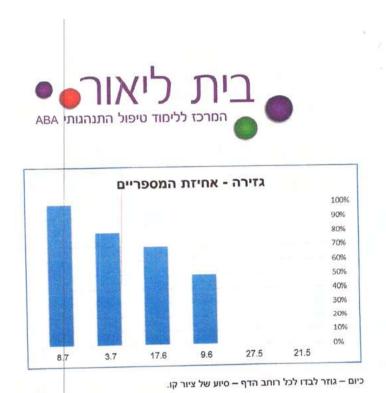
סיכום חלק מהתכניות מוצג בצורה גרפית:



153-3-6737333 | פקס: | www.liorcenter.com

#### Beit Lior Learning Centre ABA treatment and behaviour

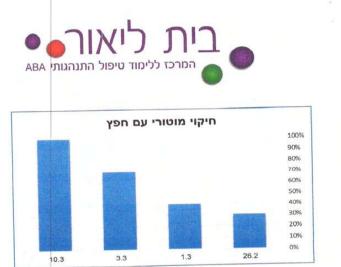
#### Cutting- gripping scissors



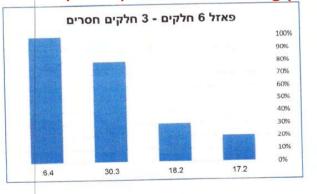
The temptation to initiate- "I don't want to.."



#### Motor imitation with an object

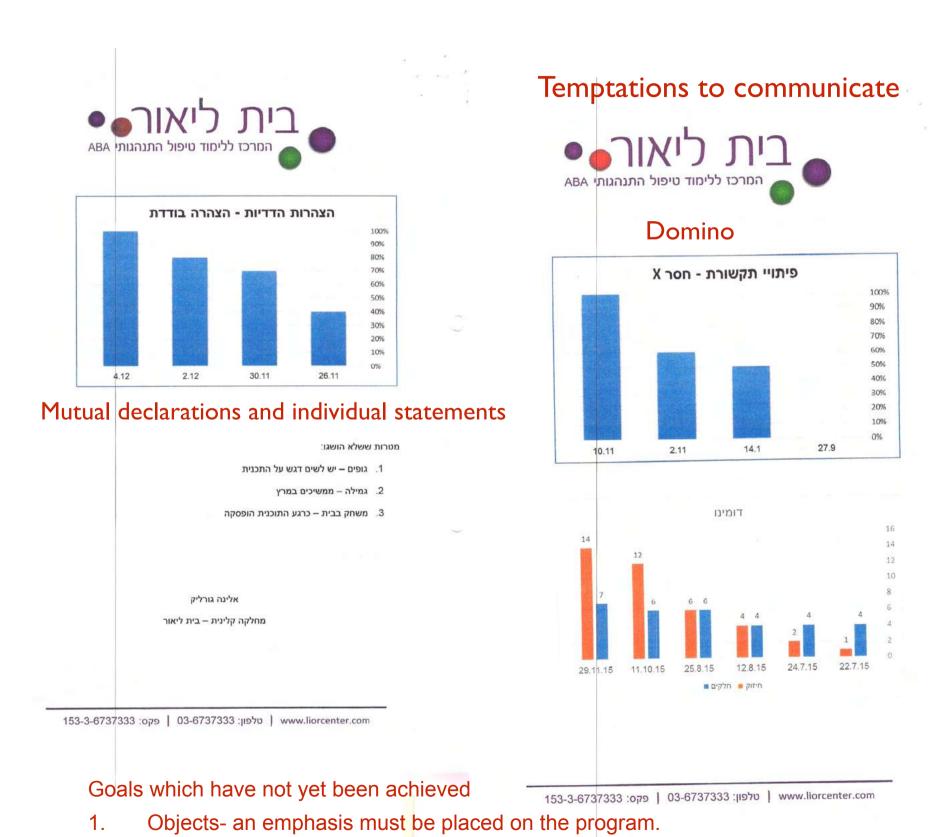


#### 6 piece puzzle - 3 missing pieces



153-3-6737333 :סלפון טלפון | טלפון | www.liorcenter.com

#### Beit Lior Learning Centre ABA treatment and behaviour



Playing at home- at the moment the program has been suspended.

