



Kfar Azza Foundation

Kfar Azza Project Directory

January 2024

Forward

- A. This project directory reflects current needs as of January 2024. As needs and solutions are liable to change over time, this document may be updated periodically as required.
- B. On December 19, 2023, 58% of the community voted to move to a temporary location at Kibbutz Ruhama in the Western Negev. This move (now scheduled for summer of 2024) will raise its own challenges not fully described or addressed in this document.
- C. Kfar Azza is ready to assist neighboring communities in need that suffered from the attacks of October 7. In cases where such communities do not have the necessary governance or fundraising capabilities in place (e.g. 501 (c) status), Kfar Azz Foundation is ready to extend its platforms and help create direct channels of support between donors and community management teams. Should funding allow it, many of the initiatives presented here can be extended to neighboring communities.



Project Matrix

Projects by Target Focus Areas & Target Age Groups

Focus Areas: Age Groups:	Education	Mental Health	Welfare	Commemoration	Community & Culture	Buildings
Children 0-6	Educational Psychologists	Therapy for Children			Community & Culture Events	Community Center / Education Center
Children 6-12	Educational Psychologists After-School Programs Summer Programs	Therapy for Children			Community & Culture Events	Community Center / Education Center
Children 12-18	Educational Psychologists After-School Programs Summer Programs	Therapy for Children			Community & Culture Events	Community Center / Education Center
Young Adults 18-30	Young Adult Programs	Young Adult Programs Mental Health Programs	Young Adult Programs		Young Adult Programs Community & Culture Events	Community Center / Cultural Center
Adults 30-67		Mental Health Programs			Community & Culture Events	Community Center / Cultural Center
Seniors 67+		Seniors Programs Mental Health Programs	Seniors Programs		Seniors Programs Community & Culture Events	Community Center / Seniors Club
Adults with Autism 21+					Amit Bakfar	Amit Bakfar



Contents

Forward	1
Project Matrix	2
Background	4
Community Center	5
Educational Psychologists	7
Therapy for Children	9
Informal Educators for After-School Programs	11
Transportation for After-School Programs	12
Summer Programs for Closing Learning Gaps	13
Young Adult Programs	15
Mental Health Programs for Adults	18
Seniors Programs	22
Community & Culture Events	24
Amit Bakfar – Home for Adults with Autism	25



Background

October 7, 2023, is a day etched forever in the hearts of Israelis and the Jewish People. This day witnessed unimaginable tragedy, with terrorists claiming the lives of over 1,400 souls in the Western Negev. It brought forth heart-wrenching despair as more than 240 individuals were taken hostage, leaving a trail of destruction and shattered homes in its wake. Profound grief engulfed Israel, leaving an indelible mark on the pages of Israeli and Jewish history.

One of the hardest hit communities is Kibbutz Kfar Azza. Until October, about 950 individuals had the privilege of calling this beautiful kibbutz their home. Founded in 1951, this flourishing community has achieved remarkable success in terms of both economic prosperity and social cohesion. Indeed, leading up to October 7, there was a three-year waiting list for prospective new members who aspired to join this esteemed community.

On October 7, the devastating morning of Simchat Torah, a staggering 300 Hamas terrorists invaded and launched a shocking attack on the peaceful Kibbutz. Tragically, 62 innocent members lost their lives (with two more lives lost later), 18 were cruelly kidnapped to Gaza, and almost half of the cherished homes and buildings were mercilessly demolished, either through bombings or fires.

The battle at Kfar Azza continued uninterrupted for four days, prompting the immediate relocation of community members to Kibbutz Shefayim in the center of the country. An official state of emergency was declared, enabling the government to provide comprehensive accommodations for evacuees. A remarkable 50% of community members opted to reside in Shefayim Hotel, while the remaining populace availed themselves of daily stipends to secure apartments within the area of Shefayim.

As a consequence, Shefayim has rapidly evolved into the centralized hub for the displaced community, offering an array of essential services, educational opportunities, therapeutic interventions, and communal gatherings. This transitional period marks both a solemn time of mourning, and a pivotal juncture for reorganizing the community while meticulously strategizing for the future.

Significantly, the Kfar Azza community is set to undergo two additional moves within the upcoming 2-3 years: (1) from Shefayim to a temporary location (currently planned at Kibbutz Ruhama in July 2024); from the temporary location back to Kfar Azza. These moves have the potential to induce strong emotional reactions among community members in general, and the children in particular.



Community Center

A. Need

After the physical and social devastation wreaked by the havoc of October 7, the Kfar Azza community is currently experiencing a period of mourning and grief. At the same time, the Kibbutz is beginning to actively plan future construction programs and community services to serve the vital needs of its community members.

