

# Filling a Need in Maale Ephraim

**T**he dream of building a home and raising a family in Biblical Israel sometimes comes with countless complications and even suffering. Maale Ephraim is a community located in the beautiful, scenic heartland of the Jordan Valley. There are 1,800 residents in Maale Ephraim, 600 of them children and teenagers! **The area's low tax rates and reasonable rentals are an incredible draw to families, but, unfortunately there is a terrible lack of employment opportunities nearby.** The result is a population of mostly low-income families and new immigrants... sharing the pain of unemployment and draining the already limited social services resources. Geographically, the community is quite isolated and the difficult security situation only adds to the feeling of isolation.



**The Social Services Department in Maale Ephraim is currently handling 190 cases of need!** There are family problems—marital difficulties, inadequate parenting, violence and difficulty with the youth; economical problems-- high unemployment, lack of job training; immigration problems -- acclimation difficulties; and problems with the elderly.

Some of the children and youth are at high risk and need professional care. The After School Centers can provide solutions. **The municipality operates two centers—one for first through third grade students and one for the fourth through sixth graders.** The need is vital; the distress is great. Studies have shown that early intervention can prevent more serious educational and emotional problems from appearing in later years. The children are offered the tools to handle their frustration, their violent tendencies, and are encouraged by the structured framework. They receive help with their homework, ordered recreation, and a nutritious hot meal. By the time these children get home at seven o' clock at night, their schoolwork is tucked neatly into their schoolbags, they are calm and happy, and their bellies are full.

**The municipality is also working hand-in hand with the Social Services Department to provide aid for a completely different segment of the population... the elderly.** The Golden-Agers Club provides recreations and companionship for these aging residents. The art classes, exercise program and scheduled outings supply them with a way to fill their days with vital purpose and rich stimulation. In addition, Maale Ephraim is very careful to include these seniors in all community activities.

In order to keep improving the services offered to these children and seniors, Maale Ephraim would like to make a few investments and purchases. The largest investment is for computers, two for each center. The municipality will cover the related costs of internet connection, printers and software programs.

# Project Summary

## Maale Ephraim Computer Project

- The people of Maale Ephraim are fulfilling the dream of living in G-d's land, but are plagued with complications, the Social Services Department is overwhelmed with cases of need.
- The very young and the very old of this special community are finding recreation, purpose and guidance in the centers which are maintained specifically with their needs in mind.



The people of Maale Ephraim are turning to CFOIC Heartland for help with this vital project. This is not a luxury. These After School Centers and Golden-Agers Club are essential for the children and the aged. By helping these low-functioning families in Maale Ephraim, you are helping all the future generations of families who will be able to stand proudly on their own. They just want to live proudly in their own land, and be independent, contributing members of Biblical Israel's society.

### Project Budget

|                                    |                 |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 6 Computers @ \$1,200 a piece..... | \$7,200         |
| Board Games .....                  | 1,86            |
| Table and Chairs .....             | 2,400           |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS REQUIRED:.....</b>  | <b>\$11,460</b> |

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