Toilet training- continuing full force ahead.

2.

3.



Your donations help fund valuable programs, that will enrich the lives of individuals with autism spectrum disorder, CP and Down Syndrome.

With your contributions we can:

- Support families in need who are unable to find or afford services
- Increase independence for individuals with special needs
- Raise awareness and acceptance within the community
- Provide training for teachers and childcare workers to promote inclusion in the classroom

#### **APPENDIX**

The ILAI Fund's Nonprofit Registration and tax Israeli and US 501(C) (3) Documents Up dated till 2023

Some of Media Coverages of the LAI Fund and its founder Albert Shaltiel

The ILAI Fund's certification from the Israeli Nonprofit Organizations Authority, Ministry of Justice Israel.





# תעודה לרישומה של עמותה

(לפי חוק העמותות, התש"ם - 1980)

זאת לתעודה כי עמותת עילאי (ע"ר)

נרשמה כעמותה



אצל אלברט שאלתיאל רחוב חרצית 34/46 מודיעין 71700

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580461085

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Department of Non-Profit Associations and Charitable Companies وحدة مسجل الجمعيات والشركات للمنفعة العامة

ל' תשרי תשפ"ב 06/10/2021

> עמותת עילאי (ע"ר) רחוב חרצית מספר בית 34 דירה 46 מודיעין-מכבים-רעות מיקוד 7171502

אישור ניהול תקין לשנתיים

בדיקת הרשם העלתה כי ניתן להנפיק לעמותה אישור ניהול תקין לשנתיים, לפיכד הונפקו לעמותה אישורים לשנים 2022, 2023. להלן יפורטו האישורים כמסמכים נפרדים.

הנדון: אישור ניהול תקין לשנת 2023 <u>שם העמותה: עמותת עילאי (ע"ר) , 580461085</u> אישור לשנתיים

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אישור זה תקף מיום 01/01/2023 ועד ליום 31/12/2023. לידיעה – העמותה נרשמה ברשם העמותות בתאריך 28/05/2006.

קארן שוורץ, עו"ד סגנית ראש רשות התאגידים רשמת העמותות וההקדשות

בוצע על ידי ערין ג'בארין

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# לאון לב, רואה חשבון LEON LEV CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

LEON LEV M.A.(economics) C.P.A

לאון לב,

To: Members of "Ilai Fund" Nonprofit Organizations

I am Leon Lev, CPA License number: 20777 in Israeli Auditors Council hereby confirm that I am the external auditor of "Ilai Fund" Nonprofit Organizations registered number 580461085 in Israeli Registrar of Nonprofit Organizations.

Our aim is to review the financial statements of "Ilai Fund" Nonprofit Organizations and related statements of operations and comprehensive income. These financial statements are the responsibility of the "Ilai Fund" Nonprofit Organizations management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our review

A review also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by "Ilai Fund" Nonprofit Organizations management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statements presentation.

Our auditor's reports are attached to the financial statements of "Ilai Fund" Nonprofit Organizations for each year.

Best regards,

L tear Lev

Leon Lev, CPA

### P.E.F. Israel Endowment Funds, Inc.

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Dear Albert Shaltiel:

We are very glad to inform you that you have met the requirements whereby grants can be made to you upon approval of our Trustees.

Please note that all contributions must carry a recommendation and not a directive as to the charity that is desired. All checks must be made payable to P.E.F. Israel Endowment Funds. In addition, we do not accept contributions under \$25.00. Checks made out incorrectly will be returned to the donors. We do not keep a record of returned checks.

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Good luck in your fund raising efforts.

Geoffrey Stern President

P.S. <u>URGENT</u>: Contributions sent to us must recommend your organization using the EXACT NAME SHOWN ABOVE AND THE AMUTAH NUMBER (58-0461085). Kindly insure that your donors are aware of this before they send us a contribution. Please understand that failure to do so may result in funds being misdirected or returned since many charties have similar names.