B. Solution

The leadership of Kfar Azza plans to construct a three-building community center in the Kibbutz. The entrance to the community center will be a plaza designed by architects in Israel, creating an inviting space that reflects the community's desire to both honor the past and build a promising future. The compound will comprise a Cultural Center, an Education Center, and a Seniors Club.

Cultural Center

The purpose of the Cultural Center is to weave the arts into the fabric of Kfar Azza and provide a platform for artists of all types to showcase their talent. With the establishment of this center, rich and varied activities – including musical concerts, family-oriented events, and theater performances – will become a regular part of daily life in Kfar Azza.

The cultural center is expected to host musicians, artists, and performers, who will provide cultural enrichment to the community. It also may be utilized for television and movie productions. These productions could portray the story of Kfar Azza, honor those who lost their lives, and show the connection between October 7 and the global rise in antisemitism.

Education Center

The Education Center will offer activities focused on professionalism, perpetual renewal, and advanced educational approaches. The goal is to have a significant impact on the children, youth and families of Kfar Azza. The center will include a space for young families to bring their children for play, a children's library, and varied activities for youth up to age 18. Supplementary arts, music, and animal therapies for children are being considered, along with the hiring of additional staff members to oversee informal education and after-school activities.

Once the necessary funds are raised, the Education Center will aim to offer services to the displaced community irrespective of its current temporary location. Although the center is not yet constructed, it is anticipated that even now it might lead to increased availability of educational psychologists. Another related idea is to offer transportation to/from Shefayim for Kfar Azza children (who are not residing at Shefayim) to participate in educational activities.



Seniors Club

Over 150 seniors above the age of 67 live in Kfar Azza. Considered vital pillars of the community, these seniors are the parents and grandparents of the greater community. The varied activities provided at the club will include cultural events, recreational activities, sports, classes, lectures, concerts, games, and more. These activities will be designed to enhance the quality of life for the elderly members of Kfar Azza, and may be made available at temporary locations (e.g. Shefayim).

C. Key Costs

	Plaza/ Square	Cultural Center	Education Center	Seniors Club	Total
Construction	5M NIS (\$1,352,000)	4M NIS (\$1,081,000)	12M NIS (\$3,244,000)	3M NIS (\$811,000)	24M NIS (\$6,488,000)
Annual services*	-	6M NIS (\$1,622,000)	6M NIS (\$1,622,000)	3M NIS (\$811,000)	15M NIS (\$4,055,000)
Total cost of buildings with 1 year of services	5M NIS (\$1,352,000)	10M NIS (\$2,703,000)	18M NIS (\$4,865,000)	6M NIS (\$1,622,000)	39M NIS (\$10,542,000)
Total cost of buildings with 3 years of services*	5M NIS (\$1,352,000)	22M NIS (\$5,946,000)	30M NIS (\$8,108,000)	12M NIS (\$3,243,000)	69M NIS (\$18,649,000)

* provided during displacement period until return to Kfar Azza site

D. Fundraising Targets

Kfar Azza plans to take advantage of governmental authorization and allocated governmental funding to partially cover the costs of establishing and operating the community center. Construction in Kfar Azza will commence after the conclusion of the war. The leadership of Kfar Azza is actively seeking funds to support related services and programs that are not currently funded by the government.

Required Monthly Funds	Required Annual Funds	Required 3-Year Funds
417,000 NIS	5,000,000 NIS	15,000,000 NIS
\$113,000	\$1,352,000	\$4,055,000



Educational Psychologists

A. Need

Following October 7, the children of Kfar Azza have mourned the murder and kidnapping of family and friends, while being displaced from their beloved homes and educational frameworks. Playing a vital role in the field of education, educational psychologists are experts who focus on addressing the various psychological/emotional factors that can impact a student's learning experience. Ongoing involvement of educational psychologists is deemed necessary for effectively supporting the overall academic success of the children of Kfar Azza.

B. Solution

In Kfar Azza, 240 children are organized into three main groups, each with smaller subgroups:

- Ages 0-6: 100 children in 5 subgroups
- Ages 6-12: 70 children in 2 subgroups
- Ages 12-18: 70 children in 2 subgroups

Regarding educational psychologists, the relevant age groups are 0-6, 6-12 and 12-18.

Through the collaborative efforts of the Kfar Azza and Shefayim education teams, educational psychologists have been recruited and activated during Kfar Azza's temporary relocation to the Shefayim Hotel and the surrounding area. These professionals aim to support the three main groups by conducting observations, providing guidance to parents, and offering one-on-one and group sessions with children. The role of educational psychologists is crucial in guiding the children through their emotional and educational journeys.

