

# ANNUAL REPORT 2024



**YAD EZRA V'SHULAMIT**  
FEEDING ISRAEL'S HUNGRY CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

# Letter From Our Founder

Aryeh Lurie, Founder, Yad Ezra V'Shulamit

**Thanks to you, our incredible supporters, we helped more people in 2024 than EVER BEFORE!**

This was a challenging year for Am Yisrael. The war in Israel made the demand for help surge. It was beautiful to see new and old supporters coming together from all across the world, of all ages and backgrounds in support of those who need it most.

Families have food on their tables, children receive warm meals every day, and those impacted by war and poverty are being supported, all because of your support.

We deployed our 15 trucks and 4 warehouses to bring essential food and supplies to affected communities, expanding our support to **thousands of additional families**, and distributing **6 million dollars in**

**food vouchers** to widows, evacuees, and those facing financial hardship. We delivered more food baskets and vouchers than ever before — **937,208 packages** to people in need **across 93 distribution points** including soldiers and evacuees who needed food.

**Despite new pressures that came with the war and its impacts, we were able to continue our core initiatives that help so many on a regular basis.**

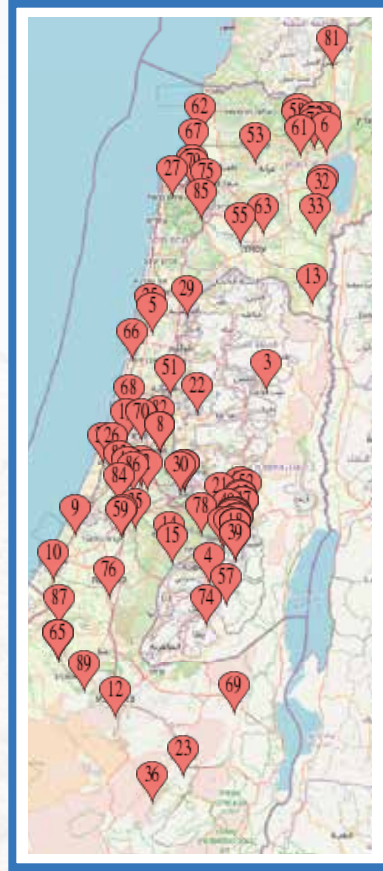
Thank you for making a real difference in so many lives. Join us in 2025 in continuing to feed and support all those in Israel who need a helping hand.



## Our Reach

We distribute over one million pounds of food every week at 93 distribution points across Israel, and over five million pounds on Passover and Rosh Hashana. That means over 12,000 food baskets a week feeding over 300,000 people! Our food baskets include chicken, grains, dairy products, fruits and vegetables, rice, pasta, flour, bread, and seasonal holiday items.

Our mission is to make sure people in need have access to nutritious, good quality food, no matter where they are geographically in Israel.



## Effects of the War on Poverty

**More than 220,000 people in Israel lost their jobs due to the war, including 40% of Israel's north.**

**For us, this meant thousands more requests for food baskets and vouchers.** We delivered food and supplies to the front lines providing for families under fire, as well as those forced to flee, and we sent food to soldiers in their time of need.

Your unwavering support allowed us to help them all. You stood by us and those who needed your help the most through these difficult months. Now we know that no matter where we are geographically, we are first and foremost **one people with one big heart.**

The war is not over, nor are its effects diminished. In 2025 we pledge to continue to make sure everyone has basic food supplies and everything they need to make it. **Can we count on you to help us?**



# Our 2024 Impact



## 745 Children Fed A Daily Hot Meal

In 2024 at our after-school Children's Centers in Jerusalem and Tzfat each child received a hot meal every day, school tutoring, emotional therapies and weekly activities like baking, illustration, drama, and computer access. We foster a nurturing environment that empowers children and helps break the cycle of poverty.