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#### **ILAI** Fund

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The ILAI Fund is a nonsectarian fund that assists under-privileged special needs, sick, or disabled children whose families are financially unable to meet their needs.[1] The nonprofit organization was established in Israel in 2005 by Albert Elay Shaltiel and his wife Yael.[2]

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#### **ILAI** Fund

Q

Formation

Albert Elay Shaltiel Founder

Founded at Israel Type NGO

Registration no. 580461085

Providing funds for special Purpose

Headquarters Modiin

# The ILAI Fund Wikipedia page

#### History [edit]

The ILAI Fund is a recognized nonprofit organization that was founded by the Shaltiels, a Jewish family with Iranian roots.[3]

Both Albert and Yael were born in 1969 in Tehran, Iran, in the Dr. Sapir Hospital and Charity Centre, that later became an inspiration for their own charitable activities. The couple immigrated to Israel individually and were married in the year 2000. In 2005 their son llai Benyamin was born.[4] As an expression of gratitude they founded and currently direct the charity which is named for their son. The fund's board is staffed entirely by volunteers

The P.E.F. Israel Endowment Funds, Inc. approves The ILAI fund, allowing all donors to benefit from U.S.A tax free donations. [5]

UK Toremet made the ILAI Fund its recipient agency, allowing tax free donations from Great Britain. [6]

The ILAI Fund has a group of supporters from all over the world. The fund chose to title the supporters as Donating Angels because they financially and voluntarily support the ILAI Fund in its

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The ILAI Fund has a group of supporters from all over the world. The fund chose to title the supporters as Donating Angels because they financially and voluntarily support the ILAI Fund in its mission. They help to raise the funds needed to purchase special equipment for these families. [7] The ILAI Fund is also supported by various Jewish organisations such as Iranian American Jewish Federation of New York and Sobell Foundation.

#### Beneficiaries redit 1

The ILAI Fund beneficiaries often have severe physical, emotional and intellectual disabilities, such as blindness, deafness, autism or Down syndrome, ILAI's objective is to help those families who have financial difficulties. Most of these children are of single parents and occasionally orphans. Their target population includes victims of polio and other illnesses, cancer patients, and children afflicted by accidents, wars or terrorism.[8]

The fund chose the title heroes for the children because they find them brave and courageous and believe that these children are the true superheroes of the ILAI Fund.

#### Categories of Assistance [edit]

The ILAI Fund selects beneficiaries according to referrals from the social services.[9] It provides children with a wide range of medical equipment such as wheelchairs, walkers, bath lifts, orthopedic shoes, splints and braces, diapers, eyeglasses, specialized computers, and hospital transportation costs. The fund also supplies special nutritional food, vitamins or medication that healthcare programs may not cover. The fund also arranges for physiotherapy, hydrotherapy and psychotherapy where needed. In addition, ILAI provides one-on-one caregivers and teachers. The ILAI Fund gives the children a chance to experience events that regular children take for granted, such as birthday celebrations, family outings, visits to zoos, parks and other recreational fun days.[10] All these arrangements are possible with the help from the supporting donors.[11]

#### Projects [edit]

The ILAI Fund has projects targeting specific needs within the Israeli society. One such project is called the iCan-iPad project and its aims are to provide funds for underprivileged families with children challenged by autism or cerebral palsy. The funds are provided in order to achieve two goals: to purchase iPads with applications especially suited for the children to communicate, learn, express their feelings and needs, and to pay for ABA Therapy that helps children with autism learn to communicate and function effectively, and aids in their education.[12]

Other projects the ILAI Fund has are: iHear (providing funds for hearing aids), iMove (providing funds for Hart Walkers, special lifts for cars), iLive (providing funds for medicine, special nutrition and diapers) and iWin (providing funds for hydrotherapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy)

#### Holocaust remembrance [edit]

On top of its charitable activities the ILAI Fund is active in Holocaust remembrance. In 2018, the ILAI Fund took part in the Wreath-Laying Ceremony during Holocaust Remembrance Day at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem together with the Prime Minister of Israel and other notable public figures as well as many Holocaust survivors. ILAI Fund representatives laid down a wreath in the memory of around 300,000 often forgotten disabled and special needs victims of the Nazi regime that were persecuted and murdered as a part of a program the Nazis dubbed T-4, [13]

#### Aiding Children in Foster Homes [edit]

The fund also assists children in foster homes and provides them with clothing, books, gifts, bed sheets, towels, toys and more. Children up to the age of ten are sent to such facilities by court order in cases where municipalities and social services find it necessary to remove them from harmful surroundings. An abusive, violent or dysfunctional home environment may be placing the child at risk, as well as addicted or alcoholic parents.