The objective is to provide 50 monthly hours of support for each of the nine subgroups. The requested 50 monthly hours for each subgroup allows utilization of the educational psychologists for full impact. The psychologists are present during school days and observe various aspects of students' social interactions, playtime, and conversations with one another. Additionally, they observe and listen to teachers' responses to students and provide guidance, which may occur on-the-spot or at end-of-day staff meetings.

Each of the three main teams (by age groups) receives 12 weekly hours of guidance from psychologists. Additionally, each subgroup receives three weekly sessions, along with other sessions available in various settings.

It should be noted that a sizable number of monthly hours are involved, with the possibility of future changes in needs. The release of children from captivity in Gaza and their return to school is expected to present numerous challenges. Additionally, these children will be attending school



alongside orphans who have recently lost their parents, which may hinder open expression of emotions and magnify emotional difficulties.

At this stage, children are receiving interventions during school hours. Troubling signs are prompting additional individual support, and psychologists are communicating daily with parents and therapists.

It is important to note that the Kfar Azza community is set to undergo two additional moves within the next 2-3 years: (1) from Shefayim to a temporary location at Kibbutz Ruhama (currently estimated for July 2024); (2) from the temporary location to Kfar Azza. These moves have the potential to induce fear, anxiety and other emotional reactions among the children of the community.

C. Key Costs

Age groups	Number of sub-groups	No. of monthly hours per subgroup	Total monthly hours needed	Cost per hour	Total cost of monthly hours per age group	Amount covered by the state (50%)	Total required monthly funds to be raised
0-6	5	50 hours	250 hours	500 NIS	125,000 NIS	62,500 NIS	62,500 NIS
6-12	2	50 hours	100 hours	500 NIS	50,000 NIS	25,000 NIS	25,000 NIS
12-18	2	50 hours	100 hours	500 NIS	50,000 NIS	25,000 NIS	25,000 NIS
3 age groups	9 sub-groups	50 monthly hours per group	450 monthly hours	500 NIS per hour	225,000 NIS	112,500 NIS	112,500 NIS (\$30,400)

D. Fundraising Targets

Required Monthly Funds	Required Annual Funds	Required 3-Year Funds
112,500 NIS	1,350,000 NIS	4,050,000 NIS
\$30,400	\$365,000	\$1,095,000



Therapy for Children

A. Need

Following October 7, the children of Kfar Azza have mourned the murder and kidnapping of family and friends and have been displaced from their beloved homes and kibbutz. Therapy is vital for helping to prevent or treat serious mental health issues – such as anxiety, stress and depression – triggered by these traumatic events.

B. Solution

In Kfar Azza, 240 children are organized into three main groups, each with smaller subgroups:

- Ages 0-6: 100 children in 5 subgroups
- Ages 6-12: 70 children in 2 subgroups
- Ages 12-18: 70 children in 2 subgroups

Regarding therapy sessions, the relevant age groups are 4-6, 6-12 and 12-18.

The Kfar Azza education team is working to increase the number of individual and group therapy sessions available to children of all age groups. Sessions are carefully scheduled on specific days and times to meet the needs of the children.

The education team employs various professional therapists, providing a diverse range of expertise. The team is able to cover travel expenses to ensure the therapists' ongoing work, regardless of the community's present and future locations. The team emphasizes the importance of continuity, aiming to enable the same therapists to work with the same children in both the short and long term.

It is important to note that the Kfar Azza community is set to undergo two additional moves within the next 2-3 years: (1) from Shefayim to a temporary location at Kibbutz Ruhama (currently estimated for July 2024); (2) from the temporary location to Kfar Azza. These moves have the potential to induce fear, anxiety and other emotional reactions among the children of the community.



C. Key Costs

Age groups	Number of sub-groups	Types of therapy sessions provided	Number of hourly sessions/month/subgroup	Number of hourly sessions/month/age group	Cost per hour/session	Total cost of monthly hours	Total required annual funds to be raised
4-6	2	ArT, Yo, AnT	18 hours	36 hours	190 NIS	6,840 NIS	82,080 NIS
6-12	2	ArT, SuT, AnT	18 hours	36 hours	190 NIS	6,840 NIS	82,080 NIS
12-18	2	BiT, Yo, SuT	18 hours	36 hours	190 NIS	6,840 NIS	82,080 NIS
3 age groups	6 sub-groups	5 types: ArT, Yo, AnT, SuT, BiT		108 total hours	190 NIS	20,520 NIS	246,240 NIS (\$66,550)

Key: ArT – art therapy; Yo – yoga; Ant – animal therapy; SuT – surfing therapy; BiT – bicycle-riding therapy

D. Fundraising Targets

Required Monthly Funds	Required Annual Funds	Required 3-Year Funds
20,520 NIS	246,240 NIS	738,720 NIS
\$5,550	\$66,550	\$199,650



Informal Educators for After-School Programs

A. Need

In addition to formal classroom teachers, other educational figures interact with Kfar Azza children. Following October 7, the need for informal educators who can facilitate educational and social processes outside of the regular classroom setting has grown significantly.