## 937,208 Food Baskets & Vouchers

We delivered a total of 937,208 food baskets including \$5,953,500 in grocery vouchers in 2024 to feed widows, orphans, single-parent homes, needy families, the elderly, holocaust survivors, and anyone in need. Our mission is simple: no one should go hungry.



## 1,623 Widows & 9180 Orphans Supported

We provide essential aid to widows and orphans across Israel with food baskets, grocery vouchers, holiday meals, after-school programs, summer camps, and clothing distributions. Our mission is to instill comfort, dignity, and reassurance that they are never alone.



## 16,713 Packages of Baby Formula Given

Hunger affects the most vulnerable—infants. Without proper nutrition, their health and development are at risk. By supplying baby formula to struggling mothers, we help ensure that every baby gets the nourishment they need for a strong and healthy start in life.



## 18,451 Evacuees Helped

This year we assisted evacuees in 47 hotels across Israel, providing grocery vouchers, activities for children, and emotional support during this difficult time. Although evacuees received two meals a day from the hotels, they had no income for anything else. Our vouchers, redeemable at 50 stores, were their lifeline. Evacuees from the Gaza Envelope and Northern Israel continue to face hardships from lost income, disrupted education, a lack of structure, and uncertainty. Our efforts helped restore their physical and emotional stability.



## 105 Trucks of Food Sent to The Front Lines

Since the beginning of the war and throughout the past year we have been sending trucks with food and supplies to soldiers on the front lines and families in war-affected cities. Each truck carries enough food for 200 people for an entire week.



## 266 Weddings Sponsored For Orphans & Needy Couples

This year, 266 couples-in-need broke a glass at one of Yad Ezra V'Shulamit's three non-profit wedding halls. According to the specific needs of each couple, orphans received weddings at no cost to them, while needy couples enjoyed highly subsidized rates. All of them were grateful to begin their married life with dignity and happiness.



## Expanded Program for Ethiopian Children

We brought our after-school children's programming and hot meals to the Ethiopian neighborhood of Neve Yaakov in Jerusalem two days every week. As an immigrant population, Israel's Ethiopians have endured hardships. Many escaped oppression by foot from rural villages and farms, and arrived at Israel's urban landscape with nothing in their pockets. We aim to open the Children's Center in Neve Yaakov for 40 Ethiopian children who live under the poverty line five days every week in 2025.



12,120 Winter Gear Packages Distributed



63,052,207 lbs of Food Distributed



4,800 School Package Supplies Given



\$5,953,500 in Grocery Vouchers Given

# 2024 Highlight: New Children's Center

**Yad Ezra V'Shulamit's new Children's Center was completed in 2024, and will change thousands of lives in Israel for years to come.**

This year we celebrated the completion of our brand new Children's Center featuring exciting rooms for the children to explore, enjoy, and learn from on a daily basis.

We put in a **gymboree** to provide a fun outlet for their afternoon energy. The **snoezelen room** lets them explore their senses and regulate their emotions. We've also added a **cozy library** and computer access for their homework, **resource rooms for therapy** and individualized support, beautiful classrooms, and a bright dining room where the children get to **eat their nutritious lunch every day**.

We're excited to see how the new facility changes the lives of countless underprivileged children in Israel in 2025 and beyond!



# Looking Ahead

As we look forward to the coming year, we pray first and foremost for the safe return of all hostages and soldiers and for peace in Israel and around the world. No matter the circumstances—in times of war or peace—we'll be there delivering essential aid to those who need it most, from Kiryat Shmona to Be'er Sheva and everywhere in between.

Your partnership makes our work possible, and with your continued support, we can bring food and basic supplies to struggling families across Israel. May this year bring blessing, plenty, and redemption to us all.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you for your generosity. Next time you are in Israel, I invite you to visit and see the impact of your kindness firsthand.

Aryeh Lurie, Founder, Yad Ezra V'Shulamit

  
אריאל שמואל לאורי  
יו"ר



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# Fighting Poverty Together

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