Albert Shaltiel and his son llai at the Wreath-Laying Ceremony at Yad Vashem during Yom HaShoa ceremony in April, 2018

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# ARUTZ SHEVA 7

# Iranian American Jewish Federation Saluted by ILAI Fund

Technology has given us the ability to provide a way for these special children to express their feelings.'



With its roots strongly planted within the Iranian Jewish community, the ILAI Fund, based in Israel recently celebrated the generosity and support of the Iranian American Jewish Federation (IAJF) and its president Robert Kahen working to improve the lives of special needs children living across Israel.

With a focus on supporting the disabled and those with special needs amongst other Israeli populations, the IAJF contributes to over 190 organizations, primarily in Israel and has raised close to \$47 million at their annual dinners, with the upcoming gala event celebrating Israel's 70th scheduled for mid November in New York City.

Founded 13 years ago by Albert Shaltiel, who escaped from Iran in 1988 and immigrated to Israel in 2000, the ILAI fund is dedicated to assisting special needs children with medical and financial support. "Israel has one of the most advanced healthcare systems in the world, but people in the lower socioeconomic levels with a child of special needs often don't have enough to provide for their children and are in desperate need of support," said Shaltiel. "It is our duty to bridge this gap and help provide for them, as I would hope others would if our family were in their shoes. Disabled children, especially those from single parent homes, are those who most need our support and our Fund was created to respond to those needs."The Ilai Fund partnership with IAJF supports the iCan-iPad program, one of the madny run by the Ilai Fund, which provides specially programmed iPads for over 100 Israeli children challenged with autism or cerebral palsy. Appreciating that these conditions often rob children of the ability to effectively communicate with their surroundings, the iPads are designed to give these children a voice. "Technology has given us the ability to provide a way for these special children to express their feelings and reach out to their family and friends in ways that were never before possible," Shaltiel says. "Through this program, the home becomes a more relaxed environment for both the children themselves and their families."The devices are outfitted with special programs focused on enhancing communication that work with Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Therapy techniques, an increasingly relied upon approach used for children with communication disorders. Purchasing these devices and putting a child on the ABA program can cost several thousand shekels a month -most of which is not covered by insurance. The ILAI fund works most often with families facing economic hardships, often single mothers, to help these children get what they need.



"The IAJF and Robert Kahen are a big part of this program's success and we feel deeply appreciative that we can be working together on behalf of these special children," Shaltiel says. "It's remarkable to see how a community in New York can really transform the life of a child they might never meet or get to know. On behalf of those families we are deeply grateful."

ILAI Fund

Iranian American Jewish Federation Saluted by ILAI Fund

# **THE JERUSALEM POST**

### **TAKING ON T-4**

The ILAI Fund ensures that we remember the ill and disabled victims of the Shoah.

BY MARION FISCHEL / JUNE 16, 2018 16:29 -



lbert Shaltiel, the founder of the ILAI Fund, a nonprofit created to assist underprivileged special- needs, sick and disabled children, regards the chance to participate as invited guests in this year's wreath-laying ceremony at Holocaust Remembrance Day as a small vindication of those who were murdered as a result of the Nazi's Aktion T4.

T4 is an abbreviation of Tiergartenstrasse 4 in Berlin, the location of a Nazi department set up in 1940 [although the authorization for Aktion T4 was backdated by Hitler to September 1, 1939] to select the handicapped, the ill and the weak, whether mentally or physically, for mass murder by means of gassing – thus murdering 200,000 people. Once the Nazis saw how successful the killing system was, they went on to apply to at least a further million able-bodied people of sound minds who were murdered by means of the infamous Zyklon B gas in mock shower rooms at extermination camps," Shaltiel explains.