B. Solution

In Kfar Azza, 240 children are organized into three main groups, each with smaller subgroups:

- Ages 0-6: 100 children in 5 subgroups
- Ages 6-12: 70 children in 2 subgroups
- Ages 12-18: 70 children in 2 subgroups

Regarding after-school programs, the relevant age groups are 6-12 and 12-18.

Typically, formal educators are present during school hours, while informal educators take over after school and during vacations. However, given the unique challenges faced by Kfar Azza children since October 7, there is a need to enhance non-formal educational programming. This would involve providing staff members who can support the children even when they are unable to concentrate during classes or might choose to skip a lesson. These educators also would be responsible for leading after-school activities and taking charge when schools are closed during the summer and other holiday periods.

C. Key Costs

Age groups	Number of sub-groups	Total monthly cost for 2 counselors per age group, and a half-time group director	Total annual cost for 2 counselors per age group, and a half-time group director	Amount covered by the state (50%)	Total required annual funds to be raised
6-12	2	30,000 NIS	360,000 NIS	180,000 NIS	180,000 NIS
12-18	2	30,000 NIS	360,000 NIS	180,000 NIS	180,000 NIS
2 age groups	4 sub-groups	60,000 NIS	720,000 NIS	360,000 NIS	360,000 NIS (\$97,300)

D. Fundraising Targets

Required Monthly Funds	Required Annual Funds	Required 3-Year Funds
30,000 NIS	360,000 NIS	1,080,000 NIS
\$8,110	\$97,300	\$292,000



Transportation for After-School Programs

A. Need

Since October 7, about 50% of Kfar Azza community members have resided at Shefayim Hotel, while the other 50% have availed themselves of daily stipends to secure apartments within the Shefayim area. As a result, the children of families not residing at Shefayim Hotel require transportation home following participation in after-school activities at Shefayim.

B. Solution

In Kfar Azza, 240 children are organized into three main groups, each with smaller subgroups:

- Ages 0-6: 100 children in 5 subgroups
- Ages 6-12: 70 children in 2 subgroups
- Ages 12-18: 70 children in 2 subgroups

Regarding transportation for after-school programs, the relevant age groups are 6-12 and 12-18.

There is a need for a flexible and expanded transportation option to facilitate after-school activities in Shefayim for all Kfar Azza children residing in the area. The lack of personal mobility poses a challenge for students, especially those who do not drive. Presently, the local municipality provides organized transportation for the children during morning hours, taking them to and from school. While most children can take the school bus to the Shefayim Hotel in the morning, they require a personal transportation voucher to return home to their temporary apartments at the conclusion of their after-school activities.

C. Key Costs

Age groups	Number of subgroups	Cost of monthly transportation voucher for 1 child	Total cost of monthly transportation vouchers for 70 of 140 children	Amount covered by the state	Total required funds for 8 months (up until summer of 2024) to be raised
6-18	4	600 NIS	42,000 NIS	0	336,000 NIS (\$90,800)

D. Fundraising Targets

Required Monthly Funds	Required Annual Funds (8 months)
42,000 NIS	336,000 NIS
\$11,350	\$90,800



Summer Programs for Closing Learning Gaps

A. Need

Following October 7, the children of Kfar Azza are facing significant educational challenges due to the long war and their ongoing displacement from their beloved Kibbutz home and familiar educational frameworks. Consequently, there is an increased need to address widening learning gaps in core subjects in general, and in English and science/math in particular.

B. Solution

In Kfar Azza, 240 children are organized into three main groups, each with smaller subgroups:

- Ages 0-6: 100 children in 5 subgroups
- Ages 6-12: 70 children in 2 subgroups
- Ages 12-18: 70 children in 2 subgroups

Regarding summer programs, the relevant age groups are 9-12 and 12-18.

During this stage of the ongoing war, the children of Kfar Azza have been brought back into temporary educational frameworks. The main focus of the current curricula is on providing emotional support to the students, with educators making efforts to create safe social spaces as part of the children's rehabilitation process.