Shaltiel has attended the event as a member of the public for years and, with his wife Yael and son Ilai, follows the ceremony by visiting Holocaust survivors that he has personal relationships with, and finishes the day at Yad Vashem.

Last year, at the ceremony, he approached the director of Official Visits for Ceremonies in the Commemoration and Community Relations Department, Shoshi Rozen, requesting that the ILAI Fund be represented among the invited guests in 2018.

"More than 200,000 handicapped people were killed by the Nazis; I felt that the handicapped should also be represented at the Holocaust memorial ceremony," he says.

Shaltiel and Yael began their involvement with special-needs children when, after several years of attempting to conceive a child and unsuccessful fertility treatments, they began to consider adoption. Visiting a handicapped children's home in Haifa, they became aware of the many needs such children have and of the limited resources available to many of the parents.

The experience spurred them to turn to friends and relatives in an effort to raise funds to cover the needs of the most extreme cases.

"We were put in touch with single parents living below the poverty line and raising sick or handicapped children and we were able to cover essentials that the state or health funds did not."

The couple connects the efforts they made on behalf of these children with what Shaltiel considers "the miracle" of the birth of their son Ilai in 2005. His birth heralded the official foundation of the ILAI Fund – which does not distinguish between Jewish, Druse, Christian and Muslim children – as an expression of gratitude for this turn in their family fortune.

Posted: Monday, February 11, 2013 by: Rivka Cubine

### Heroes and Angels: Tikun Olam with the Ilai Fund

On the Ilai Fund website you'll meet some real heroes: bright lights of courage and hope, patience and inner strength, enthusiasm and phenomenal faith.

Four year old Omer is smart and capable and loves going to preschool. He has a bright open smile and together with his two brothers fills his home with laughter. But Omer has SMA Type 1 and faces extreme limitations. He cannot hold a spoon or feed himself, he cannot stand or run or even kick a ball. Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) is a motor neuron disease which effects voluntary muscles. Children with SMA have difficulty functioning in a normal public setting. Kids like Omer need a special aide to help them function away from home.

Jacob, aged ten, has an astounding sense of humor. He was born with Hypohydrotic Ectodermic Dysphasia (HED). The disease led to corneal ulceration leaving Jacob blind. He cannot eat solid foods and needs to be fed through a gastro tube. Jacob has five identical fingers on each hand. In other words, he has no thumbs. Despite this he plays piano and often entertains at different social events. He speaks Russian, Hebrew and English.

Thirteen-year-old Ohad Yehuda has a radiant smile and a vibrant attitude. He connects with his classmates through the internet. Ohad was born with Congenital Spinal Fibrosarcoma, a cancerous tumor inside his spinal cord. He has been through 12 surgeries since the age of five weeks. Today, by HaShem's grace, he is in remission. Ohad is paralyzed from the waist down and confined to a wheelchair. He also has a liver disorder.

Hava is a beautiful two and a half year old. She is charming and happy, communicating with the world around her by nodding her head and clapping her hands. She suffers from a chronic condition of the liver, along with a Colesthetic disturbance. Her liver is over-large; causing her stomach to distend unnaturally. Suffering from severe pain and constant fever, she is attached to an oxygen machine most of the day. What Hava really needs is a liver transplant, but the doctors advise she is not stable enough yet. They have prescribed an expensive special diet.

Soon after that, they learned the joyous news, Yael was pregnant. "The joy over this child opened Heaven's gates for us", said Albert. "When Ilai was born I turned to G-d. I understood that we received a present for what we had done, and now we can't stop. I asked the Almighty to help us continue."

The Shaltiels began adding more angels to their cause and established an NPO that is recognized by the Israeli National Amutah Registrar. All donations are allocated 100% to the needs of the children.

Albert and Yael receive referrals, from hospitals and social workers, of those in need. Each situation is carefully examined and vetted. Albert keeps binders filled with hundreds of cases. He can pick one up and turn to a specific page, knowing exactly whose face he is looking for. He knows their needs by heart: this one needs special expensive medicines, that one a wheelchair, this one a transplant. Albert not only sees these heroes overcoming their disabilities, he sees them succeeding in every area of their lives.

There are so many children the Ilai Fund has not been able to touch. Albert says "My dream is to reach out to Africa and to help in India. For me, every child has the right to receive the best care and to fulfill the potential within them. We will not stop until the last child, in any place in the world, no matter what nation, language, or religion, receives the deserved help."

When Albert is not busy caring for his heroes he is teaching at his school, the Light-House School of Spirituality, or S.O.S. He started the Light-House after many years of learning and research. "There have been many sages who improved upon real, useful and practical teachings before them. All we need to do is find the right sources to follow and learn how to implement their guidance." All proceeds from the Light-House are dedicated to the Ilai Fund. For more information about the Light-House visit the website at http://

#### www.tolight.info

For more information about the Ilai Fund visit their website at http://ilaifund.org or email them at ilia@iliafund.org. Donations to the Ilai Fund are tax deductible in Israel and in the United States.

The Ilai Fund offices are located at Hazit 34/46 Modi'in Israel 71700. You can also call them in Israel at 972-8-971-8494 or in the United States at (213) 500-9906.



## Local Philanthropist Honored for Support of Children's Charity thejewishlink.com/archives/5238#sthash.pPHy34SY.8yoNFVf3.dpuf

#### By Dena Wimpfheimer

Local philanthropists, Ben and Bita Nehmadi of Los Angeles were honored last week for their charitable work on behalf of the Ilai Fund, an Israel based charity which funds medical equipment and therapies for hundreds of sick children with special needs. The Nehmadis have been supporters of the Ilai Fund since its creation in 2005, "and together with our other 'Donating Angels' are an integral part of the family," said Albert Shaltiel, founder and director of the charity foundation.

After escaping from Iran just days before the Islamic revolution in 1979, Ben Nehmadi (Behzad) arrived in New York and used his strong work ethic, thirst for education and faith to get a strong foothold in the real estate market. "From the start, I made a commitment to help those in need. When I first arrived in New York, I saw the two diverse worlds of incredible wealth and terrible poverty and knew that I couldn't leave this unbalance without trying to help in any way I could". Nehmadi founded the Republic Investment Company in New York and later relocated to Los Angeles where he joined the growing Iranian Jewish community. "When I reconnected with Albert 8 years ago and heard about his work with sick children in Israel, I knew that I wanted to do what I could to help them." The Nehmadis keep up to date with the work of the foundation during their annual visit to Israel and bar mitzvah celebrations for their two sons in the holy land.

Albert Shaltiel's own story began similarly to that of Nehmadi and there common backgrounds is one major factor driving their philanthropic collaboration.

When their son Ilai was born in 2005, the Shaltiels officially established the Ilai Fund in his name. "We wanted to be sure we always care for all the children as much as we care for our only child," said Albert. "In naming it The Ilai Fund, we remind ourselves each and every day that these children are like our own and we experience the pain and joys together with them."

Since then, the Fund has grown and Albert and Yael do everything in their power to avoid saying no to those in need. Together with Ilai, they meet with each child to see how their help will be most worthwhile – whether it is paying for a piece of equipment, a type of

Most of the children helped by the Fund come from single parent homes. "My father died when I was young and my siblings and I grew up with just a mother," says Yael. "I know how hard it can be when there is only one parent and we want to try and help those families who have to work even harder to care for a sick child even more."

And so the Shaltiels are back in Los Angeles to honor the work of Ben and Bita Nehmadi, who have significantly contributed to support the effort.

"Albert and Yael are people who are doing God's work but quietly and humbly and it is a true honor to be involved with their efforts," says Mr. Nehmadi. "Given Albert's incredible background and his ability to work so hard, I know that when I support this Fund it will definitely lead to better lives for all involved."

- See more at: http://thejewishlink.com/archives/5238#sthash.pPHv34SY.8v0NFVf3.dpuf



#### By Rochelle Maruch Miller

http://5tjt.com/the-ilai-fund-turning-tears-into-smiles-2/

### The Ilai Fund: Turning Tears Into Smiles

Mention the word "hero" to a child and he will probably think of the superheroes of comics and movie fame. The Ilai Fund children constitute an entirely different league of heroes; these are the superheroes of life. Throughout their tender years, they have endured difficulties far beyond what most people have ever imagined. Despite the many challenges they face, these precious neshamos greet every new day with a smile. Brave and persevering against all odds, they are the true superheroes of the Ilai Fund.