Analyzing the situation, it is evident that the children of Kfar Azza are facing significant educational challenges due to the prolonged duration and negative impact of the ongoing war. The students' ability to concentrate and study are further hindered by the fact that many of their friends and family from Kfar Azza have been murdered or abducted. This is creating learning gaps in the core subjects of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and English.

The Kfar Azza community is interested in expanding learning opportunities for all age groups (from ages 9-19) during the summer vacation. The proposed summer programs aim to serve as educational and experiential accelerators. Each program is set to run for 4 weeks, providing a concentrated number of hours for learning. Unlike the school year, where children typically learn 4 weekly hours per subject, each day of the summer program will offer 5 hours of focused learning on a particular subject. This intensive approach will enable participants to cover the equivalent of 6 months of school classes for that particular subject within a 4-week period during summer.



C. Key Costs

Age groups	Number of sub-groups/classes	Total cost per group for English program	Total cost per group for science/math program	Total required funds to be raised
Rising 4 th graders	1 group/class	50,000 NIS	40,000 NIS	90,000 NIS
Rising 5 th graders	1 group/class	50,000 NIS	40,000 NIS	90,000 NIS
Rising 6 th graders	1 group/class	50,000 NIS	40,000 NIS	90,000 NIS
Rising 7 th graders	1 group/class	50,000 NIS	40,000 NIS	90,000 NIS
Rising 8 th graders	1 group/class	50,000 NIS	40,000 NIS	90,000 NIS
Rising 9 th graders	1 group/class	50,000 NIS	40,000 NIS	90,000 NIS
Rising 10 th graders	1 group/class	50,000 NIS	40,000 NIS	90,000 NIS
Rising 11 th graders	1 group/class	50,000 NIS	40,000 NIS	90,000 NIS
Rising 12 th graders	1 group/class	50,000 NIS	40,000 NIS	90,000 NIS
9 classes/groups	9 classes/groups	450,000 NIS	360,000 NIS	810,000 NIS (\$219,000)

D. Fundraising Targets

Required Annual Funds	Required 3-Year Funds
810,000 NIS	2,430,000 NIS
\$219,000	\$657,000



Young Adult Programs

A. Need

Some 180 young adults (ages 18-30) call Kfar Azza their home. Like other members of the Kfar Azza community, these young adults witnessed the murder and kidnapping of friends and family on October 7. Kfar Azza understands the vital importance of investing in varied programs that support the mental health, employment, and welfare of its young adults

B. Solution

Kfar Azza has recently developed two programs in support of its young adults.

Combined and Individualized Approach

Integrating young adults experiencing trauma into the workforce presents a complex challenge. To address this, Kfar Azza leadership has adopted two primary approaches recommended from qualified professionals:

1. **Trauma treatment:** This approach advocates for an initial focus on comprehensive trauma treatment before introducing employment initiatives.
2. **Employment as healing:** This perspective highlights the therapeutic value of meaningful work, suggesting its integration into the rehabilitation process alongside other interventions.

Recognizing the value of both approaches, Kfar Azza Foundation, in collaboration with Kfar Azza's young adults program director, has developed a combined and individualized approach.

Initial steps:

- **Intake interviews:** Conducted by the group's social worker, these interviews will assess each young adult's situation, including their:
 - Academic background
 - Emotional readiness for work
 - Previous employment history (including pre-October 7 job status)
 - Need for job search assistance
- **Needs assessment:** Based on the intake interviews, Kfar Azza will identify common needs and categories, such as:
 - Relevant job vacancies
 - Required vocational training opportunities



Next steps:

- **Individualized plans:** Based on the intake interviews and needs assessment, Kfar Azza will develop personalized plans for each young adult, including:
 - Trauma treatment recommendations
 - Tailored job search assistance
 - Access to relevant vocational training
 - Continued emotional and social support

Benefits:

This comprehensive approach ensures both:

- **Trauma-informed support:** prioritizing the well-being of young adults experiencing trauma
- **Empowerment through work:** leveraging the therapeutic benefits of employment to foster independence and contribute to rehabilitation

By implementing this combined and individualized approach, Kfar Azza aims to empower young adults with trauma to overcome challenges, reclaim their independence, and thrive in the workforce.

Three Pillars

The young adults of Kfar Azza, facing adversity with remarkable resilience, have embarked on a three-year plan built on three crucial pillars: mental health, employment, and community initiatives.