"Ilai, our healthy, happy, and beautiful son, is a gift which we received after years of praying to Hashem. And this is how it all started," Albert Shaltiel, founder of the Ilai Fund, told the 5TJT.

Born in Tehran, Iran just prior to the onset of the Iranian Revolution, Albert Shaltiel describes his early years as peaceful and tranquil. But following the revolution, the environment became one of fear and violence. Albert escaped from Iran (his second attempt—the first ended with jail time and torture) at age 16 followed by two months of fear-filled travel through the mountains and valleys of Pakistan and Afghanistan. Eventually he made it to the freedom of Vienna and from there he was able to secure safe passage to the Iranian community of Los Angeles.

Thirteen years later, he realized his lifelong dream of coming home to Israel and shortly thereafter met his wife Yael. After struggling for years with unsuccessful fertility treatments, Albert and Yael thought about adoption. "How can you choose just one child, when you know that there are so many that need you?" he recalls thinking. They decided that if they were unable to have children of their own, they would "adopt the problems" of many and work towards making their lives better.

The couple reached out to Israeli hospitals, social workers, and various communal organizations that worked with children. With the generous support of donors from all over the world, they began distributing money towards medical equipment and therapies for children in need. "Since a very young age, we have tried to live our lives according to the tenet 'Love your neighbor as yourself," said Albert. "The Jewish hospital where Yael and I were born in Tehran had this phrase inscribed on the entrance. We often think—what if it was our child who was sick and needed help? And that gives us the drive to push forward and work hard on behalf of all these children."

"We wish to do good in our time of great happiness and give thanks to the Ribbono shel Olam for giving us the greatest gift of all," says Albert.

"Please ask yourself what you would want the community to do for you if it were your child. Beyond the heartbreak and the expense involved due to the disability, our children have never experienced the privilege and joy of calling a father 'Abba'—of loving, being loved by, protected, and held close by Abba. Unlike other boys their age, they have never gone to shul with Abba, nor will they be the subject of their father's pride and joy upon becoming a bar mitzvah. I made a commitment to love and care for every child like I do for my own. That is how we intend to thank Hashem for Ilai. That is why all of our children are called Ilai children."

Today, several hospitals are familiar with the fund, and through them the Shaltiels meet a new child almost every day. All this is done with the help of the generous donors without whose support they would never have accomplished as much.

Ilai Fund is a nonprofit organization registered in the state of Israel, an authorized foundation by the Israeli tax department for tax-deductible donations (seif 46). If you would like to partner with this exemplary organization, please call Albert Shaltiel at 213-500-9906 or e-mail ilai@ilaifund.org. So many precious children are waiting. v



http://unitedwithisrael.org/faces-of-israel-albert-and-yael-shaltiel-and-the-ilai-fund/

May 6, 2014



#### Faces of Israel: Albert and Yael Shaltiel and the Ilai Fund

Albert and Yael Shaltiel struggled for years with infertility. But rather than harping on their own tribulations, they devoted themselves to children with serious medical issues – an initiative that culminated with the establishment in 2005 of the Ilai Fund, a nonprofit for the benefit of unfortunate children.

Finally blessed with a healthy son and, nine years later, a beautiful daughter, they nonetheless continue full force with their charitable work on behalf of youngsters in need.

Before the birth of their son, the Shaltiels had considered adoption. However, after coming into contact with numerous medically challenged children, they felt uncomfortable choosing only one child to care for among so many in need.

Thus they began raising money to provide medical equipment and diverse therapies for these children and created the <u>Ilai Fund</u>, named after their son Ilai, who at the age of nine has already has become an integral contributor to the cause, meeting regularly and interacting with the children supported by the Fund.

The children who benefit suffer from physical, emotional and mental disabilities, including those wounded by accidents or acts of terrorism. The Ilai Fund assists those whose financial situation prevents them from receiving the proper care to meet their children's needs.

According to the Fund's website, the staff is "always available to our children, 24 hours a day, every day. We have a strong will and desire to make their lives easier whenever possible and as quickly as possible."

A major focus is helping orphans and single-parent families – another hardship with which Yael empathizes, having been raised without a father. Indeed, it is all the more difficult for a single mother or father when a child has unique medical challenges.

The Shaltiel Family has Internalized the Need for Action

Albert had escaped from Iran; he succeeded only after a number of attempts, the second of which had landed him in prison, where he was tortured.

Instead of erasing the painful memories and focusing on themselves only, the Shaltiels seem to have internalized the need for compassion and activism. Not only do they continue their philanthropic work, but they remain grateful to their Iranian family and friends – most of them in the United States – who were the main supporters of the Ilai Fund, especially Ben and Bita Nehmadi.

"Together with our other 'Donating Angels', they are an integral part of the family," Albert stated.

The Ilai Fund recently honored the Nehmadis for their outstanding commitment.

Having escaped from Iran merely days before the Islamic Revolution in 1979, Ben Nehmadi arrived in New York, where he used his strong work ethic, thirst for education and profound faith to gain a foothold in the real estate market. Distressed by the striking combination of incredible wealth and desperate poverty that he observed in New York, he decided then and there that he would do whatever he could to help those in need.

After founding the Republic Investment Company and becoming highly successful, Nehmadi remained true to his word.

"I reconnected with Albert eight years ago and heard about his work with sick children in Israel," he said. "I knew that I wanted to do what I could to help."

"Albert and Yael are people who are doing God's work, but quietly and humbly, and it is a true honor to be involved with their efforts," Ben Nahmadi said. "Given Albert's incredible background and his ability to work so hard, I know that when I support this Fund it will definitely lead to better lives for all involved."

The children benefiting from the Ilai Fund are not the only winners in this endeavor. By making such a meaningful difference in the lives of children and helping them to flourish, Albert and Yael Shaltiel, along with their 'Donating Angels', are building a healthier society and a better future for the State of Israel.



### **How Can You Choose Just One?**

By BJLife Newsroom

Posted on 03/02/14 |

In a small family apartment high atop the Israeli city of Modiin, a husband and wife sit together as they pour over a thick black binder bursting with photos and medical records of sick Israeli children. Each file contains photos, medical reports and handwritten notes about therapy, equipment and treatments. On the table next to them are four more envelopes received in the mail that morning. Looking at them, you wouldn't think that Albert and Yael Shaltiel would be the address for hundreds of requests for medical support a year, unless you know their back story.

Born in Tehran, Iran just prior to the onset of the Iranian Revolution, Albert Shaltiel describes his early years as peaceful and tranquil. But when the Shah was deposed and later forced into exile in 1979, the environment became one of fear and violence. Albert escaped from Iran at age 16 followed by two months of fear-filled travel through the mountains and valleys of Pakistan and Afghanistan. Eventually he made it to the freedom of Vienna and from there was able to secure safe passage to join the large Iranian Jewish community in Los Angeles.

Thirteen years later he realized his lifelong dream of coming home to Israel and shortly thereafter met his wife Yael.

Since then, the Fund has grown and Albert and Yael do everything in their power to avoid saying no to those in need. Together with Ilai, they meet with each child to see how their help will be most worthwhile, whether it is paying for a piece of equipment, a type of therapy treatment, or for some, just a recreational activity to bring joy and healing. Keeping their overhead low, their dining room table serves as the base of operations where they proudly show off their stuffed black binder full of files detailing their many children, or as they refer to them, the Ilai Fund Heroes. "These children deal with such hardships each and every day," said Albert. "If we can help ease even just a little of their struggle than it is all worth it."

Most of the children helped by the Fund come from single parent homes. "My father died when I was young and my siblings and I grew up with just a mother," said Yael. "I know how hard it can be when there is only one parent and we want to try and help those families who have to work even harder to care for a sick child even more."

Albert continues to speak with the vision of a man who realizes he can do so much more. When his phone rings, he reacts with excitement when he identifies the caller as a social worker who heard about the Fund and needs some help.

"God has given us so many gifts in life that we welcome the chance to give back," he says. "We know there is only a limited amount that we can do on our own but that won't stop us from trying."