Mental health: Recognizing the impact of the October 7 attacks, the program prioritizes mental well-being. Collaborating closely with top professionals and guest facilitators, the young adults' social worker organizes affordable group sessions tailored to their needs. This approach complements government-funded individual therapy by creating a supportive network and shared healing space.

Employment: Empowering the young adults to build self-sufficiency is paramount. Funding is required for assistance with school tuition, private tutoring, and rent stipends. Such assistance enables the young adults to pursue professional qualifications and overcome financial hurdles, ensuring equal access to employment opportunities despite the trauma they have endured.

Community initiatives: Led by the young adults program director, these initiatives foster unity and growth. Recognizing the need for both shared mourning and structured support, they offer creative spaces for social interaction and individual development. This fosters a sense of belonging and empowers the young adults to heal and strengthen one another, building a resilient community together.



By addressing these vital areas, the program provides a comprehensive support system. Investing in their mental health, employment opportunities, and community connections empowers them to overcome challenges, achieve their goals, and build a brighter future for themselves and their community.

C. Key Costs

Pillars	Item	Number of young adult beneficiaries	Annual cost per beneficiary	Total annual costs	Total funds to be raised for 3 years (until return home to Kfar Azza)
Employment	Scholarships for academic studies	50	18,500 NIS	925,000 NIS	2,775,000 NIS
	Vocational training and professional development for unemployed	30	15,000 NIS	450,000 NIS	1,350,000 NIS
Mental Health	Group therapy programs and retreats not covered by the government	100	5,550 NIS	555,000 NIS	1,665,000 NIS
Community	Social programs	180	500 NIS	90,000	270,000 NIS
	Accommodation stipends for housing in Ruhama (community's future temporary living location)	100	12,000 NIS (1,000 NIS per month)	1,200,000 NIS	3,600,000 NIS
	Totals			3,220,000 NIS	9,660,000 NIS (\$2,610,810)

D. Fundraising Targets

Required Annual Funds	Required 3-Year Funds
3,220,000 NIS	9,368,400 NIS
\$870,270	\$2,610,810



Mental Health Programs for Adults

Background

On October 7 the Kfar Gaza community experienced tremendous devastation and loss. Hamas terrorists murdered 62 residents, including entire families, and took 18 people hostage to Gaza. Some 50% of homes were destroyed. Children, adults and the elderly spent long hours in safe rooms in an anxious state of uncertainty about what was happening outside their safe rooms in the absence of security forces.

The devastating attack and the subsequent need to evacuate led to a breakdown of trust and a diminished sense of security among community members. All of these have left their mark on the mental state of community members, who require unique responses and solutions.

Upon arrival of community evacuees to Shefayim, an initial assistance team was established under the management of the Hosen (Resilience) Center of the Sha'ar HaNegev Regional Council, together with other bodies (such as Schneider Children's Medical Center, Lev Hasharon Mental Health Center, and NATAL). Up until November 22, the Hosen-led team at Shefayim provided more than 330 therapy sessions to community members, of which about 100 were for children up to the age of 18. Most of the sessions took place at the Shefayim Hotel.

Target Population

Before October 7, the community had 950 members. 64 (62 on October 7 and 2 subsequently) people have lost their lives since October 7. Out of the 886 survivors, there are 240 children (who are treated in a different way). As such, the total target population is 646 people over the age of 18.

Basic Assumptions

- **Scope:** The entire Kfar Azza adult community was harmed and will need emotional support at some stage. This includes those who did not experience loss or kidnapping in their close circle of family and friends, and those who were not in Kfar Azza on the day of the disaster.
- **Proactivity:** Not everyone who needs emotional support realizes it or is willing to turn to others for help. Therefore, a proactive system is required that knows how to identify needs and create an inviting support space.
- **Variety:** Provided emotional support should be suitable for each member according to her or his situation and ability to utilize it. Therefore a wide variety of treatment options should be offered.
- **Time:** While provided emotional support can be short and focused, it usually requires ample time. Therefore, a system is required that can provide long-term support.



Challenges

- **Number and variety of support providers:** The large number and heterogeneity of community members in need of support necessitate a large number of caregivers of various types (in parallel with the great need of additional Western Negev communities).
- **Continuous long-term support:** A scattered community with a temporary center in Shefayim, which will probably move to a temporary location at Kibbutz Ruhama before returning to Kfar Azza, poses a challenge to providing continuous and long-term support.
- **State/technical limitations:** Responses offered by state authorities will take time and will not necessarily meet the variety and scope required.
- **Expertise and ongoing collaboration:** It is no small challenge to provide a kibbutz system that expertly identifies needs and promotes solutions, and synchronizes the work with the Hosen Center for ongoing success now and in the future.

Main Points of Work Plan

Building the emotional support system must be adapted to the three stages through which the community is transitioning: temporary residence at Shefayim, transitional move to Kibbutz Ruhama, return to Kfar Azza.

Establishing a management infrastructure for the emotional support system

The large scope, complexity and challenges necessitate the establishment of a stable infrastructure for managing the emotional support system for at least the next 2-3 years until the return to Kfar Azza.

Key components:

- Management team, including a manager and two full-time social workers, whose job is to manage individual and group responses (via many dozens of therapists) vis-à-vis community members
- A relationship-management software system (type of CRM) that will help manage the support system
- Professional guidance of the management team

The estimated annual cost of establishing the management infrastructure for the emotional support system is 1,140,000 NIS.

Additional staffing positions required for the community's welfare system include: (1) an Employment Coordinator, and (2) a Utilization of Rights Coordinator.



Basket of responses

A large percentage of community members in Kfar Azza on October 7 has currently been recognized as victims of terror hostilities by state entities, the Regional Council, the Hosen Center and others. While this enables the receipt of a publicly funded basket of emotional support assistance, it is still unclear how such assistance will be provided, what its scope will be, and when funding will be possible. Therefore, the community must provide members with an immediate, broad, varied and long-term basket of responses, in parallel with the support provided by state authorities.

Weekly therapy sessions: Every person is entitled to one weekly therapy sessions with a state-funded psychologist/psychiatrist or social worker (via Hosen). Having said that, the community wants to establish a basket of resources that will be available to the community's mental health team. This will provide services to 25% of members who cannot receive Hosen's services due to geographic location or lack of compatibility between therapist and patient. The intention is to build a large and diverse pool of therapists prepared to treat community members over the long-term, including trauma specialists, family/couple therapists, educational therapists, psychiatrists and social workers.

Cost estimate: The total number of people needing weekly sessions with a therapist that is not funded by the state is 162 people (25% of 646), at a cost of 400 NIS per hour for 50 weeks. Total cost: NIS 3,240,000 NIS.

Complementary treatments/therapies: The assistance funded by the state does not include complementary treatments/therapies of any kind (e.g. art therapy, music therapy, animal therapy). 30 hours a year should be allocated for each person, for which a private funding source should be found.

Cost estimate: The total number of people needing 30 annual hours of complementary treatments: 646. Cost: 350 NIS per hour. Total cost: 6,783,000 NIS.

Group activities: Some of the emotional support responses will be provided in groups to different populations: children, young adults, seniors, bereaved families and more. Group responses can be weekly meetings, trips that combine respite, art groups and more.

Cost estimate: About 20 groups, 35 meetings per group, average cost of 1,000 NIS per meeting: 700,000 NIS; events: 100,000 NIS; total: 800,000 NIS per year.

Transportation: In light of the dispersal of the community, a budget is required for transportation of community members to the center in Shefayim or other treatment locations. Cost estimate: 150,000 NIS per year.

Physical spaces: The need for a very large number of treatments will require establishing and equipping physical spaces for therapeutic sessions, group meetings, and unique spaces in educational institutions (e.g. quiet rooms).



Cost estimate: 500,000 NIS per year.

Guidance of therapists: Given the complexity and multitude of treatments, as well as the emotional challenges experienced by both patients and care providers, the therapist themselves will require support. Providing accompaniment, support and respite will help ensure the retainment of the therapists over time.

Cost estimate: Assuming employment of at least 100 therapists at any given time, at a per-person cost of approximately 3,000 NIS per year: 300,000 NIS.

As stated above, it is estimated that a significant part of these costs will be paid by state institutions; yet as of today, the scope, manner and timing of the assistance to be provided is still unknown.



Seniors Programs

A. Need

Kfar Azza has over 150 (ages 67+) seniors who have invested their lives for the good of the kibbutz. These seniors cannot necessarily care for or support their children in any way. At the same time, the community's young people testify that they have recently taken on more "parental" roles within the family. Kfar Azza places great importance on enhancing the quality of life for these pillars of the community and plans to offer specially designed programs for seniors at temporary locations.

B. Solution

Like the Young Adult program, programs for Seniors are anchored by three similar pillars: mental health, leisure + employment, and community.

The mental health program for individuals is mentioned above. Kfar Azza residents are entitled to weekly treatment by the Hosen (Resilience) Center in Sha'ar HaNegev, but 25% of them do not receive the service for various reasons. Addressing this problem "across the board" will also provide a solution for seniors.

Unfunded programs for seniors include:

- **Group journeys:** two "journeys" per year, aimed at processing collective grief and nurturing healing processes. Future journeys will focus on building the future and life's next chapter.
- **Activity days:** 17 concentrated activity days spread over a year. On each such day, there will be a comprehensive meeting of all seniors, regardless of where they live in the interim period, with transportation and meals provided. The program will include workshops adapted to the elderly, such as retirement workshops for the recently retired, workshops on providing mental tools for coping with uncertainty, and more.
- **Ongoing enrichment:** an ongoing enrichment program based on lectures and lessons on various subjects such as coping with life crises, leisure and employment, advancing new choices, and the importance of volunteering.

C. Key Costs

- **Group journeys:** Cost of one journey: 100,000 NIS. Total annual cost (2 journeys): 200,000 NIS.
- **Activity days:** Cost of one day of concentrated activity: 17,000 NIS. Total annual cost (17 days): 289,000 NIS.



D. Fundraising Targets

Required Monthly Funds	Required Annual Funds	Required 3-Year Funds
40,750 NIS	489,000 NIS	1,476,000 NIS
\$11,015	\$132,165	\$396,500



Community & Culture Events

A. Need

Culture greatly enhances the well-being and quality of life for individuals and communities. In this extremely challenging time of displacement following October 7, Kfar Azza plans to offer a variety of culture-related programs to improve the well-being of all community members.

B. Solution

The culture program consists of diverse annual and monthly events marking special days and holidays throughout the year.

- Annual events include Kfar Azza Birthday, Women's Day, Purim, Holocaust Remembrance Day, Independence Day, Shavuot and more.
- Monthly events include cultural gatherings, family activities, and children's events.

C. Key Costs

50% of the annual culture budget is funded by the budgets of Sha'ar HaNegev Regional Council and Kfar Azza.

Funds to be raised:

- Annual events: 250,000 NIS
- Monthly events: 16,700 NIS per month X 12 months = 200,000 NIS
- Total: 450,000 NIS

D. Fundraising Targets

Required Monthly Funds	Required Annual Funds	Required 3-Year Funds
37,500 NIS	450,000 NIS	1,350,000 NIS
\$10,135	\$121,620	\$365,865



Amit Bakfar – Home for Adults with Autism

A. Need

There is a shortage of appropriate assisted-living homes for adults with autism in Israel in general, and in the Western Negev in particular. Amit Bakfar is designed to meet this need in a unique and inclusive manner.

B. Solution

Amit Bakfar is an assisted-living home for adults with autism (age 21+) to be built in Kfar Azza. All of its future residents were born and raised in the surrounding Western Negev area. Designed and equipped to fit its resident's needs and preferences, Amit Bakfar is intended to be a warm and aesthetically pleasing home for 6-12 adults in total.

Behind Amit Bakfar stands a group of caring and committed parents, who face the crucial problem of quality housing for adults with autism in Israel today. The goal is to enable the adults to continue living near their families in an inclusive and open community. Kibbutz Kfar Azza offers an ideal environment for this purpose, with its beautiful surroundings, strong communal ties, and accepting atmosphere.

Community inclusion is at the core of Amit Bakfar. Its residents will participate in social activities on the kibbutz. Employment opportunities will be offered in the kibbutz, within the regional council, or in nearby Sderot. In addition, volunteers from the kibbutz will participate in the home's ongoing operation. Amit Bakfar will be of benefit to both its residents and the entire Kfar4 Azza community.

C. Key Costs

Item	Amount (NIS)	Comments
Project cost, including construction and equipment	5,000,000	Turnkey sum, linked to 3/23 index
Infrastructure cost	147,000	
Management (not incl. attorney fees)	93,600	Over 24 months
Total Estimated Cost	5,240,600	



D. Fundraising Targets

Existing Sources of Funding

Item	Amount (NIS)	Comments
National Insurance grant for building	2,787,352	Paid in 6 installments
National Insurance grant for equipment	148,554	Paid in 1 installment
Donation by Yossi Sheinfeld	900,000	Paid in 2 installments, in construction phase
Commitment by Magen family	326,212	
Total Existing Funding	4,162,118	

In-Process Sources of Funding

Item	Amount (NIS)	Comments
Parents' contribution (1 st 6 families)	200,000	To be paid after placement of tenants
Parents' contribution (2 nd 6 families)	200,000	To be paid after placement of tenants
Additional donations	178,482	
Outstanding funds required	500,000	
Total In-Process Funding	1,078,482	

The state of Israel will take part in financing the establishment of Amit Bakfar, followed by partial operational financing.

Required Funds
500,000 NIS
\$135,135